

Annual Community Groups Reports for Falmouth Town Council 2017/18

Transition Falmouth

Transition Falmouth has continued to meet monthly focusing on climate change issues, the need to conserve natural resources, and by working towards a resilient low carbon and circular economy for Falmouth and the surrounding area.

With this in mind our Core Group has:

- produced a [Briefing](#) designed to inform the sustainability element of emerging local Neighbourhood Plans.
- continued to expand and update a [Local Food Guide](#).
- given on-going support to the new and developing not-for-profit [Co-Cars Car Club](#) for Falmouth and Penryn
- actively supported [community-led housing initiatives](#) for the Falmouth area (now embedded in the Plan for Falmouth).
- continued to respond to national and local consultations on waste and recycling including the proposed Resources & Waste (Materials) Strategy for Cornwall, and addressing the key issue of marine plastic litter, by supporting the work of [Plastic Free Falmouth](#).
- is still active in implementing local renewable community energy production through [Fal Energy Partnership](#).

Transition Falmouth continues to work with its partners to achieve its aims, by supporting practical projects, sharing information, and encouraging discussion via its website <http://www.transitionfalmouth.org.uk>, an [email discussion group](#), and social media ([twitter](#) and [facebook](#))

Falmouth LETS

Falmouth's LETS (Local Exchange Trading Scheme) group will celebrate its 25th year of trading in 2019, welcomes new members, and continues to provide an online platform for its members to skill share and exchange goods and services without the need for money at <http://falmouthlets.org.uk>

Fal Energy Partnership

Fal Energy Partnership ([FEP](#)) received a grant from the Rural Community Energy Fund at beginning of last year which funded a comprehensive feasibility study into the potential for locally-owned solar electricity generation on local roofs in Falmouth and Penryn. Unfortunately, the current policy regarding Feed-In tariffs makes the financial model for communities very precarious and only one of the potential projects was viable.

So currently FEP is working with a local community centre to raise funds to purchase solar panels for their roof. The panels will be owned by the community, through FEP, and the electricity sold back to the community centre at a discount, thereby saving them money on their electricity bills. In May FEP will make an application to the M&S Energyshare Fund for a grant towards the purchase which, if successful, will ensure the project is viable.

Success will depend on us gathering a lot of local support in the form of votes, so we will be out and about explaining how the project will work and how it can help our community in due course.
