

NOTES			Date: 28 August 2024
			Time: 14:00
<b>Meeting Title:</b>	<b>Norfolk Climate Change Partnership</b>	<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Microsoft Teams</b>
<b>Chair:</b>		<b>Note Taker:</b>	<b>Sandra King, NNDC</b>
<b>Present:</b>	Al Collier Deborah Carr Ged Greaves Greg Pearson Harry Mach Jonathan Davison Kate Rawlings Olivia Rope Nicolette Jeffries Trevor Wiggett	Norfolk County Council Norfolk County Council Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk NCCP Manager (Chair) Broads Authority Energy Hub North Norfolk District Council Breckland District Council (on behalf of Jason Cole) Norfolk County Council Norwich City Council	
<b>For Item 03 only</b>	John Moore		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Adam Thorpe Asher Minns Jason Cole Lorraine Gore Paula Boyce Peter Gudde Steve Blatch	EELGA Tindall Centre Breckland District Council Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk Great Yarmouth Borough Council Net Zero Hub North Norfolk District Council	

<p><b><u>Item 2: Notes from previous meeting on 26 June 2024 and matters arising</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The notes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.</li> <li>Discussion re revised Terms of Reference and Draft Comms Protocol – GP had discussions with Steve and Lorraine and will circulate after meeting and add to the next agenda for ratification.</li> <li>Roberta Wilner consulting on the Economic Strategy for the County and will invite her to provide an update at our meeting in January.</li> </ul>	<p><b>GP</b></p> <p><b>GP</b></p>
<p><b><u>Item 3: Community Energy – barriers and ways to increase uptake</u></b></p> <p>Has discussed lack of community energy across the county as no solar showing on the map. John Moore and Jonathan Davison administering fund from DESNEZ so on agenda for today to explain why bids not been successful and how we as partnership can promote and embed across the county. Think this will be part of PFH meeting in September to push.</p> <p>Presentation shared - Developing a viable pipeline of community energy projects</p> <p>John – contracted to support organisations who apply to the fund and advising them on decarbonisation issues.</p> <p><b>What is community energy and why promote it?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivery of community-led projects for energy supply, renewable energy or demand reduction.</li> </ul>	

- They are wholly owned and/or controlled by the community in which they reside.
- Communities can work in partnership with commercial or public sector partners to:
  - Reduce their dependency on fossil fuels;
  - Reduce their CO2 emissions;
  - Secure their future energy supply;
  - Reduce fuel poverty risks; and
  - Use income generated to provide benefits to the community.

### **The policy and funding landscape**

- £10m fund launched by the previous government in 2023 with a two-year budget replacing the Rural Community Energy Fund which closed in 2022.
- New government's mission to 'make Britain a clean energy superpower' with zero carbon electricity by 2023 – partnering with organisations for clean power projects.
- One scheme up and running is the Community Energy Fund.

### **Overview of the Fund:**

- Money split across the 5 hub regions.
- South East tending to be the biggest user of the money so have £2.6m over two years reflecting its larger geographic area.
- No match funding required.
- Stage 1 (Feasibility) – up to £40k - covers costs of establishing technical and financial viability
- Stage 2 (Development) up to £100k – covers costs of legal, permitting planning and related activities.
- Trend towards community solar, with lots of ideas for decarbonising heat i.e. heat pumps, wind projects in the feasibility stage. Can also fund projects to do with energy efficiency but difficult to find something that fits that model. Some villages looking to put in solar car ports to their village car parks. Also some solar farm projects.
- Looking for ambitious projects with enough scale to make it worth progressing.
- Applicants are mainly amateurs and volunteers working with their parish councils.

### **Application process:**

- A friendly and easy process.
- Start by submitting an expression of interest so we can give them the relevant support
- Multiple application rounds each year but expressions of interest can be submitted at all times. Two rounds completed. Now have a small queue of projects waiting for funding.
- If we spend the money then are in a better position to get more.
- Community engagement is important and a key element.

### **Applicant eligibility:**

- Applicants must be led by legally constituted voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations in England.

