

Cockermouth Town Council



9 June 2022

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to a meeting of the Climate Change Action Group to be held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth on Tuesday 21 June 2022 at 1.00pm for the purpose of the under-mentioned business.

Please let me know if you are unable to attend.

All welcome.

Yours sincerely

Sheila Brown

1. **Minutes – To agree as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting (pages 1-2)**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Declaration of Interest** – Members to give notice of any disclosable pecuniary interest, other registrable interest or any other interest and the nature of that interest in relation to any item on the agenda in accordance with the code of conduct.
4. **Public Participation**
 - a) To answer any questions from members of the public in accordance with the Summary of Public Rights
 - b) To receive a petition from a member of the public in accordance with the Summary of Public Rights
5. **Climate Change Emergency** – To consider our list of possible actions and decide which to take forward over the next quarter (**pages 3-8**)
6. **Give & Take Day** – Update
7. **Rural Community Energy Fund** – Update (**pages 9-13**)
8. **Date of next Meeting**

Press and Public Welcome

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Joint Winners

Council of Europe Year 2000

Europe Prize

Previous Awards

Plaque of Honour, Flag of Honour

European Diploma

Minutes of a meeting of the CLIMATE CHANGE TASK GROUP held on Wednesday 2 March 2022 at 1.00pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Cockermouth

Present: Councillor R Watson (Chair)
Councillor I Burns
Councillor A Semple

An apology for absence was received from Councillor S Barnes. Councillor Watson was elected Chair in his absence.

161 Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record.

162 Public Participation

There was none.

163 Declaration of Interest

None declared.

164 Climate Emergency West Cumbria

Julia Robinson gave a detailed presentation regarding the works of Climate Emergency West Cumbria.

A copy of her presentation is attached for information.

The Chair thanked Julia for her time and efforts.

165 Climate Change Emergency Action Plan

Those present discussed progress to date and which actions should be taken forward during the next quarter.

Recommended – a) The Rotary be reminded about planting wildflowers within the circle of trees in the Memorial Gardens.

b) That a price be obtained from Tivoli to plant wildflowers on Cumbria County Council owned land opposite the St Helen's Street Allotments.

c) That the Town Clerk writes to Julian Smith at Allerdale Borough Council to suggest that wildflowers be planted at the bottom of the Ropewalk below the trees.

d) That a funding application be made to Cumbria County Council to hold a Give and Take Day in the Town Hall in June 2022.

e) That refillable bottles/re-useable cups be purchased for Councillors and staff.

f) That the following additional actions be added on to our action plan

- We support the formation of a climate café
- We support the formation of a repair café
- We support The Great Big Green Week becoming an annual event
- We support the formation of a furniture upcycling works
- The Town Clerk investigates the potential and cost of installing solar panels on council owned buildings

166 Date of the next meeting

To be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 2.10pm

CEWC, 2022: What We've Done and Achieved So Far

We're an umbrella grouping of several local climate and sustainability groups over West Cumbria (which includes Friends of the Earth- West Cumbria and North Lakes), which covers the council districts of Allerdale and Copeland and Barrow. Due to a low degree of engagement with climate change and its related issues in our area, there isn't a large crowd of us, so we group together to get our voice heard.

We're only three years old, but are growing in numbers and experience in efforts to reach people in our region: we aim to explain the problems presented by climatic change, to communicate the urgency to act on the issue, and the actions that will make a difference for the community and people's lives here.

Joining: People simply join CEWC by signing up to the mailing group- there's no fee, and members pitch in with their time, skills, knowledge and personal interests and passions as they feel appropriate.

Members: Cumbria Development Education Centre (CDEC), FoE West Cumbria North Lakes, Greenpeace, The Green Party, members of Labour Party and the Liberal Party. Two Youth Groups- currently not active

Since it was first formed in July 2019, CEWC has grown from 9 to +45 members & done the following:

CEWC is an active member of Cumbria Sustainable Network (CSN) Monthly meetings are held, where with other sustainability and climate groups share news, opinions and events in Cumbria on an online platform called Workplace- Roughly six CEWC members join the discussion and shared progress. I helped form the CSN aims and self description.

Two CEWC members **ZCC funding steering committee**. I helped form the assessment process, and am part of the team to assess large grants. We ensure there is a long-term focus within the funding process is to empower under-represented areas/communities and economic sectors, commonly found on the West Coast of Cumbria.

We've been involved with Allerdale Borough Council:

CEWC lobbied the council with Sustainable Keswick to *declare a climate emergency* via petition, attending council meetings and asking questions to the council, and writing to our borough councillors. The highlights:

Grew the petition from roughly 650 signatures gained by SusKes to roughly 1300.

