

# **BUNNY ENERGY SOLUTIONS COMMITTEE**

## **A Sub-Committee of Bunny Parish Council**

### **Notes of Meeting 17.09.25.**

#### **1. Attendance**

David Beckford, John Berridge, Vivien Keller Garnet, Chris Rogers, Chris Webb.

Apologies - Stuart Taylor.

#### **2. Notes of Meeting 20.08.25.**

The notes were agreed as a correct record.

#### **3. Matters Arising**

It was reported that the Rancliffe Arms have been approached as a potential venue for the hire of a room for the Solar Panels seminar. The cost and the date are yet to be agreed. It was suggested that a Tuesday evening might prove to be a suitable choice and it was agreed that the Rancliffe Arms would be an ideal choice.

The draft advertisement to be distributed was discussed and amendments/additions agreed. It was agreed that the information should fit on one side of A4 and that it should be advertised on the BESC website. Security of systems, and use of energy e.g. EV charging and water heating were agreed as additions to the list of matters which could be discussed. It was also agreed that the advert needs a note to indicate that it is our intention to film the event. It was also agreed that the use of a QR code should be investigated and that David can provide documentation on this matter.

It was agreed that the expert team should include Graham Norbury, Dave Eastgate, Stuart, Chris Webb. Chris Webb agreed to chair the meeting. It was also agreed that future seminars covering, Electric vehicles and Heat Pumps should be considered.

It was reported that Ruth Mulvany (Community Energy Fund) has been approached and she has indicated that the next tranche of money to be bid for will be available as from April 2026. This gives us more time to complete an application for a stage 1 feasibility grant.

It was reported that Penny Wakefield and Jan Eastgate have agreed to join a group run by Chris Rogers to investigate the feasibility of the use of sustainable energy in Bunny's public buildings i.e. the Village Hall, the Arms Houses and the Church. Chris is to be provided with their contact details in order to organise a meeting.

Chris Webb reported his initial contact with Octopus in order to investigate a possible link between BESC and Octopus. As requested Chris provided a comprehensive list of the work BESC is undertaking. Potential further developments are being investigated by Octopus. It is clear that we would be the first organisation of our type to engage with Octopus if it should come about. This is perhaps surprising and certainly interesting.

John reported that he will be seeing James Naish on Saturday (20th Sept) at a meeting dealing with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in schools. He will take this opportunity to discuss the possibility of linking BESC's proposed 'Villages Net-Zero Policy' with the Community Energy Bill which is making its way through parliament and currently at the second reading stage.

It was reported that it has not been possible to make contact with Bradmore P.C. in order to combine our approach to supporting owners of Listed Buildings with sustainable energy issues. In the meantime Viv reported that her communications with Sera Taylor (Rushcliffe Listed Buildings Officer). Rushcliffe has provided a couple of information sessions in the borough and it's unlikely that there will be much appetite for another. It was observed that Listed Buildings Officers are responsible for considering each application for any changes to a listed building. General advice about possible refits will vary depending on the age and construction of the listed building, current planning regulations and officers interpretations of those regulations. Helpfully Viv has identified potential ways forward on this matter including Paul Thorneycroft who is the owner of the Listed Building Property Company and lives in Bunny. Additionally there is the National Listed Property Owners Club and a Listed Buildings Shows on October 10th and 11th 2025 at The Three Counties Showground, Malvern, Worcestershire and on January 30th and 31st 2026 at the London Olympia. Sections of the shows will be focusing on energy efficiency. They will be addressing insulation options, heating and renewable energy, heat pumps and much more. It was agreed that links to these events would be posted on the BESC website.

#### **4. The National Grid and its problems**

A paper on D.N.O. (Distribution Network Operator) was tabled and its contents discussed. Additionally the meeting was informed that there is an online map of DNO6 which provides substations and connections to the transmission network. Additionally a green, amber, red colour code indicates the existence of capacity or

otherwise. Chris Webb reported that he is in the process of challenging the apparent limits to connectivity in Bunny when it appears that the infrastructure is in place. He observed that the lack of users having any say in the planning process is a problem.

## **5. National and local political matters**

It was reported that Cllr Bert Bingham (Reform party) and cabinet member responsible for N.C.C. Transport and Environmental policy had said at a meeting that he does not believe human made (anthropogenic) climate change exists and is a hoax. He further declared that climate change is nonsensical and that the media has brainwashed the public about the whole subject.

It was observed that on Thursday 18th Sept an N.C.C. representative will be present at a meeting of Bunny Parish Council. It was also noted that the existence of BESC as a sub-committee of the Parish Council with the main aim of delivering the government's Net-Zero policy certainly identifies a difference of opinion and could potentially pose a problem. A discussion took place on how this matter should be managed. It was agreed that it should be noted that on Thursday 10th July Hugh Casswell BBC Nottingham News reporter had reported the speech and to establish whether or not the report was correct.

It was also reported that in the recent government cabinet changes Ed Miliband remains the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.