

I met Nat and Ben this morning and had a good chat. They are putting quite a lot of effort into getting networked in the area. I gave them some extra background info about TBI.

Regarding the solar panel workshop, I said TBI could be involved in various ways – at one extreme we could just promote the event and at the other, Nat could run it as a TBI event (subject to admin group approval). Nat and Ben liked the idea of running it as a TBI event - the main benefits of this seemed to be:

- We can afford to take a risk on numbers of attendees when setting prices, which would make it easier to set a fixed price. (At the moment Nat has costs, and is thinking the cost would be split between however many attendees there were – which makes it difficult to market.)
- TBI could apply for a small grant to help bring the price down (Nat has identified that Scotmid have a grant scheme which she thinks would be suitable – but TBI may have more credibility as an applicant than she would.)

The most likely target group for the workshop is people who like making and repairing things on a hobby scale, and are looking for an additional set of skills. We discussed the possibility it could lead to a wider “maker group”, which Nat and Ben would be enthusiastic about. Nat also talked about involving the school, or maybe even making the workshop part of a bigger event, possibly over a weekend

I said I would refer back to the admin group with the idea, in principle, of Nat organising the event on behalf of TBI. Assuming that is OK, she would draw up a more detailed proposal (which I’m happy to help with) for admin group feedback/ approval.

Something for discussion at the January admin meeting?

Martin

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Nat Wastnidge <nat.wastnidge@googlemail.com>  
Date: Tue, 10 Dec 2019 at 12:09  
Subject: Solar panel workshop proposal  
To: <info@transitionblackisle.org>

Hi there,

I've recently moved to The Black Isle and our move was partly prompted by the fact that the Transition movement exists here.

I have posted some info about the solar workshop I'm trying to organise and have had more than 30 expressions of interest. I was briefly communicating with someone from Transition Black Isle on messenger on FB and passed on my email as requested but haven't received a response to my last reply. Please find a copy of my last message below.

I'd love to get this off the ground and it would be great to have your support in any capacity.

'Hi again, I posted an update with more info about the Solar workshops on offer..i hope they answer your questions. I'm also thinking that it might be good to apply for funding to subsidise the workshops. I've just moved to Avoch and am researching funding . I currently have the Scotmid community grant leaflet in front of me.Have Transition Black Isle been awarded funding before? Can you give any advice on this? You have my email now so would be great to hear from you.All the best Nat'

I look forward to hearing from you soon

Many thanks

Nat