



FEBRUARY 2012

Belated Happy New Year

We were aiming for this newsletter to go out in January, but all the work for the AGM, etc means it's a bit late. 2012 is going to be a busy year for us with the community share offer and finalising everything for building Jordan Dam. It is also the International Year of Co-operatives, and we will be highlighting this on our website.

Jordan Dam

Work on Jordan Dam is really going well, and we have welcomed back Alison Parker from her travels. She is now employed 2.5 days a week as Hydro Project Manager.

- Work on the conditions attached to the Planning Permission is nearly complete, with four out of the five conditions approved/discharged in January.
- We hope to have a final decision on the Abstraction Licence in March.
- Discussions with British Waterways are on-going.
- We had a good field of contractors who expressed an interest in the development of JD and pre-tender interviews were held last week. We have agreed a provisional short-list of 6 contractors and we expect to invite them to tender in the spring.
- Draft Heads of Terms for the lease on the site have been developed and we hope to sign a lease with Yorkshire Water in the spring.
- We are exploring different options for connecting the hydro scheme to electricity infrastructure.

Kelham Island

Planning permission was granted on January 17th with 17 planning conditions attached to the consent. We will work on these when time allows, as we need to give priority to Jordan Dam. Meanwhile we are holding meetings with the City Council and Sheffield Industrial Museums Trust regarding the lease. One of our volunteers is working on a fully functioning model of the Kelham Island water wheel, we'll let you know when/where you will be able to see it!

Energy Share

As most of you know we came second in the national funding competition, but there was no second prize. However, we learned a lot from this experience.

Share Offer

Plans for our community share offer are almost finished and we need **your** help to make the launch the 'event of the year'. We have an entertainment slot to fill with something showcasing Sheffield Renewables' activities, especially Jordan Dam. It will be after some inspiring speakers and could involve people performing (or not). All **ideas** are gratefully received **before 21st February**.

Powerstation Sheffield

After lots of hard work, Powerstation Sheffield is working in a private online section. Lots of people have been interested in helping to develop the game and mapping tools into fun workshop sessions for groups of various ages and backgrounds. We will be giving them exclusive access to the tools to check everything is correct and start thinking of fun things to do during workshops after the launch. If you'd like to get involved, please contact Cariad.

Admin System Improvements

Due to the great amount of support and interest we've received over the years, our original administration system for processing and storing information on our supporters, volunteers and potential investors is becoming inefficient. Thanks for your patience whilst we upgrade it. As part of the upgrading, we've developed a supported volunteering opportunity for people with website development and electronic information management skills or an interest in developing their existing IT skills into these areas. Hopefully we'll be able to design and create a new, integrated system. If you might like to help out, please email Cariad for more information.

Volunteer Vacancies

Please contact Cariad for more information.

Graphic Designer

As things get busier, we are expecting to need some more publicity materials to be designed. It is important that they retain our current style. If you are a graphic designer that would like to volunteer, please let us know.

Film maker/producer

Our EnergyShare animation made a big impact, with over 700 people watching it. We'd like to build on this success

with more short films and animations. If you have skills in this area that you'd like to share, please get in touch.

AGM

We held a very successful AGM on January 31st with 30 members in attendance – a very good turn out. We welcomed 9 new volunteer members who were presented with their share certificates. A blog with a photo will be on the website shortly.

New Volunteers

We have welcomed some new volunteers to the Model Making team, and have our first session of the new year shortly. Cariad has put together a new admin systems team, see above.

... and some goodbyes

Sadly we have to say goodbye to Richard Keenan, who designed and developed our website and all of our graphics. He will be very sadly and greatly missed. He has moved down to the south coast and we wish him well with his new ventures.

10,000 Climate Jobs for Sheffield

Sheffield Climate Alliance took their petition to the council in December and presented evidence to the Scrutiny Committee on January 19th.

Solar Thermal

One of our volunteers, James Williams, is a PhD student looking into solar thermal. He needs to get together a focus group with people who have solar thermal panels, ideally before the end of February. It will be a very informal gathering with refreshments provided and a £10 gift voucher. If you have a solar thermal panel and might be able to take part, please contact him: j.p.r.williams@sheffield.ac.uk or telephone 0114 222 7820.

Energy Jump

We have been contacted by a local renewable technology installer called Energy Jump, which is a not-for-profit enterprise based in Sheffield. They donate 10% of all their profits to Cord for solar cookers in war torn areas and to South Yorkshire Energy Centre for fuel poverty work.

They are hoping to start up a community buying scheme for solar PV. By bringing individuals and community groups together they can negotiate significant discounts with suppliers, leading to much more affordable PV systems. If you are interested in taking part in this scheme, please contact Rob Samuelson or Alison Wren on 0114 254 1288 or email alison@energyjump.co.uk There is more detailed information on their website www.energyjump.co.uk/community or they are having a meeting on Thursday, February 9th at the AMP Technology Centre at 7.30pm.

Events

Friends of the Earth film festival, February. All films at 6.30pm at Central United Reform Church. FREE.

Feb 1st Queen of the Sun: what are bees telling us?

Feb 8th Economics of Happiness

Feb 15th Gasland – problems caused by fracking.

Feb 22nd H2Oil – water supplies and the tar sands.

Hazelhurst Community Supported Agriculture. Find out about what they are doing and their share offer.

Feb 2nd 6.30 pm, Quaker Meeting House.

We are in the process of planning stalls at the various summer festivals in Sheffield. If you like talking to people, please contact Jean (see below) to be added to our list of volunteer helpers for these events.

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