

Questions and comments gathered from the Chat on 26th September 2020

Energy – Afternoon session

C Deaves : How far can we get independently off the grid?

Lorna Taylor : Are any of CEP's largely run for domestic users? With >20% Shropshire homes with F/G EPC ratings, that would appear to be a good place to work towards solutions But I do take the point about implications for potential increased rental costs.

Robert Saunders : We struggled to gather interested individuals to take on roles in Shropshire and Telford Community Energy to establish a Community Benefit Society to purchase Twemlows Solar Farm. Are there the people out there in sufficient numbers to run these community energy schemes?

Tony Green : Shropshire local plan has community energy?

Julian Dean : Rail Electrification and solar... seen a community scheme for track side energy in south. Our line is due to be electrified.

C Deaves : I would add dealing with listed buildings?

Lorna Taylor : Do we need a separate column for housing with Conservation restrictions?

Robert Saunders : Need to distinguish how to address those in private rented homes?

C Deaves : Finance from NHS. as a therapy cost like prescription?

Lockwood: We could we discuss social landlords

C Deaves : how could the tax system be used to advantage?

Julian Dean : Is anything specific needing 'unblocking' or encouraging at Council?

Several comments re rented, private and social landlords

Julian Dean : Can come in on landlord issue - whether a registration scheme should be proposed...

Gordon Coppock : Chris and all, this was a project in the NE that prescribed Boilers , there was also insulation : <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/dec/09/boiler-on-prescription-scheme-transforms-lives-saves-nhs-money>

Helen Fairweather : Are there any good retro-fit models elsewhere in England?

Gordon Coppock: Here is one or two : <https://retrofitworks.co.uk/uncategorized/new-retrofitworks-advocate-members/>

Gordon Coppock : Example of how to build a local public records centre

<https://www.architype.co.uk/project/hereford-archive-and-records-centre/>

Lorraine: Several people have mentioned a directory, or quality mark for trusted traders

Dave T : One way is for tenants and residents associations to campaign. Do we have any in our area?

DaveT : Likewise Go Green were good for us - our solar PV

Debbie Marais : In terms of people who can pay, is there a leaflet/information sheet we could put into our newsletter that says - how to find out what energy rating your house is, who to contact for advice about making it better, reputable contractors (or questions to ask?), sources of funding etc?

Julian Dean : If there is some evidence of Severnside not taking appropriate action it would be good to hear it Julian.dean@shropshire.gov.uk this could be pursued through the councils scrutiny as they house through them.

Gordon Coppock : Back to good business support, I would think that the Marches LEP is a place to further push. Many of us on this group are on the Marches Energy Strategy group. How to push on this harder ?

Lockwood : I will be happy to join a group to put pressure on social housing providers to retrofit old homes

Julian Dean : Get in touch!

Mike Bourke : In our Working Group we need to give priority to working with landlords , both private and Housing Associations.

C Deaves : a small landlord is concerned about cost, pushing them too hard may cause them to exit the market today?

Gordon Coppock : Remember to take the opportunity to identify where we could do community energy projects - please get in contact with me or with this group. Thanks.

Charlie Monk : Good quality PV installers are saying that the FIT payments are increasingly less relevant. If the systems installed are efficient and good quality the payback is worthwhile even without FIT subsidy.

Marcia Vigar : Locally with the really old & dodgy buildings - it's not as simple as adding insulation etc, there are major build issues to be addressed too.

Community energy puts resource back to local communities.

Lorraine Develop a directory of trusted traders?

Gordon Coppock : Re Transport. I am trying to get a project going on this s'cool bus project (from France) I've discussed with some of you in the past - this seems ideal way to reduce car jams near to schools. Anyone interested please lets join together :

<https://www.cambridgeindependent.co.uk/news/could-pedal-powered-buses-be-the-future-of-the-cambridge-school-run-9054280/>

Dan Wrench : The Marches LEP Local Infrastructure Strategy is, in theory, still in draft and may be revised to be an economic recovery plan. They would welcome comments on the development of this plan. The Marches Nature Partnership have good links with the LEP.

Simon Nightingale : Shrewsbury Interfaith Forum is setting up a climate action group. We are keen to be contacted by representative of local faith groups, large or small. If you or anyone you know are interested, please contact me on dr.simon.nightingale@gmail.com