Held an event in Main St to gain signatures (roughly 100 per hour) and distributed the petition throughout Cockermouth town shops.

Asked climate change-related questions in council meetings to back requests to declare a climate emergency (rejected, but they accepted a climate change action plan).

Two 15 year old young CEWC members from Cockermouth requested a climate emergency- it was refused, but it gained traction for change.

Played a part in creating Allerdale Climate Change Action [Plan 2019/2020](#): Several CEWC members were invited to take part in Allerdale's first ever climate change workshop- our recommendations were shaped into an updated plan. We were part of the group who developed and reviewed it, and the council passed it in [March 2020](#).

Recycling improvements for Allerdale, 2020: Presented councillors with research showing a ten year drop of 13.5% in household recycling, plus a document listing fourteen actions that the top ten performing UK councils do to achieve up to 61% recycling levels. One member, (me) presented this information and viable options for improvement.

From this, the [A-Z of recycling](#) (to look up what can/can't be recycled)-was introduced on Allerdale website.

Tree Planting: The Tree Group formed in 2020, and tree planting events have been promoted/attended. CEWC member and Wigton councillor Nick Robson formed the group *Trees for Wigton* (called [TWIG](#)- it doesn't fit, but sounds like a good acronym!)- From its beginnings by approaching and requesting local landowners to plant trees on their land, this group has grown- now landowners approach TWIG for trees to be planted on their land.

We attend and publicise Cumbria Wildlife Trust and SusKes tree planting events, too.

Transport: onto several transport issues.

Cycling- CEWC members regularly lobby Allerdale councillors and MP for better cycling network for commuting and leisure- letters written to MPs and councillors.

Electric (E) bicycles- after a lapse of 15 years, the Cumbrian E-bike charge point network was revived by one CEWC member. CEWC and SusKes members contacted tens of places in the Allerdale area to add to this. After enquiries to many hotels, cafes and shops all over the county, there are now over 30 charging locations promoted across Cumbria.

Electric Vehicle charging points- Supported Non-profit organisation Charge My [Street](#) on their crowd-funded initiative for Wigton, Cockermouth and Keswick (2021).

November, 2021: members contacted their Cockermouth town councillors to support installation of the town's first charging points.

Two members give climate change presentations to the community. These explain the causes and effects of climate change and how it affects our lives, with the purpose of making it real for people- so far, to the Cockermouth and Lorton communities.

CEWC members have lobbied MPs from the Workington and Copeland

constituencies since it started- asking what they are doing to tackling various aspects of climate change, increasing green jobs in skilled livelihoods (such as retrofitting household insulation and fitting solar panels and air pumps), increasing opportunities for low carbon transport- better bus services and cycle lanes.

And letters to urge them to oppose the Woodhouse Colliery coal mine, both by email and face to face meeting with our MP, Mark Jenkinson, plus the prime minister and two secretaries of states.

Woodhouse Colliery Coal Mine: CEWC supports the findings of the UK Committee on Climate Change which informs government policy, the United Nations Panel on Climate Change and its reports, the Zero Carbon Cumbria Baseline Report findings, plus the UK's legally binding obligations as signatories to the UN Paris Agreement in opposing it due to the harm it will cause to the climate:

The mine's coking coal will create the same quantity of emissions every year as the entire county currently does.

Future UK emission reduction plans (now enshrined in law) state that by 2036, the mine's coking coal will create yearly emissions roughly be equal to that made by the entire UK.

BUT- we agree that creating new, well paid local jobs in the area is absolutely vital, and so we back the creation of thousands of jobs in West Cumbria that play an integral part to enable emissions reduction and adapt to the changes (a recent study estimates this as 4,500)- such as fitting solar panels, renewable local community-level energy production, constructing low emission, high insulation-rated new homes and retrofitting older homes.

This has already been achieved in the North-East, with opening of initiatives including Wind Turbine blade works, and Battery Factory at Blythe.

Supported FoE WCNL, South Lakes Against Climate Change and Coal Action Network events and created events to raise publicity of local action, gain local opposition to the mine and new members. Anti-coal mine events attended and were involved in planning included-

Lodged a CEWC objection with the public enquiry (I wrote it), together with a number of personal objections to the mine.

Several CEWC members attended and spoke at the public enquiry in September.

National petition was formed by youth members and interviews with local, national, international press to raise focus on local opposition.

Demonstration at the proposed Woodhouse Mine site, Guided walk to Mine's proposed coal loading site

Information giving, meeting public to hear individual points of view for and against the mine, screenings of films on local mining industry, and panel discussion debate on the pros and cons of a new Cumbria coal mine taking a neutral stance.

