Minutes from Transition Cambridge Energy Group 1/Sep/2009

Present: Kerry-Ann Adamson, Patrick O'Donohoe, Peter Pope, Elizabeth Cary, Robert Copcutt, Spin Pitman, Ivan Ivanovic (chair), Roland Henry, Francis Turanon, Nicola Terry (minutes)

Apologies: Andy Brown

The 10:10 campaign
http://www.1010uk.org/

This is a campaign started by the directors of the Age of Stupid and picked up by, among others, the Guardian Newspaper aiming to get as many people as possible to reduce their carbon emissions by 10% during 2010. The hope is to put pressure on politicians and add momentum for the Copenhagen summit in December. This has already been mentioned once in the TC bulletin.

The meeting agreed that there was not much we could add to the Guardian campaign but we could mention it on our website, get a discussion on the energy forum and possibly add a wiki page with a list of members who have joined and how they plan to cut their 10%.

Action: Nicola to add link from website and post onto forum. All to join discussion forum.

Publicity Leaflet

It was agreed that we should have a leaflet to hand out to help publicise the group and Nicola agreed to get it onto the food group stall at the Cambridge Food, Garden and Produce show on 19th-20th Sep. That gives us very little time. Obviously, this will only be a first version.

Action. Spin to design leaflet (A5) and post to forum for comments. All to read and make comments. Kerry to get it printed. Nicola to get it onto the stall.

Anaerobic Digestion

The questionnaire about waste handling was posted on the forum and Nicola sent it by email to 10 colleges. She has not had any replies yet. Roland has tried to contact 7 colleges by telephone. He has managed to get a contact at Kings who has promised to find out and get back to him. This contact mentioned a waste handling firm called Coopers or something like that which sounds like the same one as Trinity Hall.

Roland spoke with someone at Pembroke (Jason Watchford?) who is on the committee of the College Catering Environment Committee which meets every 6 months. We may be able to use this contact.

Ivan pointed out that Bedfordia Group have some AD projects which we could potentially visit and would be a lot nearer than Ludlow. http://www.biogengreenfinch.co.uk.
Robert and Elizabeth both know someone called Tim Jervis who is starting an AD company in Cambridge. Tim is an organiser of the Cambridge Energy Forum. Robert is to have an informal chat with him if he can, to see if he can give us some advice on AD.

http://www.cambridgeenergy.com/sponsors.htm

The group agreed we need to collect the data on waste volumes before going on any visits.

Kerry Ann thought she might be able to find out a bit about the AD scheme being built at Milton/Waterbeach, since she deals with energy distribution companies.

**Actions. Nicola and Roland** to continue collecting data on waste volumes, **Robert** to contact Tim informally. **Nicola to give Kerry Ann details about the AD company at Milton.**

**Jesus Lock Weir**

Robert is pursuing his contact for the AUR engine but the man is not answering his phone (we believe he may be elderly).

**Mini-finance**

Spin contacted Andy after the last meeting and Andy was very keen to pursue this idea of providing low cost financing for household energy saving projects, since it would be a good fit with the advice that Cambridge Carbon Foopring already offers.

Spin has done some research and though there do not seem to be any examples of funds set up specifically for particular purposes he felt that the closest model to what we wanted would be a Community Development Finance Institution promoted by CDA http://www.cdfa.org.uk/cmframe.php?prmid=1200. They offer a book about setting up a CDFI which costs £50.

We agreed to pursue this further in a short while, when we have more resource.

Ivan also felt we should talk to Baywind to see if their model of community funded projects could be extended into this realm.

**Swavesey Village College Wind Turbine**

Robert has negotiated a ball-park price for the 5 kW wind turbine available. Nigel is currently waiting for a response from the college from some questions about siting and he intends to organise a visit, probably him and Robert, to check it out.

Spin suggested that he might be able to find a contact from his school, Sawston, who already have a
wind turbine, who might be able to talk to the Swavesey school and give advice.

Action: Spin to find someone at Sawston to talk about their turbine. Nigel to continue negotiations with Swavesey.

Next meeting:
22/Sep/2009 8pm at the Maypole as usual