

Barningham Net Zero Project News

A small team met in early December to discuss a vision for Barningham to:

- Reduce energy costs for villagers
- Achieve a net zero carbon footprint from building emissions by provision of renewable energy throughout the village
- Provide surplus income from energy generation, which can be used to fund on-going energy efficiency improvements

To determine the most cost-effective solutions for the village, we are applying for £40,000 from the Rural Communities Energy Fund to undertake a feasibility study. This was supported by a vote at the Parish Meeting on 19 November, attended by over 25 residents.

Your views will inform the project plans and the contents of our application, which will be submitted on 1 February 2020. If successful, the grant would be awarded in March. This is an exciting opportunity of benefit to Barningham residents and our endangered environment.

Please join us at Barningham Village Hall on:

Wednesday 11th December at 7:00-8:30pm for a
Community Question and Answer Session / Open Discussion

Current project team:

- *George-Ann Brooks, 621203*
- *Judith Lewis, 07791 951 436*
- *Jane Longfield, Bramble Cottage, longfieldjane@gmail.com*
- *Martha McBarron, The Hollies, 07984 756080, marthamcbarron@outlook.com*
- *Steve Ottevanger, Elim Cottage, 621257, steveotti_3@hotmail.com*
- *Mike Peach, The Hollies, 621239*

Additional members welcome! We are particularly seeking support for legal and financial matters.

Phase 1: Feasibility Study – Initial Concept

The project will apply to the Rural Communities Energy Fund for £40,000 to undertake some or all of the following activities:

- Assess total village building emissions to provide a baseline of:
 - current energy usage and sources
 - energy efficiency improvement requirements

This could involve a number of house surveys, questionnaire completion and review of current electricity supply tariffs with potential for immediate cost savings opportunities.

- Evaluate cost-effectiveness of credible renewable energy technologies for supply to Barningham including:
 - district heating
 - alternative fuels (to replace oil)
 - wind turbine
 - solar (photo voltaic panels)
 - ground source heat pumps

These could be implemented independently or in combination.

- Identify suitable locations acceptable to the community
- Confirm connection for export to National Grid and supply of 3-phase power to the village
- Investigate funding options and business model

The project outcome would be to identify the most advantageous scheme for the village. Further work to progress this scheme would be undertaken as a Phase 2 project, for which a further grant of £100,000 is available.