

Kirkbymoorside Town Council
Information for meeting on 21 July 2014

6. To receive an address from Gill Garbutt, Education Manager at North Yorkshire County Council, regarding a project that involves a lottery grant application and consider agreeing to offer the support of the Town Council

The grant application is for a new initiative that engages young people aged 10 to 14 years, to join a 'club', encouraging them to use their imagination to write and illustrate stories, thereby improving literacy and arts skills, in a supervised environment.

Qualified support staff will be sourced. The club will not be exclusive or expensive and will raise the positive profile of young people across Ryedale. Parent involvement is key to success, encouraging community involvement and cohesion.

This project would bring together young people to actively engage in writing and drawing.

Whilst informal in its approach, it has clear objectives, which support future development of all ages. The books produced engaging parents and younger children.

Basing the project in a library, will encourage more people to use the facilities and hopefully aid in sustaining a much needed local resource.

9. Financial Matters

a. To approve cheque payments according to the list provided

Vchr	Cheque	Cd	Name	Description	Amount
64	102760	20	Rural Action Yorkshire	Rural Action Yorkshire Membership	35.00
65	102761	17	Petty Cash	Stamps	49.47
66	102761	17	Petty Cash	Bruce the joiner - Supply and fit door	10.00
67	102761	9	Petty Cash	Paul Gable - signage on noticeboard	15.00
68	102761	8	Petty Cash	Cleaning materials for moorside room	8.50
69	102761	17	Petty Cash	Memory stick	12.00
70	102761	17	Petty Cash	Postage and Office sundries	4.30
			Subtotal No. 102761		99.27
71	102762	22	South Kirkby and Moorthorpe Town	Yorkshire Day Celebration	74.00
72	102763	7	Bruce Langton-White	Repairs to Public Seats at Old Road Play	120.00
73	102764	16	Post Office Ltd	Paye	160.52
74	102765	16	Ms Louise P Bolland	Wages	906.45
75	102766	17	JDF Macdonald	Electricity at The Shambles March - June 2014	126.54
76	102767	9	Broxap	Derby 120 Litter Bin	271.20
77	102767	9	Broxap	2 x dog litter bins	252.00
			Subtotal No. 102767		523.20
78	102768	7	Don Davies, RDC Countryside Officer	Services at Ryedale View Woodland Trail	165.00
79	102769	39	Moore Stephens	Invoice 157084 Processing transaction quarters ending 31 March 2014 & 30 June 2014	864.00
80	102769	39	Moore Stephens	Invoice 157085 Processing payroll quarters ending 31 March 2014 & 30 June 2014	192.00
81	102769	39	Moore Stephens	Invoice 157086 Annual accounts for year ended 31 March 2014	1080.00
			Subtotal No. 102769		2136.00
82	102770	44	NYCC	Front Office Service costs from 1 March - 31 May 2014	450.00
TOTAL					4,795.98

15. The Moorside Room

b. To consider and agree the installation of a loop system

http://www.cooperfire.com/sites/default/files/product/tech-docs/WEB_Guide_to_loops.pdf

<http://www.cdssecurity.co.uk>

<http://www.ampetronic.com/UK>

Quotation 1 submitted by Specialist Audio Services

*Supply, install and commission *

1 x Induction Loop amplifier

1 x Loop cable (Copper foil or Cable dependent on requirement)

1 x Radio Microphone

1 x Crescendo Loop Tester

4 x Loop Signage

All connecting Leads & Cables

Free 1yr System Health check

£800.00 ex VAT

This quotation is a ball park figure based on information provided via email and site drawings

Quotation 2 submitted by Cormeton Electronics Ltd

*Supply, install and commission *

1 x Induction Loop amplifier

1 x Loop cable (Copper foil or Cable dependent on requirement)

1 x Radio Microphone

1 x Crescendo Loop Tester

4 x Loop Signage

All connecting Leads & Cables

Free 1yr System Health check

£x ex VAT

This quotation is a ball park figure based on information provided via email and site drawings

Quotation 3 submitted by Buffoni Hemmingfield on behalf of WB Electrical

1 x induction loop with stereo jack input and hand held radio microphone input

Subtotal: £1,530.00

No additional specifications available

c. To consider and agree the installation of sound absorbing panels

Our full range of acoustic panels can be viewed here:

<http://www.soundreduction.co.uk/Products/Sound-Absorption-Solutions/>. The online Flickr gallery that I mentioned during our meeting can be found here:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/soundreduction/>

As discussed, the reverberation problem that exists won't be solved with the additional of plants or curtains/blinds. A proprietary solution will undoubtedly be required.

