**Wiltshire Climate Alliance**

**Energy Group meeting held on Zoom on Tuesday January 19th 2021**

**Present; 22 participants Apologies Adrian Temple-Brown, Nick Murry**

1. On 23rd February it is 2 years since Wiltshire Council (WC) acknowledged the climate emergency. WCA was set up because of this to make recommendations to the council. It is considered that WC has made muted response setting up the Climate Emergency Working Group. Some ideas of more WC can do were discussed such as not wasting money on the Westbury incinerator, having a hostile planning environment for high carbon housing, extra roads, etc, encouraging renewables, including wind, the possibility of climate change awareness training. WCA are preparing a press release, meeting with Wiltshire MPs as well as meetings with WC. Interesting that Nationwide are interested in sustainable housing projects.
2. Onshore Wind. On the WCA website there is the 2011 report on potential sites for wind turbines. National Planning has been weighted against wind, but this may be changing. WCA to talk to Arianne Crampton (AC) at WC about potential of wind turbines. Bath and West Community Energy (BWCE) are hosting a webinar in February about onshore wind. To invite AC to this.
3. Electric Vehicles. Bill Jarvis (BJ) presented the results of his small survey on EVs. The main issues among users and potential users is price and range. A new subgroup to be set up on EVs and several participants were willing to join this. The group to be for advice on EVs from experts and EV owners to any potential buyer. There may also be the opportunity to promote EVs to WC and perhaps to organise a “Road Show” later in the year to bring EVs to people to try out and to chat with actual owners and ask questions. The idea of community charging points for those with no dedicated parking with reservations for charge times. Both Tisbury and Bradford on Avon Car Clubs are on hold during lockdown, with Tisbury hoping to get the early bird members who have already joined to test out the cars pre-launch and iron out any issues. It was noted that CoCars run a virtual coffee morning which is useful. It appears that potential customers are not worried about Covid in relation to the cars as they are happy to wipe down the steering wheel, etc between users. EVs may be a good thing to show at the planned Green Festival in late summer. There was some discussion on Vehicle to grid technology, which is limited to Nissan now but is an emerging technology. The idea of charge points that can automatically turn on when the tariff drops was discussed. It was also noted that using the battery as a portable generator may actually be good for the battery life.
4. Next meeting on 16th February 2021