

APSE Renewables & Energy Efficiency Advisory Group

Minutes 21st August 2018

1. Introduction and Welcome

Unfortunately, Cllr Evelyn Tweed was unable to attend the meeting due to other Council duties therefore Louise Melville welcomed all to the meeting and thanked Stirling Council for hosting the event at The Tollbooth.

Louise also highlighted to the group that unfortunately Gavin Slater was unable to attend on the day to present on behalf of Glasgow City Council **however, he had confirmed he'd** be happy to speak at the next meeting of the group.

2. Attendance and Apologies

See attached.

3. Minutes of previous meeting – 21 April 2018

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate account of the meeting.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. **Stirling Council's Solar Canopy Projects**

Roz Smith provided the group with a detailed and informative presentation around **Stirling's** solar canopy projects. This included an overview of the main reasons for considering and moving forward with these initiatives as well as information on the funding opportunities available to help with the projects.

Roz then provided information on the Castlevue project, with the main aim to provide commuters, residents and visitors increased opportunities for active and low carbon travel, aswell as the potential opportunity to generate income.

As part of the project, the EV infrastructure will be made up of:-

- 40 x slow chargers
- 18 x fast chargers
- 2 x rapid chargers(rising to 6 over 8 years)

The next section of the presentation was focused on the business case for the project. As part of this, this included highlighting the 3 main elements of income generation:-

- Electricity generation from solar PV
- **EV "charging for charging"**
- Exporting surplus electricity to the grid

Roz completed the presentation with a review of the challenges, risks and benefits associated with the project. Some of the challenges and risks which were identified included:-

- Funding
- Grid constraints
- Timescales
- Technology

There was a number of questions from the floor which included how Stirling got from concept to design – this was mainly through inhouse services and had the Council considered separating the battery and solar to potentially make a better return.

6. Glenrothes Energy Network: local heat scheme which is helping to tackle climate change and fuel poverty

Jonathan Coppock provided another interesting and informative presentation to the group. This included some background to the project as well as some of the initial hurdles which the council had to overcome which meant that a reduced scheme, which had the potential to be developed and expanded at a later date, was taken forward.

In terms of the project itself, Jonathan highlighted that it took 30 vehicles to deliver the piping required from Germany (6.8km in total), the contractor uses live excavation to remove the soil, traffic management has proved to be as difficult, if not more difficult than **laying the pipe itself and that it hadn't been just a technical project but also a communication project too.**

The importance of this was outlined during the presentation with the Council undertaking:-

- Regular press releases to local media
- Radio advertising on Kingdom FM
- Members and managers briefings
- Intranet articles, posters, emails and also a stand at Fife House
- Meetings with key businesses
- Regular social media posts
- News items on Fife Direct and Invest in Fife websites
- Exhibition stand at community events and Kingdom shopping centre

There is a potential to connect to a further 500 homes, a football stadium and school etc should the scheme be expanded and as part of the project the Council has retained the original pipe sizing of the first submission to allow for ease of expansion.

Jonathan completed his presentation by outlining some of the challenges faced, opportunities, benefits and next steps.

Again, there was a number of questions including if there had been any tenant kickback and when the Council payback is likely to have been made.

7. Discussion forum: Ask your peers for their views/ experiences on any challenges or issues currently being faced

Topics included:-

- New developments connecting to the national grid
- Behaviour change
- Putting a value on non-monetary items

8. APSE Update

Louise Melville provided the group with an update on all of the recent work of the Association both in Scotland and UK wide. This included information on recent briefings and publications including information on the recently launched **“The New Municipalism”** and **“Taking a commercial approach”**. Louise also provided the group with information on the various areas of advocacy APSE were involved in, including Party Political Conferences. With the latest (SNP conference) which was to be held in Aberdeen at the start of June. As well as exhibiting at the conference APSE held a successful fringe event on **“Local Government Finance: Are we at a cliff edge?”**. Finally, Louise provided information on the other services provided by APSE which included an update on the Annual Seminar & Service Awards this year taking place in Edinburgh.

9. A.O.C.B

There was no other business.

10. Date and time of next meeting – 22nd January, Recital Room, Old Fruitmarket, Glasgow

Attendees

Name	Council
Louise Melville	APSE
Tom MacLennan	Aberdeen City Council
Eric Wells	Aberdeenshire Council
Paul Gillies	Argyll and Bute Council
Lawrence Hunter	Clackmannanshire Council
Neil Grant	East Ayrshire Council
Douglas Evans	Falkirk Council
Janet Archibald	Fife Council
Jonathan Coppock	Fife Council
Jackie Sayer	Highland Council

Nathan Chaplin	Highland Council
Andrew Brockett	North Ayrshire Council
Mike Newall	South Ayrshire Council
Roz Smith	Stirling Council
Tim Ugwu	Stirling Council
Peter Rogers	West Lothian Council

Apologies

Clr Evelyn Tweed	Stirling Council
Christine Downie	Glasgow City Council
Gavin Slater	Glasgow City Council