Some links to our most popular absorbers are below:

Sonata Aurio - 50mm thick directly bonded foam absorber finished in high quality 'Trilogy' display fabric. Sonata Aurio can be bonded to walls and ceilings using our high-grab Sonatac Adhesive. <http://www.soundreduction.co.uk/Products/Sound-Absorption-Solutions/Sonata-Aurio/>.

Sonata Vario - 50mm thick suspended foam absorber finished in high quality 'Trilogy' display fabric. Sonata Vario is suspended from ceilings using our proprietary fixing kits or secured to walls via specially designed brackets. Suspending the Vario panels increases acoustic performance and, because no adhesive is used, the Vario panels can be easily removed, should you wish to relocate them or redecorate the walls. It is also possible to surface mount the Vario

panels using 'Button-fix' fixings so that they are easily removable but don't have the air-gap behind them. <http://www.soundreduction.co.uk/Products/Sound-Absorption-Solutions/Sonata-Vario/>

Sonata Aurio and Vario panels are rated as Class A acoustic absorbers. A number of different panels sizes are available to work around lights and other obstructions. All Sonata products are mineral fibre and fibre glass free.

I'll post a white sample of the Aurio panel over to you so you can have a look at it. If you wished to see the Sonata Vario panels installed I can put you in touch with Sutton (Under Whitestonecliffe) Village Hall as we did some work for them earlier this year.

Reverberation Time Calculations (see attached graphs of results)

Using the room dimensions of 10.1m by 4.65m by 5.08m high, and using the information collected on the surface finishes present, my calculations suggest that mid-frequency reverberation time (average of 500Hz, 1000Hz, and 2000Hz) is approximately 2.63s and the overall reverberation time (average from 125Hz to 8000Hz) is approximately 1.93s. The calculations show that the reverberation time is particularly high within the mid-frequencies, giving us a large peak in the graph, and explains why speech and communication within the Moorside room is difficult.

From this starting point, factoring in the known performance coefficients for our acoustic absorption products, my calculations suggest that you require 25m² of Class A absorption to reduce the reverberation significantly. This area of absorption better than halves the level of reverberation within the room and gives us a much improved spectral balance, shown by the much flatter graph.

The most practical way to introduce the required area of absorption within the Moorside room would be to have 12no 1200x1200x50mm and 4no 1200x800x50mm panels on the ceiling and 3no 1200x1200x50mm panels at high level on the walls. Ideally I would like to include some absorption at lower level but placing acoustic absorbers here would restrict the use of the room as an art gallery and exhibition space.

Quotation

Option 1 – Suspended Sonata Vario panels suspended beneath the ceiling on proprietary fixings and on wall mounting brackets

15no 1200x1200x50mm Sonata Vario Panels @ £139.00 each = £2,085.00
4no 1200x800x50mm Sonata Vario Panels @ £98.00 each = £392.00
16no Sonata Vario Ceiling Suspension Packs @ £4.80 each = £76.80
3no Pairs of Vario Wall Mounting Brackets @ £19.00 per pair = £57.00
Installation Charge = £525.00
VAT @ 20% = £627.16
TOTAL = £3,762.96

Option 2 - Directly bonded Sonata Aurio Panels to the walls and ceiling (non-removable)

15no 1200x1200x50mm Sonata Aurio Panels @ £89.00 each = £1,335.00
4no 1200x800x50mm Sonata Aurio Panels @ £68.00 each = £272.00

35no 310ml Tubes of Sonatac Adhesive @ £7.80 each = £273.00
Installation Charge = £525.00
VAT @ 20% = £481.00
TOTAL = £2,886.00

*The installation prices shown include all labour, access towers, delivery of materials, loading materials to work area, protection to existing finishes, particularly floors, and removal of all waste (packaging) from site. The installation of the above, including travel, require 1 day of the installers time. Access would be required from 8:00am - 6:00pm. Our installer will require free of charge use of power for drilling and use of welfare facilities.

