

Minutes of Meeting of Sustainable Villages Steering Committee
15th July 2013 at 3 Higher Town, Sampford Peverell at 7.30pm

Apologies: Derek

Present: Gill B, Pete B, Gill G, Tess, Richard, Sally, Peter S, Pat, Harriet, Claire, Christine, Ann, David, Jake and Jodie.

Minutes of last meeting were accepted.

Matters arising from the minutes.

Community Electricity – Jake from Communities for Renewables and Jodie from Regen SW joined the meeting. The Wind Farm has come to a dead end due to the met office indicating that the wind farm will interfere with their weather radar. Jake told us that he works with groups like ours from community owned projects.

Jodie and Regen SW run a community support group which deal with media rebuttal of stories in papers. They check that the stories have some truth or put articles in the paper giving a true view.

Jake asked what projects there could be locally and David raised Cold Harbour Mill. He says that the trustees are now interested and keen to get involved in Hydro. David suggested a meeting with the trustees to find out what they are prepared to do and what the community will get out of it. It seems that Peco Energy has already drawn up plans and have said that they could raise some of the money for hydro that would produce 16kw 24 hours a day. There may also be a possible site for solar there.

Jodie had brought a map of potential hydro sites on the Exe which were all more Tiverton based.

David also said that Viridor (Broadpath landfill) was a possible site for wind as they already had a connection to the grid. Jake will look into this as a possibility.

Jodie suggested looking at upcoming planning applications for solar farms and maybe talking to them about their community fund – if they have one. They may be willing to let us manage it. Ayshford may have a community fund – this needs to be looked into.

Richard said the Quarry at Westleigh/Burlescombe could be another possible site and Jodie suggested we look at SW Water re community sites as they often want to buy energy but don't want to manage it. Heathcoats is another possibility as it on a weir. We could ask them about whether they had thought of hydro. Schools and Churches could be asked if they are or would want to be involved in a community scheme. Jake explained that a portfolio of smaller

installations would be necessary to make a community energy scheme viable. Jodie said she would send over a proposal to use with schools.

Jodie said that on 27th August there is the next meeting of Community Energy Group. WRAP will be there. If anyone wants to go, please get in touch with Jodie.

After Jake and Jodie left it was agreed that we would investigate this route.

David said he will talk to the Mill re meeting and **Ann** will contact Heathcoats.

Community Bee Keeping –The membership of the project had 25 people interested but only half of them are paid up members. The bees are fit and healthy./ If anyone in Halberton wants to set up a community Bee project John Browse has offered some land.

Website – www.sampfordpeverellanddistrictsustainablevillages.btck.co.uk Let Richard know if you have anything you want put up there.

Market: The next one is on Saturday 20th July. If not many people again this could be the last one.

Talks on Wind Turbines etc: No further progress.

Food Skill Sharing Day – People seemed to be interested but although 100 came through the door, a few more would have been good. Many of the Market stalls didn't do well at all.

Plastics: Sally spoke to Peninsula who will supply dumpy bags if we combine it with Uffculme Compost Magic. Mid Devon are keen to help us promote our plastics recycling but it has to be made clear that they aren't doing it. There is a Waste Awareness Week in September. If you would like to volunteer at Compost Magic please telephone 07580 757165

Give or Take – This could happen in October (with plastic recycling). **Tess and Richard** will speak to the Market Manager about a suitable date.

Apple Pressing Pete has not arranged a meeting yet but Gill G, Gill B, and Pete B agreed to organise the Apple Pressing. David offered his help too.

AOB – MDC are having a local plan review. If you wish to look at it www.middevon.gov.uk/localplanreview

Date of next meeting - Tuesday 27th August 2013 at 3 Higher Town at 7.30.