**19. Tavistock and District Local Economic Blueprint**

A small team from Transition Tavistock is developing the Tavistock and District Local Economic Blueprint. This is an initiative to understand the amount of our ‘hard earned’ money spent on goods and services which leaves the local economy with minimal local benefit; and putting in place a supported plan to enable increasing proportions of our needs to be fulfilled through local supply chains to strengthen our local communities and stimulate jobs and enterprise. It is planned to specifically address local food, renewable energy incl. wood fuel and domestic retrofit.

An essential aspect of the initiative is a supporting group of local leaders who have a stake in the local area, a concern and passion for the area’s future resilience and vibrancy and the enhancement of local enterprise and skills development. We would like to ensure that the stakeholder group also reflects populations outside of Tavistock town itself, including Princetown.

Jo Rumble suggested that you might be one of these leaders, able to represent Princetown, and we would like to invite you to join the Stakeholders Group or ask for your help in identifying someone else. We would be calling upon your time for an initial 3 to 4 hour workshop on either the 6th October and a further two workshops / meetings between November 2014 and March 2015. We will also seek your views from time to time.

Transition Town Totnes (TTT) undertook this exercise for Totnes and District in 2012/2013 and it has had a beneficial outcome with a number of jobs and new enterprises already created. It was strongly supported by S. Hams District Council and Totnes Town Council. TTT are mentoring us through our TAD-LEB.

If you are able to be involved we will give you a call over the next few days to discuss this in more detail, and could come to you for a coffee if this would be helpful. If you would like to discuss further before making your decision I’m available today and tomorrow for a call. I have included some additional information below for your interest and we look forward to hearing from you.

Additional Background:

We all need to eat, and heat and power our homes. These are all costs for us. For a few this may also be a source of income (e.g. for producers and sales outlets). In many cases, money spent on these essential goods and services is spent with national or international organisations, leaking out of the local economy, like a hole in the bucket. It brings little or no benefit. As an example, across Tavistock and district (TAD) £16m is spent annually on gas and electricity or approx.. £44,000 per day. A proportion of this retained locally by buying locally sourced services or energy and/or through increased energy efficiency would stimulate the local economy and retain and create more jobs and enterprises.

The Tavistock and District Local Economic Blueprint (TAD-LEB) is an initiative to:

1. Establish local supply chain stakeholder networks for food & drink, renewable energy (incl. woodfuel) and domestic retrofit (improving the energy efficiency of our homes)

2. Evaluate the amount spent across TAD on food, heat and power … and where this is spent (i.e. in local independents or elsewhere)

3. Work with stakeholders to develop initiatives to retain more spend locally and generate more local employment

4. Prioritise the initiatives and seek partners and funding opportunities (e.g. Greater Dartmoor LEAF) as part of a coordinated plan supported by West Devon Borough Council, Tavistock Town Council, TV AONB and others.