



**Interim Report of the Directors**  
**for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2010 to 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011**  
**for**  
**The Totnes Renewable Energy Society Limited**

The Directors present their interim report of the Society for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010 to 5<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

**Principal Activity**

The principal activities of the Society in the period under review were the ongoing work on the Totnes Community Wind Farm and the development of a wider portfolio of renewable energy projects. Effort has also been focussed on marketing and communications through improvements to the website, members emails, press releases and the establishment of SWISH, Supporting Wind in the South Hams.

**Review of business**

*Wind Energy*

Activity in the Totnes Community Wind Farm is focussed on gathering data in preparation of the planning application. Infinergy has engaged specialist consultants to carry out a survey of bird and bat activity on site which is due for completion in September 2011. TRESOC is participating with Infinergy in pre-planning discussions with South Hams District Council to determine the information required by the Authority for inclusion in the planning application, which is scheduled for submission in the final quarter of 2011. TRESOC has facilitated the formation of SWISH, Supporting Wind In the South Hams. SWISH is open to all who wish to demonstrate their support for wind energy through fun events and activities to inform the local debate surrounding the Totnes Community Wind Farm.

*Anaerobic Digestion*

Work continues apace on the Totnes Anaerobic Digestion Project with confirmation from our technology partner Marches Biogas of the commercial viability of a digester using available local feedstocks. The Dartington Hall Trust has proposed an area of land for consideration as a site for a digester (location in confidence) and negotiations are in progress on a legal agreement with the Trust to enable TRESOC to invest in project development costs. Discussions are ongoing with South Hams District Council on the supply of municipal food and garden wastes for pre processing before delivery to the digester site.

### *Solar photovoltaic*

TRESOC is working in partnership with South Western Solar Projects Ltd, a UK company based in Blackawton, backed by a consortium of German engineers and businessmen with extensive expertise in the solar energy industry. The partnership also allows TRESOC to gain from decades of experience of community ownership of renewable energy, which is very much the norm in Germany. TRESOC has signed agreements to develop a number of 50 kW solar projects with SWSP on agricultural sites in the locality. These projects are all scheduled for commissioning before the Feed In Tariff review in April 2012. The Society is currently completing a Report for South Hams District Council on the commercial potential for roof mounted solar PV installations on a number of their properties. TRESOC is preparing a financial package to offer the opportunity for investment in these early projects to existing TRESOC members.

### *Baltic Wharf*

TRESOC has recently been invited to develop proposals to integrate renewable energy systems into the Baltic Wharf development.

## **The TRESOC Team**

The Society is fortunate in the calibre it's Directors, with extensive local knowledge and professional experience in Renewable Energy, Law and Finance. The TRESOC team has been strengthened further since December 2010 with two key appointments.

Jane Brady joined the Board as Marketing Director in January 2011. The quality of her work is evident on our website, and in the design for the SWISH tee shirts; this summer's must-have fashion item for Totnes! Mandy Burton was selected from a field of high quality applicants drawn from the TRESOC membership to provide part time administration support. She is proving effective in establishing TRESOC internal management procedures and coordinating the rapidly expanding activities of the Society. Mandy is also interested to use her M.Eng. and professional experience in mechanical engineering on our renewable energy projects as time permits.

## **Finance**

The combined total installed cost of the projects in which TRESOC is now actively engaged is estimated to be in the region of £8-10m. Lead-in times vary from 4 months for a solar project to 2-3 years for large scale wind and biomass projects.

The 2010 Share Issue raised a total of £59,973 from more than 370 members. At the end of June 2011, TRESOC had available funds of £49,895. Expenditure has been on the following items

£7,175 - Repayment of loan to National Energy Foundation for launch costs.

£940 - Accountants Report for 2010

£630 - Insurance

£500 - Website development and members emails

£150 to £200 per month, in 2011 - Office expenditure, printing and stationery, hire of venues for TRESOC public meetings, telephone and admin support.

## Summary

While the concept of community owned renewable energy development is proving popular, TRESOC is operating in a commercially competitive environment where success is dependant on our ability to deliver high quality, reliable and profitable installations. The Society is now entering a period of rapid expansion, requiring increased investment in project development costs over the next 2-3 years to realise the renewable energy opportunities that the Society has identified and created. Existing capital is being managed to maintain the activities of the Society during the submission and processing of the TCWF planning application. The next Share Issue, scheduled for the final quarter of 2011 will yield further capital to enable the Society to ensure that the local community enjoys the full range of economic, social and environmental benefits afforded by renewable energy development in Totnes and Environs.

## Directors

The Directors shown below have held office during the whole period from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010 to the date of this Report.

I Bright	Managing Director
O. Hill	Legal Director and Company Secretary
S. Casemore	Finance Director
R Hoyland	Commercial Director
A Langmaid	Communications Director

Changes in Directors holding office are as follows:

Jane Brady appointed as Marketing Director, 4th February 2011.

## On Behalf of the Board



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I Bright – Director

Date ...5<sup>th</sup> July 2011.....