### **Community ownership:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projects developed with CEF funding should be designed to be at least 50% community owned.</li> <li>• 12 Norfolk enquiries submitted and two progressed to an application.</li> <li>• Can redirect projects that aren't applicable.</li> <li>• Need to work out why Norfolk communities are less interested in this.</li> </ul> <p><b>How can NCCP help:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure our councillors know about this. Spread the word that any community energy project should contact the Hub and seek support – don't wait until there is a project fully defined.</li> <li>• Encourage groups, to bring forward decarbonisation problems in need to a solution – not fully formed proposals</li> <li>• Remember that existing community action groups are preferred as these have the engagement to succeed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;As:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AI – consider publicising through NALC as well as through local councillors and is it possible to put together some generic templates for different types of schemes? John suggested an information pack of what has already been done. Also happy to do a presentation to other groups. GP suggested working with NALC to put on an Energy Event. GP</li> <li>• Nicolette – feels parish councils don't have an understanding of it but and that going through NALC is probably not a good idea.</li> <li>• John feels an online meeting might be more beneficial or if in person could be part of wider Forum with this as one of the subject matters.. Needs to be an incentive to get people to any event. Nicolette felt that a face to face event is likely to attract more people and could perhaps look at geographic groupings.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>ACTION:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>To push through the PFH group with a view to promoting more widely.</b></li> <li>• <b>To explore putting on a series of regionally based events perhaps to be held at Gressenhall or at The Rural Life Museum.</b></li> <li>• <b>To develop some consistent literature to share inform communities.</b></li> </ul> <p>Hub is here as a service for NCCP and constituent partners so feel free to contact Jonathan or John with any queries who can provide examples of case studies etc.</p> <p><b><u>ACTION:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>GP to arrange a follow up meeting in a few weeks to feed back.</b></li> </ul> <p>GP asked what would be felt to be a successful amount of applications from Norfolk. John – would like to see about 10-12 applications. Could be more explicit about that in the NCCP Work Plan.</p>	<p>GP</p> <p>GP</p>
<p><b><u>Item 4 – NCCP Work Plan</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workplan under the three strategic priorities of the partnership.</li> <li>• GP has tried to reflect everything we want to do and some actions could be part of a 2-3 year plan rather than one year.</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harry suggested rather than naming a lead person, perhaps add a lead organisation and specific department roles or perhaps have some sub-groups. Also, theme leads to provide feedback.</li> <li>• Suggested prioritising actions and insert reference numbers.</li> <li>• Also perhaps conversations with CEXs and PFHs re overseeing projects.</li> <li>• Ged suggested including a short piece of analysis work on territorial emissions and opportunities for collaboration that might flow from those.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>ACTION:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>GP to speak to Steve Blatch initially.</b></li> <li>• <b>NJ to speak to team re Active Travel to see where we are.</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>GP</b> <b>NJ</b></p>
<p><b><u>Item 5 – Norfolk Territorial Emissions</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Figures shown for 2022</li> <li>• Positive trend showing emissions on a slow downward trajectory with a 3.5% reduction from the previous year.</li> <li>• Transport highest emission source due to rurality.</li> <li>• If take land use change, forestry and industrial accounts for a third of emissions. Not proposing looking at that currently – but this is being questioned at a regional forum.</li> <li>• Published on district geography level and looking at benchmarking some areas.</li> <li>• KL has highest amount in the county</li> <li>• Yarmouth is one of the lowest in the country – but there is a lot of poverty in that area which needs to be taken into account. 4 out of 7 sit within bottom emitters of the country.</li> <li>• Commercial transport emissions on the rise, especially since Covid.</li> <li>• Harry – on the land use – feels needs to be included, especially in relation to energy plan but needs to be a proper land use study. Al agreed that a drill down into land use and agriculture would be really helpful.</li> <li>• JD would like to see a per-Capita figure. Al has some WSP transport emission figures he could share. Harry shared a place-based carbon calculator which shows areas that have the highest footprints.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>ACTION:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nicolette to share the Agriculture Decarb report.</b></li> <li>• <b>Agreed to share this report with PFH for their September meeting.</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>Item 6: Update on Norfolk NetZero Communities Project</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hubbub started working with communities and very much in the engagement stage.</li> <li>• Been a bit slower activity over the summer and hope will gain momentum.</li> <li>• From October will help co-design barriers.</li> <li>• Key feedback from project is that people find the landscape very complex putting people off making decisions. Want ‘Trusted Traders’ – a big element of trust.</li> <li>• For future meeting need to start thinking about what next. Need to look at learning and how we can use to influence policy moving forward. Also links to other themed projects. Need to be clear in any exit plan.</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking at dynamics of aged population or those that move regularly who wouldn't wish to invest in solar panels as not able to benefit from the investment.</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>Item 7: Forward Plan &amp; Any Other Business</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agri plan and WSP report.</li> <li>Wendy to talk about nature recovery.</li> <li>Feedback on conversations with Suffolk.</li> <li>DVs from Kurt.</li> <li>Community Energy update</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Any other business</u></b></p> <p><b>Harry - National Parks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All national parks in the UK have now declared they have joined the UN race to NetZero.</li> </ul> <p><b>Kate:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kate had recently sent round an email compiling a list of various networks / forums people are part of but has not heard back from everyone.</li> <li><b><u>ACTION:</u> Kate to add to Sharepoint site for people to add to/update.</b></li> </ul> <p>Planning, DVs and petrol stations – to be picked up by Ged at next meeting when Kurt is present.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">KR</p>
<p><b><u>Date and time of next meeting</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2024</li> </ul>	