**PACT meeting number 2022-4 – Thursday 26th May 2022**

7pm via Zoom

**Present:**

Directors: John Bodger (Chair for tonight), Christine Sutherland (Secretary), Geoff Rockliffe-King, Malcolm Carruthers, Richard Waller, Ron Kenyon

Members: Chris Cant, Heather Heron, Lucy Teather

Others: Georgina Stephenson (Acting CAO), John Forbes (ZCC)

**Apologies:** Ali Ross, Jaki Bell, Joan Robinson, Liz Jablonski, Nigel Jenkins, Peter Dicken, Philip Sturgess, Rosie Bradshaw, Virginia Taylor

**Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes of last meeting were accepted.

Chris declared a financial interest re his potential work on the website.

**Matters arising:**

Hustings: As the timing was tight before the election it was decided to postpone this event until the autumn. We will invite the 16 councillors now elected to represent Eden on the new Westmorland and Furness Council to an event to discuss their stance on climate and environmental issues. Possibly a Question Time public event with live streaming.

Trees: Ron has checked the Frenchfield trees recently and most seem to be doing well. We ask Philip to let us know if further watering is needed. We need to look out for tree-planting opportunities for this autumn, eg Carleton Park?

**PACT ADMIN**

**Finance update**

 Balance Change since last meeting

Current total: £11,746.20 -£297.77

Gardening fund: £2,662.29 +£190.00 *(Donation from Joan’s talks)*

Refill fund: £12.41 No change

Repair Café: £24.46 No change

Donation from PTC: £108.56 No change

ZCC: £7,871.85 -£299.90 *(Advertising for new CAO)*

ZCC Youth Programme: £1,053.29 No change

Unallocated: £1,192.57 -£197.87 *(New email set-up, kale seeds)*

**New PACT Community Action Officer**

This role has been advertised and the closing date is tomorrow, May 27th. Interviews are planned for Tuesday and Wednesday evenings next week and the panel will be Geoff, John and Rich.

**Georgina’s work**

Georgina reported on her recent work for PACT. This included making new signs and new registration forms for the Repair Café and promoting it in the Herald and on social media. Her notes are attached. She is currently contracted to assist us to the end of June. She was reminded to submit invoices for her work!

**Support for Malcolm’s workshop**

Malcolm and three others share a workshop at the Old Fire Station. Malcolm keeps tools and equipment here which he uses to make things for the Community Gardeners and to mend things at the Repair café. Most of this equipment was obtained second-hand and Malcolm would like to apply for a grant from Penrith Town Council to replace some of the larger items. We agree to support him in this and will make the application from PACT. Georgina also suggested that he might be able to get a grant from the Penrith Lottery.

The PACT insurance should be checked. The insurers will probably expect him to have a risk assessment covering the use of the equipment, especially if it is to be used by other people. John B will help with this.

**Repair Café donations**

The Repair café receives donations of between £60 and £100 each time, from people whose items have been mended and for refreshments. The cash is kept by Trevor Callum and used to fund the refreshments, items of equipment and all the consumables used by the repairers. It was felt that a tally should be kept of this income and what it is spent on.

**New PACT website**

Rich and Chris have met to discuss ideas. The layout could be based around hubs, such as nature, electric vehicles etc, or around questions that people might ask eg ‘How can I reduce my energy bills?' Possibly a graphic approach could be used, eg an image of a house and a car, where you can click on the relevant area to find out more.

There is now less hurry to set this up as the deadline for the old website to close down has shifted to November 2023. But if we are keeping the existing website for longer then some out-of-date content should be removed.

**Series of talks**

Still hoping to start these in September. Christine will ask Ali Ross whether she can liaise with Paul Allen.

**ZERO CARBON CUMBRIA**

**Away day**

A ZCC team in-person team meeting / away day is planned at the Sunbeams Music Centre near Penrith on Thursday 16th June. This will be mainly for the posts which are funded or part funded by through the lottery project. The aim is to give opportunities for the people involved in the different projects a chance to meet each other in-person and to have the sort of collective discussions which are difficult on Zoom. It is hoped that our new CAO might be able to attend this and John Forbes has offered funding to pay for his or her time. Another representative from PACT would be welcome.

**Cumbria Sustainability Network**

Still meets every month and Geoff attends frequently. Attendance is dwindling and different people attend each time so there is a lot of repetition.

**OTHER**

**Electric Car Share Scheme**

Talks are on-going. Some people have expressed interest in an electric van share.

**Local Energy course in Lancaster**

See next page for details.

**Next meeting**

**Thursday 7th July** at 7pm

In Geoff’s garden if possible (White Gables, Wordsworth Street, Penrith, CA1 7QY) and on Zoom.

**Glossary**

CAfS Cumbria Action for Sustainability

CAO Community Action Officer

CSN Cumbria Sustainability Network

EDC Eden District Council

ZCC Zero Carbon Cumbria

Invite to a Zero Carbon Britain online course: Local Energy Solutions

When: Monday, 27th June 2022, 9.30-5.00

Where: Halton Mill, Mill Lane, Halton, Lancaster LA2 6ND

The North West Local Energy Hub and Electricity North West would like to invite you to attend a full day workshop which will focus on community energy and local energy solutions.

The workshop is being delivered by the Centre for Alternative Technology’s Zero Carbon Britain team and will help delegates to understand:

* + the role of community energy in delivering a net-zero carbon Britain;
	+ community energy through real-life case studies;
	+ the issues community energy groups need to consider such as legal issues, grid connection and stakeholder engagement.

The workshop will also provide a session on action planning and an opportunity to meet people from other groups working on community energy projects from across the North West.

To register for a place email zcb@cat.org.uk with your name and organisation. There are only 40 places and these will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.