

MK COMMUNITY ENERGY CONFERENCE 2017

25 FEBRUARY 2017

PROGRAMME

WELCOME

Welcome to Camphill Milton Keynes and to the MK Community Energy Conference 2017 organised by the newly formed **Milton Keynes Community Energy Alliance**. We hope you find the day interesting and informative, and that you leave feeling inspired to take action in your own community.

This conference programme outlines what is happening today, as well as providing information about the speakers and organisations that are contributing and exhibiting.

We look forward to hearing from you after the conference and working together in the future to address long-term issues to do with efficient energy use and generation, and sustainability in Milton Keynes.

Tim Davies, CEO of Camphill Communities Milton Keynes

On behalf of the MK Community Energy Alliance



WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENERGY?



Community Energy covers a broad range of activities, including schemes to help neighbours to reduce energy-use together, group buying of energy and local renewable energy generation.

Community energy projects are most often led by passionate individuals who work with neighbours and friends to make a real difference to their local area.

Community energy organisations involved in energy generation are largely focussed on renewable electricity generation, especially solar PV and onshore wind. These organisations are social businesses which generate a cash surplus which is then used to support social outcomes such as reducing fuel poverty and tackling hard to heat homes.

At least 5,000 community energy groups have been set up in the UK since 2008. Many groups are set up as co-operatives, community interest companies, charities or trusts, and are usually financed by community investment.

MILTON KEYNES @50...IT ALL BEGAN HERE!

The conference will consider the way in which the development of the new Town of Milton Keynes led to initiatives around sustainable building design and energy efficiency, and how we might re-discover this ambition through community-led energy initiatives.

The conference opens with a focus on the past, with input from speakers involved in championing sustainable building design through architecture and initiatives such as **Homeworld** in Bradwell Common and **Energy World** in Shenley Lodge.

This is followed by an overview of what is happening nationally with community energy, followed by an inspiring speech from **Bill Dunster** from ZED Factory who will talk about how sustainable development is both affordable and achievable within current market constraints.

The final part of the conference will focus on current Milton Keynes based projects, **Wolverton Community Energy** and **CAPE - Community Action Platform for Energy**, and will be followed by a series of workshops which are designed to support those attending to take action locally.

The conference will end with a **Panel discussion** to consider how Milton Keynes might address some of the challenges around sustainable building design and support community energy initiatives.

There will be a few **breaks** throughout the day during which you can get refreshments, interact with stall-holders and watch short films that will be played in the main auditorium.

We hope that the beginnings of a "road map" can be developed which will enable Milton Keynes to once again lead the way in energy initiatives.

The event is supported by:



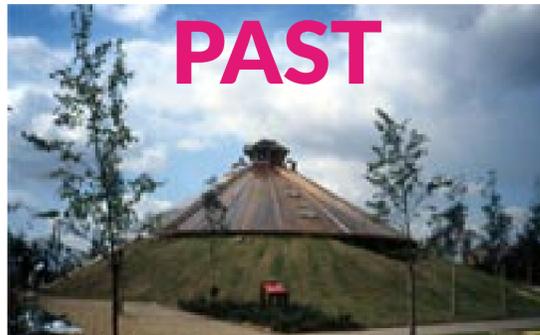
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TIMETABLE

10am - Welcome and Introduction from Chris Church, MC

10.15AM - Performance by The Children of Summerfield School

Supported by
grid arts



10.30-11.30am

Alan Horton - The History of Solar Houses in MK and how MK led the way in the development of energy efficiency standards. Alan Horton was closely involved in many of the pioneering low energy housing field trials in Milton Keynes during the 70s, 80s and 90s, working with the Open University, Milton Keynes Development Corporation (MKDC) and the National Energy Foundation. Much of this work contributed to the development of energy labelling software that underpins Energy Performance Certificates in widespread use today. He is currently a consultant developer with Integrator Housing Solutions, also based in Milton Keynes.

Tim Skelton - Tim Skelton is a retired chartered surveyor who spent ten years working for MKDC in the 1980s where, amongst other things, he was extensively involved in EnergyWorld. He is Chair of Milton Keynes Forum, the city's civic society.

