

Dear [REDACTED]

I'm emailing because I know your group is looking to help shape your local Neighbourhood Plan and I'm aware of a source of help that might be of use to you. A couple of months ago I put an item in the e-newsletter about support available for those who are producing Neighbourhood Plans and want to ensure they include plans for going low carbon. I've put this item at the bottom of this email.

The support is from Centre for Sustainable Energy (CSE), a charity similar to MEA. In 2011 we worked with CSE to run some workshops around the East Midlands (one took place in Matlock) and they included a great session on Neighbourhood Plans and ensuring they address low carbon issues. I'd recommend giving them a call to see if they have any advice that might help with your own plan.

Do let me know how you get on.

Kind Regards  
Caroline

Item from August's newsletter:

### **Support Available for Low Carbon Neighbourhood Planning**

Is your group involved in developing a Neighbourhood Plan, or other community plan? The Centre for Sustainable Energy is able to offer advice on making these plans low carbon, particularly with regard to energy issues. If you haven't got involved in a neighbourhood planning process in your area to date the CSE would urge you to think about what you may be able to add to the plan in terms of promoting policies that reduce carbon emissions in both buildings and lifestyles. The questionnaire, for example, could be a way of starting to gauge local feeling on energy issues.

Doing a Community Consultation Questionnaire? Groups undertaking a Parish Plan, or now a Neighbourhood Plan, often use a questionnaire to get the views and issues important to people locally. Unfortunately there are often no questions in it about energy. To help, CSE has worked up some examples below that you may like to use or adapt:-

- Have you taken any measures to reduce your fuel bills? Yes/No
- If so, what have you done? .....
- Do you agree the plan needs to propose measures to help us make our contribution to reducing the CO2 emissions that cause Climate Change? Yes/No
- What measures would you like to see in the plan to reduce CO2 emissions?
- Are you worried about your electricity and fuel bills?
- Do you think fuel bills are likely to go up in the future?
- Would you like to see a community renewable energy scheme in the plan? Yes/No

If you would like further information or support from CSE on this, please e-mail [communities@cse.org.uk](mailto:communities@cse.org.uk) or phone them on 0117 934 1400.