

# Green Fox Community Energy



The official launch!  
Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012  
Green Light Festival



# Agenda



- ❧ The big idea
- ❧ Community Energy Co-operatives
  - ❧ Video and introduction
- ❧ Our LEAF-funded work
- ❧ Our first share offer
- ❧ Get involved!
- ❧ Q&A



# The Idea



Green Fox Community Energy is a volunteer-run co-operative, set up by Transition Leicester in 2012.

*a way for **local people** and **community groups** to take a stake in the area's energy use and supply, **promoting energy saving** and **renewable generation** through a cooperative delivery model.*



# Community Energy



# LEAF funding



- ∞ Government fund to support community energy projects
- ∞ £30,500 awarded in January, to be spent by end March on...
  1. Launch a new energy co-operative for Leicester & Leics
  2. Outline feasibility studies
    - Solar PV and woodchip boilers
  3. Business development work
  4. Launch at Green Light festival March 31<sup>st</sup>

# Step 1: Set up a co-op



## Our checklist

- Founding members

- A name

- Incorporation – registered on March 22nd

## Our Aims...

- To promote:

- Clean and renewable local energy generation

- Warm, energy-efficient homes

- Affordable fuel bills for all

# A logo



greenfox community energy



# Step 2: Find suitable sites



- ❧ Aimed to carry out feasibility studies for 15 sites
  - ❧ 10 solar PV; 5 woodchip boilers
- ❧ Requirements
  - ❧ Solar: large south-facing roofs (80m<sup>2</sup> or more)
  - ❧ Woodchip: oil central heating, £5000+ a year on fuel





# And we found...



## ☞ Potential solar sites

- ☞ Four community buildings in Leicester

- ☞ Potential for up to 500kW of solar PV

- ☞ Install cost – up to £750,000

- ☞ Potential buildings in Leicestershire...

- ☞ Need to install prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>!

## ☞ Biomass sites

- ☞ Looking at 5 sites – two have good potential

- ☞ A longer-term activity

# Step 3: Plan ahead



- ❧ Aims
  - ❧ Find financially viable projects
  - ❧ Outline plans for the future
- ❧ Future opportunities
  - ❧ Share offers for other technologies
    - ❧ Wind?
    - ❧ Anaerobic Digestion?
  - ❧ Green Deal
    - ❧ Assessments or delivery?
  - ❧ Training
    - ❧ Provide employment opportunities
  - ❧ Other income streams
    - ❧ “Allowable solutions”

# Our first share offer



- ❧ **Invest in community-owned solar energy for Leicester area**
- ❧ Planning to launch a share offer from April to June 2012 (TBC)
  - ❧ Community investment in solar PV
- ❧ **Benefits**
  - ❧ More local renewable energy installed
  - ❧ Financial return for investors (est. 5% average return per annum)
  - ❧ Funds to support local action on sustainability

*Want to invest locally  
in sustainable energy?*

# Get involved!



- ❧ Express interest in share offer
  - ❧ Sign-up on Green Fox stall or at end of session!
- ❧ Join the core team
  - ❧ Get involved in developing new projects in the future
  - ❧ **Legal expert?** Good at **managing finances?** An **insurance whizz?** Adept at **marketing?** Passionate about **green energy?**
- ❧ We are run by volunteers and we're always looking for new people to join the team...



# Questions



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