Pop up shop in Cockermouth 'Climate Crack' to meet, listen to and chat with the public, and reconnect with people sympathetic to climate action/coal opposition, and those against.

Youth Members- including the groups Cockermouth Youth Climate Action, and National Student Climate Network.

CEWC's Youth members have held effective climate actions- including interviews with national newspapers and international news corporations, channels, held protests, hosted arts events and participatory decision-making since 2019.

The main points include:

Fridays for Future: Youth members led a series of protests both in school and on Main Street, supported by fellow CEWC members.

In 2021, two of our youth members - Clare and Isabella - held **places on the Steering Committee for the Cumbria Youth Climate Conference**. They then took part in [Cumbria Youth Climate Summit](#) in October 2021.

They helped produced a list of key climate recommendations for the county council and ZCC to inform Zero Carbon Cumbria partnership goals and long-term planning for the county.

Youth Members wrote to local MPs and the Prime Minister objecting to the proposed coal mine.

They also gave interviews and statements to national/local press objecting to the coal mine, with highly visible media presence. One represented the youth and anti-coal mine position in a televised discussion with an ex-miner from Whitehaven. And two others featured in a major news segment for Norwegian television.

Youth members were active in COP26 county-wide action, meeting well-known climate campaigners beforehand. Two youth members spoke at the associated rally in Carlisle.

Youth members currently have an [online petition](#) at [Change.org](#), to make climate change education in UK primary schools mandatory.

COP26 in Glasgow -one CEWC member went to Glasgow, supported the action, reported back.

Membership into other groups, organisations and networks across Cumbria:

CEWC has been a partner in the Zero Carbon Cumbria [Partnership](#) (ZCCP) since 2020. It makes representations on behalf of the residents of West Cumbria, pressing for change and a fair, equitable transition to zero carbon for the people of our area of Cumbria.

we prioritise the needs of underrepresented areas, the most vulnerable households on the lowest income, and those with the least means to adapt to climate changes.

Participated in country-wide climate event

The first West Cumbrian Great Big Green [Week](#) (18-26th Sept) event was held in Cockermouth last year- on the 21st September at the Kirkgate Centre, for nine hours of discussion, presentations, creative events and performance.

CEWC held a free afternoon/evening of climate-related arts/crafts display, youth poetry and crowd poetry creation, climate change presentations/talks, screening of the film 2040, post-film climate discussion, Wild Chorus Choir recital, Climate Café and Bar. This joined over 5000 GBGW events across the UK, aided by grants from Zero Carbon Cumbria & the Climate Coalition (CEWC's first, and successful funding bids).

What do we have planned for the future?

Currently our plans are temporarily on hold. This is because our major decision-making session will be held later in March to discuss and establish our priority actions, with all members' voices being heard.

BUT- some suggestions that have been made in recent months we're keen to get going, and feel the council may be interested in, are-

Apply for Zero Carbon Cumbria's funding, to get a Climate Community Grant to start projects to benefit the local community, for one or several of the following-

Climate Café- a social time to find out new climate news, information join climate discussions, share our opinions, and get up to date with events across Cumbria and beyond.

Repair café for broken but repairable electrical small appliances. One has recently been established in Carlisle.

Swap shop- bringing in and taking away useable but unwanted items- this has already successfully done in several towns in the county- and last year, in Lorton village.

Furniture upcycling workshop- to reduce repairable furniture and home décor taken to landfill/or disposed of to be chipped and incinerated.

Tackle domestic food waste, water waste, and improve recycling practices and composting-more street and indoor events and actions designed to alter people's thinking and everyday habits.

The Great Big Green Week as an annual event, with additional street stalls, films, creative events.

Climate Reading Group- there are roughly ten currently running in Cumbria

A solar power survey for the town (done by satellite imaging)- finding out which homes and businesses benefit most from fitting solar panels- this has already been done in Ambleside, and Keswick is going forward with this.

Thermal household surveys- using an infrared camera to find drafts and solveable cold spots- Ambleside Action for a Future are doing this.

And more of our general actions-

Endorse and further recommendations of Copeland People's panels, and Youth Climate panel- and in Allerdale-

Continue to request and lobby for emission reducing measures on transport, energy, recycling and waste, green/transitional job creation, tree-planting, re-wilding and peat restoration.

More media articles and letters to bring accurate, up to date climate action information and advice to the area.