Energy World was a demonstration project of 51 low-energy houses constructed in the Shenley Lodge area of Milton Keynes. The project was promoted by the MKDC and culminated in a public exhibition in August and October 1986 that attracted international interest. It was a significant landmark in the design and construction of low-energy housing, and in the development of energy efficiency evaluation tools. It has had a long-term impact on Government policy and within the national house-building industry, insofar as the progressive 'tightening up' of the energy section of the Building Regulations has largely been founded on this pioneering work.

Peter Clegg - Sustainable Architecture in MK and beyond. Peter is a key pioneer in environmental design, with more than 30 years' experience in low-energy architecture and an active involvement in research, design and education. Peter established his architecture practice with Richard Feilden in 1978 and works primarily in the education and cultural sectors. He has led projects at Yorkshire Sculpture Park, London's Southbank Centre, Brighton Dome and the new Leventis Gallery in Cyprus. He was also in charge of precedent low-energy developments for Bioregional at Brighton and for the National Trust and the Woodland Trust. He is Chair of the RIBA Research Awards Panel, the South West Design Review Panel and holds a professorship at Bath University.

11.45am-12.45pm

11.30-11.45am: Break refreshments

Emma Bridge - Community Energy Nationally. Inspiring stories from across the UK. Emma joined Community Energy England as its Chief Executive in January 2015. Prior to joining CEE, Emma was the General Manager of Sheffield Renewables, a community renewable energy group that installs solar PV on community buildings. In parallel to this she worked on two EU projects looking at renewable energy and green urban systems. She has also worked for both local and regional government on sustainable development policy.

Bill Dunster, OBE - The role of good design in our renewable future. Bill is a renowned architect with expertise in low carbon and sustainable development. He is a founder of the architecture practice Zedfactory, which specialises in zero-carbon design and development. Zedfactory's most notable project is bedZED, winner of 2003 Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Sustainability Award, [3] and shortlisted for the 2003 Stirling Prize. He has co-written the 'ZEDbook' - a manual for achieving zero carbon development at different densities and scales. In 2008 it won the RIBA Research Award.

12.45-1.30pm:
LUNCH

Vegetarian lunch will be served - courtesy of Camphill Cafe. £5 charge apply. **Book when registering!**

1.45-4.30pm

1.30-1.45pm:
Performance by
Camphill Residents

Jane Grindey - Wolverton Community Energy, MK's first community -owned energy project. Jane is a founding member of and a Director of Wolverton Community Energy, and has been instrumental in building the foundations of Wolverton Community Energy. Jane has extensive experience working with a diverse range of start-up and medium-sized businesses in the field of co-operative and community business development.

Natalie Foster - CAPE, Community Action Platform for Energy, a new tool for for communities in Milton Keynes, aiming to help accelerate community energy projects in the city. CAPE website will put the power of urban data analytics in the hands of Milton Keynes citizens to give them greater control over the energy they use. Natalie Foster is a Research Associate at The Open University with several years' experience of working on water management and climate change-related projects.

2.15 - 2.30pm: Break refreshments

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WORKSHOPS

2.30pm (10 minutes briefing at the start)

Workshop 1: How to make community energy projects happen in your area

Workshop Leaders: Marie Osbourne (Wolverton Community Energy), John Ingleby (Grand Union Community Energy), Brian Kazer (Tring Community Energy)

This workshop will consider what it takes to establish a community energy organisation, with 3 different community energy projects sharing their varied experiences and all the pitfalls and pleasures involved! The workshop will consider:

- How to go about establishing an organisation which addresses local needs
- The role of a good financial model in making a community energy organisation successful
- Finding roof partners and local champions
- Lessons learned from working with local authorities
- How to stay resilient and innovative.

Workshop 2: Helping the UK balance its energy books by lowering demand

Workshop Leader: Hilarie Bowman, Transition MK

This workshop will explore:

What we can do as individuals:

Looking at the Carbon Conversations approach to lowering our individual carbon footprint. An overview of the 6 session course which addresses some of the technical features in lower carbon living and even more importantly the psychological issues we face both for ourselves and in our families.

And what we can do in our neighbourhoods:

A brief introduction to the Transition Towns and Transition Streets movement. Checking out what we are already doing in our local areas, and looking forward to the potential for new community actions in the future.

