Transition Town Hastings – Energy Group meeting minutes 18/2/16

Attendees

Tom Reid (minutes)

Nick Teirdre

Richard Watson

Tim Fisher

Chris Petts

Julia Hilton

John Lynes

Graham Hodgson

Apologies

Michael Ryan

Mike Slavin

Andrew Conway

Charles Stewart

1. Discussion about projects to take forward. The “Great British Switch”. Does the group want to endorse this? It’s going ahead anyway, it wouldn’t be much effort for TTH to promote it. Community Energy South are the recipient for the referral fee, this in turn is given to their members; one of which is Energise Sussex Coast. **Actions: RW & TR** to discuss how the referral fee is then given to TTH – a percentage, a fixed lump etc?
2. Conquest Hospital combined heat and power (CHP) plant replacement. Conquest have a broken CHP which could be replaced, thereby saving them a small fortune. **Actions: All** – how could we help do this? It’s a bit of a serious infrastructure project for a TT group really, but could we get it onto Conquest’s agenda at least? **RW** to raise it with his contact there in May as there have been some personnel changes recently and they might have a renewed appetite for it.
3. Formation of a “Hastings Energy Company”. Many other towns are doing this – e.g. Plymouth, Nottingham, Peterborough etc. It’s on HBC’s agenda apparently. **Actions: All** - Could we invite Alistair McPherson from Plymouth to come and present to HBC and TTH about how theirs was set up? Similar to the “Workshop” thing from Luton last year.
4. Schools / education materials. What could we produce to give to schools as free resources for lessons? Would need to be key-stage specific. **Actions: All** - Does anyone know any teachers (especially in schools in Hastings) who might be interested?
5. Council recycling / waste vehicles as promotional tools. Could we ask HBC / ESCC if their vehicles could run advertising campaigns on the sides for environmental issues? CP has seen this to great effect in Aberystwyth.
6. Ideas of engaging / getting more people interested. Visits – Newhaven incinerator, Pebsham sewage works, Dungeness wind-farm, AD plants, solar farm at Berwick etc. Does anyone know of anything else around here we could organise a group outing to? Site visits to see things in action really helps inspire people.
7. House renovation. Could a house be bought, done up in an eco-makeover style, and sold on? Does the TT group have resources for this? Would the Seaview Project make a good candidate? How about the derelict shed/building at St Leonards Warrior Square or Seaview project?