More climate change presentations to the community, as people generally understand this is a concerning issue, but are not sure what to do about it. Hence presentations to community groups will help change this- we want to aim to reach sectors with an environment or outdoor-related interest, such as allotment owners, gardening and fishing clubs and associations, ramblers, walking groups and runners, friends of park areas.

Lastly, I have two requests of the Climate Change Task Group:

1. **One or more members to join the Cumbria Sustainable Network's sharing platform-** to receive regular news and progress of climate change and sustainability actions from our sister organisations and bodies, across the county, including news of the above suggestions.
2. **Would it be possible for the task group to meet more often?** I can see there's good progress being made by the group, and the volume of changes will increase, together with the need for council response and involvement-

Lastly, I'd like to offer my assistance to the task group, if you feel it to be acceptable- including experience of Zero Carbon Cumbria, Cumbria Sustainable Network, contacts including our sister groups in neighbouring towns. Additionally, I can offer research on applicable/best practice and effective measures and advocate uptake on parish town, and borough scale

Climate Change Task Group Actions	Rank within the theme and number of points	Overall Rank	Completion Date
ENVIRONMENT			
Cease providing plastic water bottles at TC Events – IN HAND			June 2019
Express concerns about river pollution to MP/Environment Agency – ACHIEVED			June 2019
Scheme for shops/businesses to refill water bottles – ACHIEVED			June 2019
Tree-planting on council-owned land – 1212 trees to be planted Harris Park Extension			November 2021
Green pages on TC website – ACHIEVED			June 2019
Volunteers to provide advice on growing vegetables (like WW2 'Dig for Victory')			
Recycle Halloween outfits, Christmas jumpers, dressing up outfits and re-distribute through library.			Ongoing
Cease/restrict use of 'pesticides' on Council land – IN HAND – Town Clerk to write to Tivoli. Tivoli have drastically reduced the use of Glyphosate usage in Allerdale by 75% by using a residual herbicide in February/March which prevents germination. The hanging baskets we provide already contain plants that will attract bees and other pollinators			June 2019
Plant wild-flower meadow areas in Memorial Gardens and/or elsewhere			May 2022
Support carbon offset schemes run by local travel agents (tie in to tree planting) – IN HAND – No reply from Craig Travel, tree planting scheme already in existence with Cockermouth Travel			June 2019
Floral displays in town centre to use plants which attract bees and other pollinators – IN HAND – Tivoli have confirmed that they use such plants			June 2019
Encourage County Council to plant wildflower verges on approaches into town – IN HAND – Town Clerk to write to CCC about planting wildflowers on verges on approaches into town and on banking in their ownership opposite Gote Road allotments. In general the soil on the verges is too rich for wildflowers. Verges need to have the soil stripped off. A bee corridor will be will be created across North Cumbria. It mainly follows the A591 but will include the A66 from the Low Road roundabout heading out towards Workington. This will be funded through National/charitable funding to support bees. Quote to be obtained from Tivoli for banking opposite St Helens Street Allotments			June 2019 March 22
Create a bee-garden – DELETE the creation of a single garden. Allotments Awards Evening to include 2 new categories, best bee friendly allotment and best bee friendly garden			Nov 2021

Give and Take Day – Funding available from CCC. Idea supported by Town Council. Delayed due to Covid			June 2022
Best Pollinator Allotment and Best Pollinator Garden categories to be added to Garden Competition. Delayed due to Covid			November 2021
The aim of Cockermouth Town Council is for its activities to be carbon-neutral by 2030 at the latest. This will require an audit of the council's current carbon footprint and concerted efforts to reduce it. Some of the measures that will be necessary are included above, e.g. ensuring that the town council buildings are fully insulated and that energy is purchased from 'green' suppliers			
Vocally support applications for new renewable energy in Cockermouth			
Write to all take-away outlets and businesses in Cockermouth to reduce their waste.			
Encourage paperless meetings			May 2021
Use water retaining planters			June 2022
Encourage members/staff to carry refillable bottles and re-useable cups			March 22
Work with Allerdale and CCC to convert footway lighting to LED and/or trial solar lighting.			
Speak to the Chamber of Trade about the introduction of a Cockermouth Cup for use in cafes and restaurants. Customers pay £1 deposit for a Cockermouth Cup, enjoy their drink and return the cup to any participating café to get their £1 back. Cups are then washed ready to be used again.			
Establish a tree sponsorship scheme			June 2021
Give away 200 x 10g packets of free wildflower seeds from library			June 21 Feb 22
Encourage residents to join a virtual climate change Cockermouth reading group			18/6/21
FOOD AND FARMING			
HOUSING AND ENERGY			
Town Council buildings – ensure insulation up to spec and energy from green supplier, (eg Good Energy or Ecotricity) PARTIALLY IN HAND – Town Clerk to write to procurement at CCC to find out if green energy suppliers included in their tender process and if they would be willing to move to 100% green energy. Npower supply brown energy which is			June 2019

