



# Wadebridge Town Council

The Town Hall, The Platt, Wadebridge, Cornwall PL27 7AQ  
Telephone: 01208 812643

Town Mayor – Cllr Tony Rush      Locum Clerk – Sue Lee

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## Notes from Advisory Group meeting held on Wednesday 19 June 2013, 7pm, Victoria Room

**Those present** : Dr Mike Kent, Tony Rush, Peter Collis, Pamela Starling, Mike Todd, Steve Knightley & Simon Malloni    **Also present** : Beverley Collins, Minutes Clerk

1. **Apologies** were received from Amanda Pennington, , Jeremy Varcoe, Tony Faragher, Paula Martin, Stephen Frankel & Mark Innes.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** – Meeting notes of 4 June 2013 had been previously circulated & were agreed as a true record.

**Simon Malloni arrived at 7.05pm**
3. **Matters arising** – Mike commented on issues related to the date of meeting. He reiterated that the date and topic were agreed by all those present at the 4th June meeting, and that he was keen to keep as close as possible to the present terms of reference for the Advisory Group which states that "The Advisory Group meetings will be held fortnightly". For information, he clarified that a meeting is quorate as long as at least three Steering Group members are present.
4. **Initial discussion of draft document on Renewable Energy** – Mike explained that the document was presented only as a starting point for discussion and was purposely limited in scope and was never meant to be complete. Written responses to an early draft were received from Jeremy Varcoe and Stephen Frankel. Those from Jeremy were included in the cost-benefits table on onshore wind energy presented at this meeting. Those from Stephen have already been communicated to members of the Advisory Group before the meeting. These include general concerns about the meeting and topic, and some specific concerns about aspects not included (or incompletely covered) in the cost-benefit table. One general comment was that the Advisory Group should approach the sustainability/energy issues from a strategic, rather than an intimate level. Mike commented that we should not forget that the Neighbourhood Plan is primarily concerned with the intimate level, whereas the Cornwall Local Plan and National Planning Policy Framework are concerned with the strategic. Specific aspects mentioned in Stephen's written response were sustainability; a full consideration of the advantages and disadvantages of current arrangements (of generating energy); the need to appreciate that energy costs are increasing and that incomes are falling; that energy needs to be considered in relation to housing and transport (not just environment); the importance of the local energy economy; and the need to have information about the energy generated by wind turbines.

5. **Information on Renewable Energy in Topic Group Reports.** It was agreed that each topic group evidence-based report should include a cost-benefit analysis of energy generated by onshore renewable energy, and other forms of renewable energy (with a full consideration of the advantages and disadvantages of current arrangements), where appropriate. It was proposed by Stephen Knightley that each topic group include an energy/sustainability section within their overall report. It was noted that, as 'energy & sustainability' are complex subjects specific options & relevant information is required for future public consultations so that residents have the opportunity to comment on this matter & identify areas both for & against future development. Feedback will allow different opinions & requirements to be recognised & addressed. Stephen Knightley noted that potential development sites will become apparent once specific areas such as flood plains, preservation areas etc. have been highlighted. *It was AGREED that each topic group should define sustainability & include a balanced report within their overall topic report.* It was noted that whilst WREN will be consulted on this matter & will be a valuable source of information, it is important to obtain information & views from other energy groups. Mike & Tony advised the possibility of an input from an adviser from an outside agency such as Neil Farrington, Community Energy Plus. – **AGREED** to arrange for future meeting. **Action : MK.**

6. **Communication of our work** – Dropbox is available for the group to make use of. Mike Todd explained the pros & cons of this facility – the group discussed the need for a Code of Practice so that documents cannot be edited etc. It was **AGREED** that a Code of Practice should be drawn up & a demonstration arranged. **Action : MK.**

**ALL MEMBERS TO NOTE : Change of correspondence e-mail address** - Mike Kent advised that as Chair of the Advisory Group he wanted to formalise correspondence by not having e-mails and other correspondence relating to general NHP Advisory Group business sent to his personal address – all members to contact the Chair via Beverley – [admin@wadebridge-tc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@wadebridge-tc.gov.uk)  
The Chair will liaise with Beverley & check / reply to e-mails on a regular basis from the office.

7. **Future meetings** – Mike advised that the Doodle Poll results received so far show a preference for meetings to be held either on Tuesdays at noon or Thursdays at 7pm. Future pattern of meetings to be agreed at next meeting as - fortnightly, alternating between Tuesday at noon & Thursday at 7pm. **Action : next meeting.**

8. **Date and time of next meeting** – Tuesday July 2nd, Joint Steering Group /Advisory Group. Each topic group expected to provide an update including draft evidence-based report. **Apologies from Mike Todd.**

Meeting closed 8pm

Meeting & Date	Date received by Steering Cttee	Date received by WTC – Full Council
Advisory Group – 19/06/13		