

MK COMMUNITY ENERGY CONFERENCE

WORKSHOP LEADERS

Chris Church (the MC for the Event) -

Chris Church is a founding Director of Community Environment Associates (CEA). He has worked since 1990 as an advisor, trainer and advocate on sustainable and community development and climate change. Chris was a founding Director of Community Energy England and he chairs Climate Action England. He is a Trustee of WeSET, the Westmill Sustainable Education Trust, that runs activities at the Westmill community-owned wind and solar farm near Swindon and is currently working on a project around solar power and biodiversity. Chris is also a trustee of Friends of the Earth.

Marie Osborne - is a Director of Wolverton Community Energy Ltd, the first community energy organisation to be established within the Borough of Milton Keynes in April 2015. WCE owns 330 kW of solar PV installed on community and commercial buildings in Milton Keynes, and has a range of other renewables and energy efficiency projects in development. Marie is also a Director of Future Wolverton Ltd who have done extensive work to promote retro-fitting of energy efficiency measures in Victorian hard-to-heat homes in Wolverton.

John Ingleby - is Secretary and Director of Grand Union Community Energy Ltd (GUCE) which is a Community benefit society registered in England in 2013. GUCE owns 50kWp of installed solar PV at a local school, and they have been exploring the potential for other forms of renewable energy such as hydro-electric, a solar farm, biomass and ground source heating. In 2015 GUCE launched the Transition Streets programme, whereby six groups of five neighbours in Kings Langley met regularly during the year to explore ways of reducing their carbon

footprint. John is a Community Shares Practitioner, available to mentor other community benefit societies who are just starting out.

Brian Kazer - is a Director of Tring Community Energy (TriCE), a community benefit society registered by FCA. TriCE runs thermal imaging and energy saving surveys for householders and community buildings. We have been close to solar PV installations on two schools, and a sports club - with valuable learning from all three. TriCE are currently researching LED light partnership projects, and have also researched the feasibility of a micro Anaerobic Digestion plant.

Hilarie Bowman - has delved into climate change and energy use issues since partially retiring four years ago. She is a Carbon Conversations Facilitator and a member of Transition MK and is the leader of a U3A climate change group. She has worked with members of Bedford Climate Change Forum to run a Carbon Conversations course in Bedford in 2016 and another one is planned for this Spring. She is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Ambassador and works with Michael Sheppard to give demonstrations and involve school children in practical activities featuring sustainability and environmental factors.

Robbie Macpherson - is an occupational psychologist with nearly 40 years of professional experience. He set up his own consultancy in 1987 and has worked with companies, big

and small, in the private and public sectors, to deliver organisation development projects. He has worked in the voluntary sector for the last ten years and occupied a diverse set of roles, including strategic development of CA: MK, managing CA: MK's team of Community Mobilisers, working as a Community Mobiliser and most recently Chief Operating Officer for CA: MK. He was involved in the successful bid for the Community Action Platform for Energy project, winning funding with five partners from Innovate UK. Current responsibilities include the strategic management of CAPE and of MK: Smart.

James Page - is a Head of Engineering at Joju Solar. He studied Engineering with Economics and Industrial Sociology at Cambridge University and is a chartered engineer. After a career in telecoms and broadcasting, he joined Joju Solar in 2009 and now manages a wide range of commercial projects. James has an active (Green) political life and chaired the Climate Change Task Group for the London Borough of Richmond. He has written articles on subjects such as the trading of radio spectrum (not so different from trading carbon). He also contributes to the YouGen website.