cheaper. Having said that 8.5% coal, 57.9% natural gas, 17.4% nuclear, 12.6% renewable, 3.6% other.			
Town Clerk to investigate potential and costs of solar panels on all council owned buildings			
PROMOTING ACTION AND RAISING AWARENESS			
Work with other businesses to increase recycling facilities (e.g. Aldi/Lidl for clothing) – IN HAND – Mayor has spoken to Lidl			June 2019
Carry out a 'green' survey of businesses asking them to score themselves against a set of criteria (e.g. recycling, use of plastic packaging etc.)			
Where possible councillors to walk or cycle to meetings – IN HAND			June 2019
Encourage shops to use paper bags			
Consider starting an Incredible Edible Group – deferred due to Covid			
CafS are looking to recruit 20 volunteers across Cumbria to help them deliver a brand new programme to boost knowledge about climate science solutions and inspire people to take action in their own lives – advertised on our social media 4/2/21.			June 2019
Neighbourhood Plan – specs for new builds on insulation, green energy etc.			
Promote bike paths, lanes, parking places, electric bike charging points			June 2019
Planting fruit trees on council land			
Encouraging shops to sell more seasonal produce			
Town centre litter bins with separate compartments for plastic, paper and general rubbish – IN HAND – Town Clerk to write to Allerdale to request these. No reply to date. Councillor Smith to chase a response			
Support the formation of an Allerdale Partnership Climate Change Group drawing on expertise from councillors, residents, young citizens, climate science and solutions experts, business and skills providers. The Group will consider actions and strategies being developed by Allerdale Borough Council and partnership organisations and develop a borough wide strategy.			
Strive to become an Earth Protector Town			
Recognise, promote and partake in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earth Hour • Earth Day • World Environment Day 			completed in 2021 & Started in 2022

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Air Day • Cycle to Work Day • Zero Waste Week • Zero Emissions Day • World Car Free Day • International Walk to School month • National Clean up Day 			
Promote/help organise litter picking events			Sept 2021 & March 2022
Residents to be encouraged to let their gardens become wildlife havens – seeds given out			June 2021 & Feb 22
Ask CCC to provide a selection of climate change books for our library – Pamela Wilkinson is drawing up a list. Books received.			June 2021
Encourage support of climate change reading group			August 21
Organise speakers and children's activities relating to climate change in the library			
Hold information events to inform residents			
Consider how we can reduce food waste – find out what is being done locally			
Ask local chefs to suggest seasonal meals			
Work with CAFs to produce a training and accreditation scheme to enable local builders/trades persons to gain all the necessary skills for retrofitting homes			
Work with CAFs to provide an ongoing awareness scheme to every home in Cockermouth informing owners of the steps they can take to retrofit homes, the help available and provide a list of accredited companies			
Appoint a climate change lead councillor and officer			May 2021
Encourage councillors and staff to take part in suitable climate change education programmes to ensure that they are better able to make the informed decisions required.			Ongoing
Include such training as part of their induction.			Election 2023
Encourage the Creation of a one stop shop/climate change hub/information centre in Allerdale.			
Support The Great Big Green Week becoming an annual event (in principle)			
Support the formation of a climate café (in principle)			
Support the formation of a repair café (in principle)			
Support the formation of a furniture upcycling works (in principle)			

TRANSPORT			
Work with Allerdale/County/business to provide electric vehicle charging points in town – Cumbria LEP is currently considering the approach to electric vehicle infrastructure. This is likely to result in the development of an electric vehicle strategy which would look at a range of issues including the future development of charging points across the County and the approach for installation of charges at residential properties. Allerdale are in discussions with Charge my Street. TC encouraged residents to take part in the charge my street on line survey which ended on 8/1/21. Electricity North West are introducing a £1million Reinforcement Fund to enhance their network in the next 2 years where connection requires extensive re-inforcement.			ongoing
Support/encourage cycling-friendly businesses			June 2019
Continue Town Bus Service			June 2019
Promote safe walking routes through TIC			
Encourage car sharing			Put add on social media July 2021
Liaise with ABC & CCC to Improve cycling provisions			
Purchase a speed indication device			Nov 2021
OTHER ACTIONS			
Support the Local Electricity Bill – the Bill, if made Law, would empower local communities to sell locally generated clean energy directly to local customers by establishing a statutory right to supply. This is currently impossible because of the huge set up and running costs involved in doing so – SUPPORTED 18.03.20 TC MEETING			June 2019
Support the Climate & Ecological Emergency (CEE) Bill – SUPPORTED 20.01.21 TC MEETING			June 2019
Ensure we know the climate change or nature implications of our decisions before we make them.			
Be aware of planning and climate change legislation			
Lobby Government for the development of a country wide food and farming strategy			
Do an audit of what activities/groups are already taking action to address climate change.			Ongoing
Met Climate Emergency West Cumbria – 2/3/22			