Workshop 3: CAPE, Community Action Platform for Energy: energy data

Workshop Leader: Robbie Macpherson, Community Action: MK

This workshop will give you an overview of the newly developed community energy website that will be made available free of charge to communities in Milton Keynes later this year. In particular, the workshop will explore the fascinating world of data that underpins better energy choices we could all be making. The workshop will include:

- Introduction to CAPE, Community Action Platform for Energy Project
- Demonstration of CAPE website
- What data is available and how it can inform better energy choices.

Workshop 4: Technical solutions to solar challenges

Workshop Leader: James Page, Joju Solar

The key to making solar profitable lies not so much in efficiency of panels but using and getting paid for what is generated. In this workshop we will look at approaches to this, including:

- Expanding the boundaries of the site to form a microgrid
- Selling energy to building tenants by measuring usage and export
- Sharing costs with landlord (UniSolar)
- Making use of low cost of capital (Merton and others)
- Using monitoring technology to spread the word, drive quality up and costs down

The workshop will also consider the lessons learned from collaboration with other community energy providers including Oxford Low Carbon Hub & Wey Valley Solar Schools Co-operative (WVSSC) which is a community-owned energy co-operative set up by local people from the towns of Guildford and Godalming in Surrey.

3.25pm: BREAK

 Tweet your questions!

3.45pm - PANEL DISCUSSION

#MKEnergy

The Panel will consider how Milton Keynes might address some of the challenges around sustainable building design and support community energy initiatives. Panel members include:

- **Godfrey Boyle:** Emeritus Professor of Renewable Energy in the Open University's Department of Engineering & Innovation
- **Cllr Peter Marland:** Leader, Milton Keynes Council
- **Bill Dunster OBE:** Architect who founded Zedfactory which specialises in the field of zero-carbon design and development
- **Jane Grindey:** Director Wolverton Community Energy and Calleva Community Energy
- **Natalie Foster:** Research Associate at The Open University, member of CAPE, Community Action Platform for Energy project team
- **Stephen Potter:** Professor of Transport Strategy at The Open University

4.30pm - Conference closes

AFTER TODAY

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED...

MK COMMUNITY ENERGY ALLIANCE

MK Community Energy Alliance is an initiative formed in Milton Keynes in 2016 by Community Action: MK, Transition MK, Wolverton Community Energy, Camphill Communities Milton Keynes and MK People's Assembly.

MK Community Energy Alliance is supported by CAPE, Community Action Platform for Energy as well as by the MK:Smart projects.

The aim of this initiative is to celebrate and promote renewable energy initiatives in Milton Keynes, with a focus on community-owned energy model in particular, and to mobilise our local communities to get involved and support these. A more specific aim of the alliance is to organise a series of educational events and produce resources for citizens of Milton Keynes on the topic of community energy.

We would love for you to get involved - if you are interested, contact Anna on anna@communityactionmk.org or call 01908 661 623.

www.communityactionmk.org/projects/cape/mkenergyalliance



CAPE, Community Action Platform for Energy

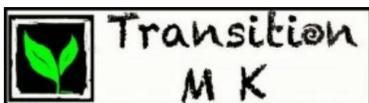
The CAPE website will be launched later this year. Register your interest to be notified when the website is live, so you can start your own energy project.

Visit: www.joincape.com



Wolverton Community Energy

Get in touch if your organisation is interested in a renewable energy installation on a building that you own or lease. There will be opportunities for individuals to invest in renewable energy in Milton Keynes in the next few months. Visit: www.wolvertoncommunityenergy.co.uk



Transition MK Movement

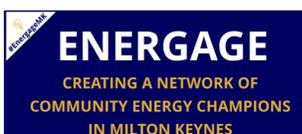
Volunteer your time with Transition MK to help support local action on low-carbon living. Get involved with regular events.

Visit: transitionmk.blogspot.co.uk



MK People's Assembly

Join MK People's Assembly social & environmental campaign and help put pressure on local decision makers - to make Milton Keynes truly sustainable. JOIN: www.facebook.com/groups/mkcor



Energage MK - Community Energy Champions

Become part of the new network of volunteer Energy Champions. Learn and share skills, and knowledge to assist your community with energy issues. Visit: www.communityactionmk.org/cape/energage



Camphill Communities Milton Keynes

Camphill provides housing support and workshops to individuals with learning disabilities, with sustainable living and environmental awareness being key to every aspect of Camphill's work. If you can offer time, energy and skills as a local volunteer, please get in touch.

