



PENG - Perth Eco Congregation Network Group

Meeting Held at Luncarty Church Centre

Tuesday 18 September 2012

Meeting Notes

Bill Wilson – St Johns Kirk - chaired the meeting

Present

David Walton (Luncarty), Avril Fulton and Margaret Larg (Dunbarney and Forgandenny), Marion and Henry MacDonald (St Matthew's), Victoria Deschampsneufs (A Rocha and St Columba's Episcopal Church, Stanley), Pat Watt and Bill Wilson (St John's), Margaret Warnock (ECS)

Apologies

Rona Archibald, Marjorie Clark, Marjory Wylie, Alistair Rose, Margaret Borland-Stroyan.

1. Constitution

The meeting opened with prayer from Bill Wilson.

2. Minutes of Meetings held on 8th May & 26th June

The Minutes were accepted subject to Anne Larg asking for a spelling change to her name.

3. Matters Arising

John Ferguson of Binn Eco Park is keen to address one of our meetings and could possibly attend on the 20 November. He has also intimated he can structure his talk around a Christian theme.

Possibility of a visit to the Binn Eco Park during the day – to be arranged.

The postponed Lade walk could also be arranged for a future date.

4. Eco-Congregation Scotland Update

Bill and Margaret reported on the recent seminar in Bridge of Allan and outlined some of the aspects of the day. (Full report will be available at <http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/networks/>)

Redesigning the Eco materials and handouts.

Changes to financial arrangements

Discussion on the thirteen modules which will change to Ideas for Action rather than modules which sound overwhelming. These will be launched on the website (www.ecocongregationscotland.org) in November 2012.

Discussion about online resources for use with youth groups. SCIAF Scottish Catholic International Aid Foundation has many resource materials available for groups to use. Many of them downloadable from their website:

http://www.sciafyouth.org.uk/youth/whats_happening/landing_page_stories/what_is_climate_change

http://www.sciafyouth.org.uk/youth/climate_change

http://www.sciafyouth.org.uk/youth/fun_stuff/movie_clips/climate_change_reflection

<http://www.sciafyouth.org.uk/youth/fairtrade>

http://www.sciafyouth.org.uk/youth/exploring_issues/environment

Margaret issued three copies of “Do not Tiptoe” which is a catalogue of Christian Aid resources. They also have online resources available for youth work:

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/resources/youth/guides/sofa-session-climate-change.aspx>

<http://www.christianaidcollective.org/climate-change>

<http://learn.christianaid.org.uk/teachersresources/secondary/climate-change-countdown.aspx>

Also, Catherine Falconer (CA’s youth officer) is willing to come and visit networks (or individual churches) to talk about/demonstrate Christian Aid’s Youth work. Contact: cfalconer@christianaid.org (please note Catherine is out of the country until the end of October).

5. Around the Congregations

David discussed some of the projects that **Luncarty** are looking at this session. Additional insulation in the attics, new heating systems and better controls. A full energy review is available from the Energy Saving Trust :

<http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland/Organisations/Business-services/Energy-reviews> will take you directly to the page where information is available about energy reviews. There is also a phone number to speak to their business adviser (churches seem to come under this heading for them): 0844 375 96 96. They will also offer advice about suitable sources of renewable energy.

Their whole website is also worth a look. It has a lot of advice for individual householders on reducing energy bills / carbon emissions.

St Ninian’s Old Parish Church in Stirling have carried out a major refurbishment of their halls and incorporated an air source heat pump. Some information about the work they did is available at <http://reducingenergyuse.posterous.com/> (you will have to scroll down to the bottom of the page to get the relevant information). You can see that they achieved a 60% saving in the first winter, in spite of some very cold weather.

Mike Adam is the person at St Ninian’s who had most to do with their project. He is a retired engineer and very knowledgeable, on both the technical and financial / grant aspects of the project and very willing to share his expertise. His email address is adamjm@gmail.com or tel: 01786 473506.

A number of churches have been able to install solar photovoltaic panels. Saughton Hall United Reformed Church (see http://www.saughtonhall.com/solar_energy.html) contact: gusmaitland@googlemail.com) and Selkirk Parish Church (Minster: Margaret Steele mdjsteele@gmail.com) are two examples and they might be worth contacting. ECS also

had a conference on solar energy last year see:

<http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/events/solar-panels-in-church-buildings/>.

Dunbarney are having a charity bin installed for clothing, toys, cd's etc. It will be emptied once a month.

Avril and Anne announced that they will be retiring from the Green Teens club after six years of fun and endeavour.

St Matthew's are taking stock following Morag's departure but continue with their recycling and work in the gardens. They hope there may be opportunities to involve the young families coming into the church

Victoria (through **A Rocha**) has a green fingers club which meets after school every Wednesday at Tullochnet. Tulloch primary school is a very eco orientated school and now have three green eco flags. However, with a very small congregation at **St Columba's, Stanley**, it is difficult to do anything other than focus on keeping going.

St John's are focusing on their heating bills and are closely monitoring their bills after their new heating system has been installed.

AOCB

There was no AOCB

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be on 20 November 2012 at 19.30 hours in St Matthews Hall.