Should you wish to arrange your own installation please deduct this cost from the above total and allow for a delivery charge of £100.00. We carry stock of 'White' and 'Stone' coloured panels. Should stock not be available or if you require different colours then this can take a maximum of 3 weeks for us to manufacture. Information on colours can be viewed here: <http://www.soundreduction.co.uk/Products/Sound-Absorption-Solutions/Sonata-Vario/Physical-Properties/>

I hope the above is of interest and welcome your feedback. We can explore a variety of avenues to improve the acoustics within Moorside Room and I'm sure provide a solution that is effective, looks great, and is within the available budget. I appreciate that the terminology used is a little technical so please give me a shout if you have any questions.

Best Regards,

Richard Sherwood Bsc. (Hons) MIOA
Director

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Email: richard@soundreduction.co.uk
Web: www.soundreduction.co.uk

e. To consider siting two cycle stands outside the Moorside Room

Information provided by Helen Gundry:

1. Visibility - cycle stands should be in a central position that is convenient and easy for visitors to find; to encourage them to use stands instead of leaving cycle other places that might be an obstruction. Visible positioning also deters thieves and vandals. Therefore on the left of the Moorside room entrance (when facing it) would be better than on the right.

2. Smart appearance - The stands are black and so match railings and lamp posts. There is enough space in the left side of the entrance to fit flower tubs as well as cycle stands.

3. Cycle tourism and local cyclists - improved facilities for cyclists was supported by the Community-led Plan. Making cycling more convenient is one small step to encourage visitors and shoppers to come into town by bicycle instead of adding to car parking problems. Encouraging cycling visitors to stop and spend helps to keep our town centre alive.

4. The Moorside Room is a community facility, and some users could be encouraged to visit it by bicycle instead of car by the provision of cycle parking.

I'm sending a copy of this email to Rita Gibson too, in a minute, as the In Bloom group are probably thinking about flower tubs for that area and will want to be informed.

Also, on another matter, Chris suggested the other day that you might find a place for the two Moors Rambler bus posters? I put two through your office letter box and wondered if you could put the big one on the Town Council notice board and the smaller one in your office window? I'd be very grateful if you could do this for us. I have also left some timetable leaflets for this new service at the Library, and we have more if you need them.

Regards,

Helen Gundry

16. To consider a request from Steve Shaw, Local Works to submit a proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act asking for the government to give all parish and town councils the right to sell electricity that they generate from local schemes

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Empowering Parish Councils to sell electricity
Date: Thu, 19 Jun 2014 09:55:20 -0400 (EDT)
From: Steve Shaw, Local Works <steve@localworks.org>

I am writing to you to ask that Kirkbymoorside Town Council please submit a proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act asking for the government to give all parish and town councils the right to sell electricity that they generate from local schemes.

Currently local authorities have the power to sell electricity from local power generation schemes that they set up, whilst parish and town councils are prevented from doing so.

There are already a significant number of parish and town councils across the country that have successful local energy schemes that produce excess electricity but these councils are not able to gain any revenue from this excess electricity because they are not allowed to sell it into the national grid.

This proposal has a good chance of success. Giving parish and town councils the right to sell electricity is in line with current government policy on promoting community energy. The proposal is also likely to attract wide support from community and environment groups.

Below is a suggested version of the proposal together with supporting rationale, evidence and case studies which I hope is helpful. Submitting a proposal under the Sustainable Communities Act is a very straight forward and simple procedure and we are keen to do all we can to assist your council with this.

Could you please let me know if your council would be happy to submit this proposal?

Kind regards
Steve Shaw

Steve Shaw
National Co-ordinator
Local Works www.localworks.org <<http://www.localworks.org/>>
office: 020 7278 4443 direct: 020 7239 9053 mobile: 07788 646 933

Draft Sustainable Communities Act Proposal
The Right for Parish and Town Councils to Sell Electricity

- Proposed Government Action -

That the government gives Parish and Town Councils (Local Councils) the right to sell electricity either by legislating to this effect itself or by giving support and, if necessary, adequate parliamentary time for a Private Members Bill that gives Local Councils this right.

- Case study: Cambourne Parish Council, Cambridgeshire -

Cambourne Parish Council, Cambridgeshire, has ambitious plans to generate community energy but these plans are being stunted by the lack of a right for Local Councils to sell electricity from community energy schemes. In summer 2012 solar panels were installed on the roofs of a number of community buildings in the Parish of Cambourne, Cambridgeshire. The Parish Council is not selling the electricity because of the concern that doing so would be illegal.

The council want to build wind turbines but would have to sell the electricity to make such a project viable and the grey area regarding the legality of doing so has put them off. If Parish Councils had a legal right to sell electricity Cambourne would immediately proceed with more local renewable energy projects such as wind turbines and the earnings from these would go into the community fund they have already set up to reduce the community's carbon footprint through investment in better quality local housing, more efficient community facilities etc.

