**Transition Energy Group**

**Meeting Minutes - 1 December 2009**

**Present:**
Robert, Roland, Alex, John Boam(new), Nicola, Judith (new), Patrick, Stuart

**PV**
Nicola has received advice from BeginSpace (in addition to on CDFI: see below) on costs for this project: In particular, insurance will be needed.

The cheapest local PV supplier is Bowller (in Harston).

However Nicola has calculated cost on a 1-installation basis and concluded that it can’t work (financially) without a grant.

Other options were discussed; the most promising was installation in schools (large grants are available!)

**Actions:**
- Nicola and Stuart will talk to schools
- Nicola will recalculate the original option using 3 or 4 installations
- Nicola will talk to Carbon Trust about grants
- Stuart will talk to Cambridge City about grants

**Wind**
Robert has found a new potential site for the 5kW turbine.

**Mini-Finance**
Nicola has contacted BeginSpace for advice on CDFI. The BeginSpace contact is Jeremy (Parsons?).

Advice received is:
- Get a bank partner
- Devise / characterise a set of standard types of loan

**Actions:**
- Nicola will talk to Cambridge Carbon Footprint about packages.

**Hydro**
Robert has found a site near the A10 with a water wheel. The proposal is to restore the water wheel and use it to generate power.
**Actions:**
- Robert will identify & contact the developer of the site.

**Tweak My Home**
John Boam presented his start-up business. Generally the idea is:
- Do an energy survey on the client’s home
- Provide an all-inclusive energy saving package (3 packages available)
- The package will contain (e.g.) loft/cavity insulation, draught reduction, and/or other techniques depending on survey.
- Do this for 100 homes. Get bulk discounts and one big loan to cover all.

The business plan is not quite ready yet. However the initial phase is to offer the package to 100 homes in Cambridge. Surveys are to start now; installation is to start mid-January.

There was some discussion about methods of identifying / selling to potential clients.

How can Transition Cambridge help?
- Help with publicity
- Possibly find clients amongst ourselves!

**Actions:**
- Distribute leaflets at Mill Road Fair
- Publicise within Transition Cambridge (later, when we have finalised the product description)

**Mill Road Fair**
Transition Cambridge will have a stand; the energy group should make use of it!

**Actions:**
- Nicola & Stuart will redesign our poster
- Nicola, Stuart & Robert will man the stand (in shifts).

**Christmas Parties**
Transition Cambridge has a party in CB2 on 21 December

It was suggested that the Energy group has a social in January or February.

**Next Meeting**
Date: 15 December

Venue: Patrick’s house (near Beehive centre).