Continue to budget yearly to help us fund our aspirations			£1000 in budget for 2022/23
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Clerk - Cockermouth TC

From: Angela Wakefield <angelalouiseball@yahoo.co.uk>
Sent: 09 May 2022 09:46
To: Clerk - Cockermouth TC
Subject: Re: Opportunity for Cockermouth to be involved in a Rural Community Energy Fund Feasibility Study
Attachments: Scope of work for consultants -Sustainable Keswick.pdf

Dear Sheila,

Many thanks for taking the time to talk to me on Friday.

I have included a few more details about the project below and have attached the project scope again in case you need it.

I should be able to confirm the date of the kick of meeting later this week.

RCEF Project summary

Sustainable Keswick (SK) has secured ~25k from the Rural Community Energy Fund (RCEF) to carry out a feasibility study into developing a community low carbon energy project encompassing the use of solar, electric vehicle charging points and the potential for an EV car club. Community energy projects work best at scale so we are keen to extend the geographical reach of our project to include Cockermouth. The funding will pay for a consultant to carry out a feasibility study on our behalf although the community will help steer the project.

What is RCEF?

RCEF is a grant funding scheme to support rural communities across England wanting to set up renewable energy projects in their area. The RCEF scheme has now ended but Sustainable Keswick, along with Brampton 2 Zero, were lucky enough to receive some of the surplus funding. You can read more about RCEF here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rural-community-energy-fund>.

What is the aim of the project?

The aim of the project is to find a critical mass of buildings in Keswick and Cockermouth whose owners are willing to participate in a community energy project and to determine a viable financial delivery model. If the project is proven to be feasible then the next step would be implementation. The basic idea of community energy is that the community owns the solar panels (usually financed by a community share offer) and rents the roof space from the building owners on a long term lease. The community then sells the electricity generated to the building owner, and any surplus to the grid. Any profit made will pay share holders a return on their investment. There are lots of examples of where this has worked successfully around the country. Some local examples include: <http://www.communityenergycumbria.co.uk> and <https://bce.org.uk>. The EV charge points and car club elements of the project are additional extras but are really important in offering integration of low carbon energy and transport solutions so we felt it important to include these in the project scope.

What has Sustainable Keswick done so far?

We have been supported through the application process by Kate Gilmartin from the Northwest Net Zero Hub. Kate helped us to draft a project scope and invited consultants to submit tenders for the work. We received responses from two consultancies (one being a consortium). We interviewed both candidates before selecting our preferred candidate - the consortium led by Cumbria Action For Sustainability (CAfS). The information provided by CAfS was used to underpin our application for the RCEF surplus funding. The funding application was confirmed successful at the end of April. We didn't receive as much money as we had applied for so we asked CAfS to re-quote based on the

grant funding we had been awarded. We are in the final negotiations with CAFS and hope to start the project end May/early June.

Why wasn't Cockermouth approached earlier in the process?

There was a very short window of time to submit applications for the surplus RCEF funding. We had a representative from Greysouthen on our project team who represented the interests of the Cockermouth area but we agreed it was best to wait until the funding was confirmed before mobilising further support.

What contribution would we like Cockermouth to make?

We are looking for three representatives from the Cockermouth area to join our Project Steering Group. We have already had interest from Chris Bridgeman (CEWC) and Helen Tucker (recently elected for Cockermouth North) and we would also like to invite a representative from Cockermouth Town Council. We anticipate the Project Steering Group will meet approximately every 2 weeks during the duration of the project which is anticipated to last about 6-9 months. It would be useful for the representatives on the Project Steering Group to have access to a wider group of volunteers who are able to assist with identifying candidate sites in Cockermouth for installing solar PV and also supporting community engagement activities.

Angela
07818531695

On 2 May 2022, at 20:14, Clerk - Cockermouth TC <clerk@cockermouth.org> wrote:

Great thanks

Sent from my iPhone

On 2 May 2022, at 13:32, Angela Wakefield <angelalouiseball@yahoo.co.uk> wrote:

Hi Sheila,

I haven't forgotten about setting up a mtg this week - I will send an appt when I'm back in the office tomorrow morning.