The solar panels the council have are generating more electricity than is being used by the buildings they are on top of. If they could sell the electricity now the revenue would go into their community fund that would be spent directly on local carbon footprint reduction rather than to private hands that are far less likely to spend it on local carbon footprint reduction.

- The Case for the Proposal -

There is great potential for communities to benefit from generating their own community energy. Many Town and Parish Councils (Local Councils) want to start new environmentally friendly schemes to help sustain their communities. This proposal is supported by [number TBC] Local Councils from across the country that share this view and the following County Associations of Local Councils; East Sussex ALC, West Sussex ALC, Surrey ALC, Cumbria ALC, Leicestershire and Rutland ALC and Kent CALC.

However, there are differing legal views, leading to uncertainty over whether Local Councils can sell the electricity that they generate. Therefore urgent clarification is sought as it impacts on the government's policy to incentivise the generation of local energy. This policy is laid out in the Government's Community Energy Strategy published on 27th January 2014 and highlighted by

the Secretary of State, Rt Hon Edward Davey MP's forwarding statement, "By making community energy an easier option, achievable by more people, we want to enable communities and individuals to exercise real market power".

In the Community Energy Strategy the government names generating and selling energy as one of the crucial elements of realising greater community energy generation. The strategy states, "The ability to sell electricity locally, at a 'local price' could be one way of enabling all members of the community to benefit from a community energy project. We also recognise that community energy projects may wish to sell electricity beyond their local community, which ultimately has the potential to increase competition in the retail market and increase access for consumers to the sector".

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The issue arises by virtue of Section 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 which gives power for a Local Authority to sell electricity that it generates. However, the definition of 'Local Authority' in that Act does not include a Local Council, i.e. does not include a Town or Parish Council. The 1976 Act was amended in August 2010 to cover other forms of generation such as solar, wind, etc. These amendments however did not extend the right to sell electricity generated by such sources to Local Councils.

The General Power of Competence was designed by the government to assist Local Councils, among others, wishing to broaden the work they do supporting communities. However, it cannot be used where specific legislation prohibits a particular activity. Local Councils can therefore not use the General Power of Competence to sell electricity because the 1976 Act specifically prohibits them from doing so.

Another legal view is that Parish Councils could sell surplus electricity by virtue of Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 notwithstanding Section 1 of the 2011 Localism Act and Section 11 of the 1976 Act but subject to the Electricity Act 1989.

Either way there is general agreement that urgent clarification is required from government. The unfortunate consequence of this legal uncertainty is that Local Councils may well be prevented from doing what the Secretary of State said on 27th January 2014, i.e. from "making community energy an easier option, achievable by more people".

The average annual income for the local councils who currently have energy schemes is £2700 and an average annual bill saving of over £450. Beyond the environmental benefit then, local councils can gain considerable economic benefit from generating renewable energy.

In addition to a principle local authority, it is also possible for a charity or a not for profit body to sell electricity. Because of this there are a handful of examples which show how willing some Local Councils are to carry out linked activities and support other local organisations in order to see their local community benefit from the selling of electricity generated by community energy.

Burscough Parish Council, Lancashire, have done this via a scheme that saw solar panels installed in the roof of the local cricket club and Cambourne Parish Council, Cambridgeshire (see case study below), have done this via a similar scheme that saw solar panels installed on the local library, sports centre, sports pavilion and other community buildings.

In many cases, using the ready vehicle of a Local Council to trade in electricity themselves would be a good solution to see more community energy generated. To kick off community schemes it is often best to have a body which has staff, a broad public service remit, the ability to reclaim VAT, public accountability, and some funds.

A Local Council would then further avoid the additional bureaucratic hurdles of corporation tax, unlike a community interest company (CIC). Ashton Hayes Community Energy CIC have shown that their volunteer directors face a real demand on their time in completing reports to Companies House and filing tax returns to HMRC.

Over time a Local Council could decide to transfer the activity to a charity or other local organisation that would not wish, or indeed could not, from the outset be subject to the delays, bureaucracy of setting up the charity, problems of finding people willing to take responsibility and confines of specific charitable objects. However the significant resources required to set up community energy schemes creates a strong disincentive to Local Councils who want to set up such schemes. It is this disincentive that is the major problem and barrier that has led to the submission of this proposal.