



AGM

5.45pm, Tuesday 2 October 2018

Room TG.20/21

The Scottish Parliament

Chair: Liam McArthur MSP

1. Attendees and Presentations

A provisional list of attendees is attached to the end of this note. If you attended and are not shown on the list, please email Elaine Waterson (Elaine.waterson@est.org.uk).

2. Introduction by Chair and approval of minutes from the last meeting

Liam McArthur MSP welcomed everyone to the AGM and highlighted that he is keen to ensure that group's focus stays as relevant as possible to what is happening in Parliament as this will help to ensure momentum.

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 19 April 2018, had been sent round group members in advance and the secretariat received no requests for additions or corrections. The group agreed that these provided an accurate account of the meeting.

3. AGM Business

3.1 Election of Office Bearers

The nominations for the positions of Convener (x2) and Deputy Convener (x2) were circulated to the membership on 25th September in advance of the meeting.

The group noted its support for all 4 of the proposed office bearers. The group's office bearers are therefore:

Conveners:

- Liam McArthur MSP
- Mark Ruskell MSP

Deputy Conveners:

- Claudia Beamish MSP

- Alexander Burnett MSP

The nominations for the 2 secretary posts were also circulated in advance of the meeting. No one else was nominated. The group noted its support for appointing the existing secretaries. The group's secretaries are therefore:

- Peter Spiers, Scottish Renewables - Secretary (Renewable Energy) and Treasurer
- Elaine Waterson, Energy Saving Trust – Secretary (Energy Efficiency)

Liam McArthur MSP noted the group's appreciation of the work that the Energy Saving Trust and Scottish Renewables do to support the group.

3.2 Approval of Annual Return

Liam McArthur MSP asked if there were any corrections to the Annual Return which was emailed to group members in advance and sets out the group's activities over the previous year and the financial benefits received by the group from the Energy Saving Trust and Scottish Renewables. There were no suggestions or corrections. The group therefore agreed that the Annual Return could be submitted.

4. Discussion of future work programme (for 2018/19)

Liam McArthur MSP noted that three suggestions for meeting topics had been received in advance of the AGM. These were as follows:

- Scotland's offshore wind supply chain
- Biomass and district heating
- Design and manufacture of near zero energy retrofit packages

Liam McArthur MSP went on to ask for comments on these suggestions and for any additional suggestions that members of the group might have.

Support was received for all three suggestions. It was noted that it might make sense to widen any district heating discussion to cover district heating more generally as opposed to a narrower focus solely on biomass.

A number of additional suggestions were provided as set out below:

- Energy Storage – both electricity and heat. This could include consideration of the contribution storage could make to the reduction of fuel poverty and to grid balancing.
- Grid connection/capacity constraints
- Smart meters and issues associated with switching suppliers
- Publicly owned energy company. This could be part of a wider meeting about alternative 'empowering' ownership models.
- Job/training issues associated with the shift to a lower carbon society ('Just transition')
- Carbon capture - utilisation and storage
- Hydrogen economy
- Fuel Poverty Bill
- Climate Change Bill
- Implications of the closure of the Feed-in Tariff Scheme

It was agreed that the Climate Change Bill may be too wide a topic for a meeting of this group. However, the possibility of whether presentations given at each meeting of the group could include a slide or two outlining their relevance to both the Climate Change Bill and the Fuel Poverty Bill was raised.

There was then a short (but lively!) discussion about the merits of retrofitting district heating schemes vs. the merits of installing energy efficiency. It was agreed that it might make sense to frame any future meeting on either district heating or energy efficiency in this context so this debate could be continued.

The group agreed that the topic covered at its next meeting (18th December 2018) should be the offshore wind supply chain. This could include presentations from some of the new players in this sector as well as presentations from those who are able to 'set the scene' and provide an overview of the sector and associated issues (e.g. the Scottish Offshore Wind Supply Chain Forum). The group also agreed that fuel poverty/the Fuel Poverty Bill should be the focus of the following meeting (5th February 2018). However, the group's work programme will be reviewed at each meeting to ensure that the group's plans for subsequent meetings take account of developments that have happened in the intervening period.

5. Dates of future meetings

Liam McArthur MSP noted that future meetings will be held on the following dates:

- 18th December 2018
- 5th February 2019
- 16th April 2019
- 11th June 2019

6. AOB

Liam McArthur MSP highlighted that the group will continue with the new meeting day/time of Tuesday evening for the time being and noted that he is happy to review this in due course. He went on to remind the group that they should ensure that they are familiar with the provisions of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act.

7. Attendees

Members

Claudia	Beamish MSP
John	Birchmore
Alexander	Burnett MSP
John	Conway
Linda	Fabiani MSP
Bronagh	Finnegan
Paul	Gill
Hugh	Levins
Lewis	Macdonald MSP

Liam	McArthur MSP
Paul	Moseley
Robin	Parker
Courtney	Peyton
Joan	Pisaneck
David	Schofield
Peter	Spiers
Nick	Stapley
David	Stewart
Elaine	Waterson
Stephen	Young

Non-member guests

There were no non-member guests in attendance.

For suggestions of corrections for this note please contact the secretariat, Elaine Waterson (Elaine.waterson@est.org.uk).