

KINGSBARNES COMMUNITY COUNCIL
ENERGY SUB GROUP

Meeting held at 5A The Square on Wednesday 14 April 2010.

PRESENT Eileen Brown, Sue Jenkins, Kit McMahon, Tim Scott, Rob Moodie (Chairman)

APOLOGIES Jim Potter.

MINUTE	ACTION
1 REMIT Agreed as: To investigate what residents of Kingsbarns could do to reduce their carbon imprint.	ALL
2 VILLAGE SURVEY 2009 It was noted that of the 121 replies, 92% had roof insulation , 44% wall insulation , 11% under-floor insulation and 67% double/triple glazing and, with regard to house heating source, 31% used oil, 19% LPG gas, 41% solid fuel (coal/ wood), 61% electricity, 2% air/ground source heat pump and 3% solar . Obviously, several combinations of these were in use. It was suggested that this was not a true reflection of the village as a whole, as it was likely that replies were received from residents most aware of the need for insulation and more sustainable sources of heat. They might also have the means to choose. It was recognised that some elderly residents were reluctant to have roof insulation installed, due to the need to clear lofts of stored furniture etc. and indeed to have any disruption to their lives. Draft proofing was one simple and effective way of reducing heat loss with minimal disruption. Eileen agreed to find out what leaflets were available to assist the elderly residents. There was also the problem of listed and older buildings generally, where their construction made it difficult, if not impossible to install wall insulation and double glazing and local authority policy discouraged. Rob agreed to have discussion with the planning authority on these issues. On ground source heating, it was noted that the high water table in the village made ground source heating less likely, as an option. Sue also agreed to request the help of an architect friend in identifying what could be done.	EB RM SJ
3 GRANT SYSTEM It was agreed that we would start to gather information on the various National and Local Government grants available and make this accessible to residents.	ALL

KINGSBARNS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
ENERGY SUB GROUP

4 ENERGY COMPANIES

It was understood that the energy companies had to spend 10% of their turnover on energy savings and, so far, this appeared to amount to the issue of energy saving bulbs. It was agreed that the Community Council should request information on this issue. The Energy Savings Trust should also be approached.

5 WIND POWER

Tim questioned the efficiency of wind power to produce electricity and its impact on the environment. Rob noted that Scotland had the best wind regime in Europe and several members expressed their liking for the sculptural quality of well grouped and sited clusters of wind turbines. Every proposal had to be carefully considered with regard to its scale and impact on the environment.

It was noted that the Community Council was represented on the liaison committee dealing with St Andrews University proposals for a wind farm at Upper Kenly. A mast had been erected on site to test the wind strength over a twelve month period and impact studies were being carried out on the effect on wildlife, RAF Leuchars etc.. A series of photo montages had been prepared to illustrate the visual impact of two separate proposals and these together with a report would be made available to residents at a public meeting to be held in the near future.

KMcM

Concerns were expressed regarding a range of proposals, for individual wind turbines, currently being considered by our neighbouring communities and one individual householder adjoining the underground bunker. It was agreed that it would be preferable that these were grouped together on a suitable site.

6 SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAICS

Sue raised the potential for generating electricity from solar energy. It was agreed that this should also be considered.

ALL

7 NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 17 May at 7pm at 5A The Square.

ALL