Best regards,

Angela

On 28 Apr 2022, at 14:31, Clerk - Cockermouth TC
<clerk@cockermouth.org> wrote:

Tues, wed, thurs or fri next week ok for me

Sent from my iPhone

On 27 Apr 2022, at 17:46, Angela Ball
<angelalouiseball@yahoo.co.uk> wrote:



Sustainable Keswick

'The future in our hands'

Sustainable Keswick community project Consultant Outline Brief and Fee Estimate Request

1) Request for Tender

Sustainable Keswick are seeking support from the Rural Community Energy Fund to carry out the feasibility and development work detailed below and it is expected that consultants will be familiar with the RCEF service to communities. The RCEF format is to be used for the feasibility report. Attached as 'Feasibility Study checklist', and can also be found at the link, See the RCEF website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rural-community-energy-fund>

This brief describes an invitation to tender, for a consultant (or consortium) to undertake the scoping and investigation into the feasibility of successfully developing a community low carbon energy project encompassing the use of solar, Electric Vehicle charging point and the potential for an EV car club.

The tender submissions will be used to inform an application to the Rural Community Energy Fund for a Stage 1 feasibility grant. Work packages should be allocated costs including day rates. The consultancy work will be conditional on a successful application.

As a guide for pricing, an RCEF Stage 1 grant of **up to** £40,000 is available for work that is eligible. The consultancy work will be conditional on a successful application, furthermore, Sustainable Keswick do not guarantee to issue any work and no guarantee can, or will be, given by Sustainable Keswick regarding any works that may or may not arise from this ITT.

The Fund is administered by the Local Energy, North West Hub, and aims to achieve its objectives by providing funding for community organisations to establish the feasibility of and develop the business plan for renewable energy facilities.

2) Scope

The Community wishes to explore the practical and financial viability of establishing a Solar cooperative across the Keswick and Cockermouth areas. Sustainable Keswick have already been working with and creating interest with businesses to have community owned solar on their roofs. Electricity North West has also funded a survey in Keswick to look at the solar PV potential across the town:

<https://codeclass.co.uk/keswick/>. The community want to build on this work and approach more building owners and potential land owners across Keswick, Cockermouth and nearby areas, to gain momentum and build a critical mass of potential Solar installed capacity to enable a Share issue to be undertaken to raise the capital and complete the delivery of a Keswick and Cockermouth wide solar project.

In tandem with the Solar project Sustainable Keswick want to look at Electric Vehicle Charging points based at the appropriate locations, these charge points should ideally be linked to the solar and will be used to improve the overall business case for the Solar co-operative. Sustainable Keswick has already been working with Charge My Street to find suitable locations for community EV charge points:
<https://chargemystreet.co.uk/cluster/cumbria>.

A review of the feasibility of the potential for an electric Car Club and other car share models e.g. Karshare should be part of this work. Sustainable Keswick has already been working on the Karshare model (AirBnB for cars) but want to use the example of <https://castrathaven.org/strathaven-car-club> to build a broader perspective on routes to reduce local car ownership, but also increase the number of Tourists arriving by train, with the promise of accessibility to loan/ hire vehicles on arrival. Green tourism is a growing market and linked to the Cumbrian wide issue of tourist traffic and EV charging issues new models of individual travel must be piloted.

These car club/ loan models should also be linked to the Solar co-operative – the cars and chargers are an important part of the project enabling community use of renewable generation and contributing to the local benefit of the project. Car sharing offer a useful model for car reduction with the potential to reduce as many as 20 cars on the road per car club vehicle. Linked to a volunteer driver scheme, they can also provide a service to the community, that enables people who are unable to drive, to get to appointments etc and are not reliant on bus services.

The project aims to create local assets that provide a service to the community around them and can not only help Carbon reduction, but also community Wealth Building.

The aims of the project are as follows:

- Investigate installation of new renewable generation across the Keswick area to power a local community mobility project
- Inclusion of battery storage where this provides a benefit to energy use and the business model
- Investigate a community model for electric mobility for the local community – as a minimum this would include an electric car club, potential other car share models and community chargers
- Identify other opportunities linked to renewables and mobility to maximise the community benefit and/or the profitability of a local project – this could include commercial chargers (or a commercial rate for external users of community chargers including linked to solar and battery – for example Charge My Street's 'charge while you sleep' initiative: <https://chargemystreet.co.uk/cwys>, or co-charger: <https://co-charger.com/>)
- Consult locally to identify levels of interest in order to inform scale
- Identify activities necessary to drive use and uptake of the community resources
- Identify a business model linking each of the aims above

Sustainable Keswick have identified possible sites that could form part of this project. Members of the community can help to steer this piece of work – the consultants chosen would be expected to liaise with a small group to develop this piece of work.

