

**COMMUNITY ENERGY LONDON**

Members’ Meeting

**Thursday 31st January 2019, 6-8 pm**

VENUE: City Hall, Committee Room 1

**6 -7pm:** Fuel poverty workshop, with Alex Hartley (SELCE)

**7 – 8pm:** Members’ Meeting

Attendees

Apologies

Sydney Charles (En10ergy)

Andy Rolfe (Ealing Transition)

Grant Venner (Ealing Transition)

Pamela Harling (En10ergy)

Alex Hartley (SELCE)

Syed Ahmed (CEL) Chair

Fleur Disney (CEL)

David Barker (Portsoken)

Rebecca Ellis (Southwark-based)

Sarah Divers (Enfield council, Energetic)

Sarah Holliday (Bromley-By-Bow Centre)

Tanuja Pandit (PUNL)

Alan Jones (SE24)

Thiago Haberli (LSx)

Tom Walsh (Sustainable Merton)

Susan Chappell (SWELN)

Liz Ainslie (Islington Council)

Martin O’Brien (ALEO)

Ali Hammoud (Repowering)

**AGENDA**

1. **Welcome from the Chair**

Welcome to the first Members’ meeting of the year! Thanks very much to Alex Hartley from SELCE for an informative and inspiring workshop about how community groups can help support local people living with fuel poverty. It’s important to note that these issues can affect a great many Londoners, including those already dealing with other vulnerabilities.

1. **Review of previous meeting minutes and action points**

Key items discussed at our previous meeting include:

* the CEL calendar for 2019, which features 24 proposed meetings and events
* the draft report from the Community Energy London Post – FITs Solar ‘hackathon’ held at Bates Wells Braithwaite in October 2018.

**ACTIONS:**

1. **SA to distribute an email about carbon offsets to Members**
2. **FD to email members requesting input for project ideas that would require < £10k and that relate to community energy/ air quality/ the environment/ efficiency/ fuel poverty.**
3. **FD to remind members about the deadline for UKPN’s Power Partners fund - 18th February 2019**
4. **Update on status of CEL**

AJ (CEL treasurer) provided an update on the organisation’s progress to becoming a Community Benefit Society:

* Having become incorporated, a general meeting would need to be organised over coming months. CEL will then formally invite member groups to become partners or formal members. Groups can apply for a share for a £1 nominal rate. This gives members full voting rights, and to contribute to issues such as the organisation’s longer term strategy etc.
* There are several further processes that will be needed , including a communications strategy, an update the bank account, elect new officers and establish a system for membership.
* Rebecca Ellis is involved with a member trade association and has offered possible advice to CEL on setting up governance system.

**ACTIONS:**

1. **By February’s meeting FD/ AJ to provide a timetable of when these processes will be done.**
2. **LCEF update (rolling item)**

SA gave an introduction to the London Community Energy Fund (LCEF), i.e. the first round emphasised solar, whereas the second round supported a mix of solar, efficiency and a broader range of projects, such as the Aluna moon clock installation.

**BBBC**: Being mentored by PUNL. One sticking point is future funding. Group has been in discussion with the council about the potential of carbon offset funds. They’re considering a larger project which would be split over two sites – but would involve raising £60k or so. System is 46.2 kWp.

* Some discussion about Eco Energy – which fund whole systems through Power Purchase Agreements. However, this is a ‘rent a roof’ model, which takes away much community control.

**PUNL:** One small project, fuel poverty workshop. Supplementing what was previously secured from Islington’s community energy fund.

**SE24:** Phase 1 – an issue was raised by the Methodist church over its internal policies on installing solar projects. This has however now been sorted, but has put a four or five week delay in to the legal process. Had hoped to install end of March.

**Masbo:** Waiting on structural survey but we have all the funds to install if it’s viable.

**Edward Road**: Some trouble as project is proposed in a conservation area. Some issues also raised by local residents – and also an issue of in situ asbestos.

**SELCE:** First round took a while because of some issues at the council. We currently have several sites and the legal departments in councils or partner sites cause a lot of delays. Been nominated for an award. Trying out Greener Homes and thermal imaging project.

**Portsoken:** In the feasibility stage, but also had some discussion with City of London housing sub-committee. Repowering London are partnering with Portsoken.

SA: Often a good idea to get a councillor on side with a passion for CE, these ‘champions’ are key.

1. **Hackathon working group & Smart Export Guarantee**

FiT – fixed amount of money, fixed amount of time

SEG – much more vague. Gov does suggest ‘every supplier is obligated to offer something’. However this is very underwhelming.

**ACTIONS:**

1. **CEL to Draft response to SEG consultation**
2. **Fleur to send around Alex’ slides to everyone on Friday**
3. **Fleur to check with SC about 5th February meeting with AJ.**
4. **AOB**

February’s CEL monthly meeting will include a session on local authority carbon offset funds.

**Our next meeting is Thursday 28th February 2019, 6-8pm at City Hall, Committee Room 2**