1. Information needed in a Feasibility Study

The feasibility study will need to include the following:

- Appraisal and business case associated with installing new renewable generation
- Model, approach and business case for setting up a CBS to enable a Share Issue
- Model approach and business case for setting up Power Purchase Agreements with the community centre, Barnetts Garage and other buildings which will provide income for B2Z's activities and operation.
- Template 3rd party roof leases and Power Purchase agreements with the building owners.
- Model, approach and business case for an Electric Vehicle car club (and any other suitable alternative)
- Advice on potential for battery storage linked to renewables and Electric Vehicle chargers – if there is a benefit quantifying this in terms of the business case as well as other benefits
- Appraisal and business case associated with installing Electric Vehicle charging points – both in terms of community use (local owners and EV car club) and in terms of external use. Appraisal to include potential locations for chargers, sizes of chargers, linked use of renewables and battery storage
- Analysis of likely use based on local consultation
- Liaison with Electricity North West regarding renewables and charger siting
- A recommended project/solution based on business case, community benefit, community use and deliverability (including realistic scale)
- Recommendations for governance of the project/solution
- An assessment of the wider benefits of the project e.g. air quality, CO2 emission reductions etc
- A detailed assessment of the financial viability of the solutions identifying the development, capital and operational costs
- Potential routes to finance including crowd funding/community shares, institutional and corporate investment, potential local partners, loans and grants
- An outline development plan for the project that provides clarity on the process required to move the scheme from feasibility to operation and including any additional development costs
- A detailed understanding of the risks of the project and advice on any mitigation
- Recommendations on technology suppliers/manufacturers and information on guarantees/warranties

3) Engagement

Adequate budget should be allocated to work with the community group and engaging the wider community.

4) Financing

- Total likely capital cost - broken down (access, plant, infrastructure, substation, cabling, connections, security)
- Project management requirements, costs and fees during planning, implementation, commissioning and maintenance;
- Likely annual maintenance/management requirements and cost;
- Insurance;
- Liabilities and costs;
- SWOT analysis.
- The expected business case for this scheme including consideration around avenues for investment to deliver the suggested technologies.

5) Project Scheduling

An outline schedule for the project should be provided, including key project milestones such as delivery of technical specifications, the gaining of planning, gaining of permits, identification of contractors, contractual procurement, start of construction phase, commissioning and initial operation. The project must be completed and invoices defrayed by March 2023.

6) Reporting

A report covering the above scope should be produced and will be used as part of its overall Stage 1 Feasibility Study report to the RCEF as described in the Report Structure.

A draft report should be issued for comment and feedback. A final report should then be issued incorporating any modifications that arise from the review and subsequent discussions. A summary of the report structure and content should be provided in the quotation.

Allowance should be made for two face-to-face meetings. One at the start of the project, which will include the site visit and discussions with the landowner, the second, when presenting the draft feasibility study report. Other meetings will be held via video link when necessary.

7) Project Team

Experience and Company Capability Details of the project team structure, roles and responsibilities should be provided together with the proposed team members and their relevant capabilities and experiences (CV's should be provided in an appendix to the quotation).

A statement of the capability of the company to undertake the feasibility study should be provided detailing, in particular, experience in projects of a similar size and nature to this project and in private wire connections. Quality assurance, safety and environmental procedures should be described and any relevant accreditations should be provided.

8) Project costs

A total cost for the technical feasibility study should be provided, excluding VAT, with a breakdown of the costs into the main project phases as specified above:

- Site, technology, barriers and planning review;

- Project financing and funding;
- Community engagement;
- Project scheduling;
- Report and presentation.

The costs should include an estimate of expenses including travel & subsistence associated with the two face-to-face meetings.

Hourly fee rates for the project team members should be provided as basis for any additional work above that specified in this ITT.

9) Tender Submission and closing date

Tenderers must email their intent to submit a proposal to angelalouiseball@yahoo.co.uk, lmjvm8@gmail.com, carolrennie@ymail.com and please copy in kate.gilmartin@lancashire.gov.uk

The deadline for submission of the Tenders is 8.00am on 31st January 2022.

Tenders should be submitted as a single pdf email attachment to the above contacts. Any questions regarding the Tender should be emailed no later than 8.00am 24th January 2022.

Email: kate.gilmartin@lancashire.gov.uk

Tel: 07763 756549