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THWING AND OCTON PARISH COUNCIL

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THWING AND OCTON PARISH COUNCIL

RENEWABLE ENERGY FEASIBILITY STUDY
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

This document shows a suggested approach for a community engagement plan to support renewable energy implementation in Thwing and Octon Parish.

Objectives:

- To identify the main stakeholder groups and their levels of influence on the project
- To understand the community's expectations for the implementation of renewable energy in Thwing and Octon Parish, and ensure buy-in from enough people to guarantee project viability
- To identify any serious objections from the community towards any technology

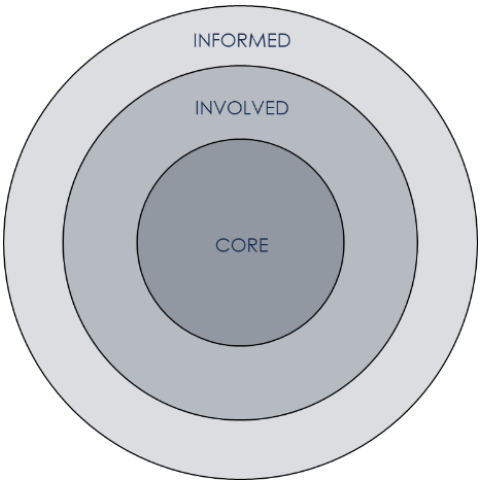
Deliverables after the implementation of the plan will be:

- Structured surveys targeted to each main stakeholder group identified in this plan
- A plan for each of the chosen communication channels

1. **Stakeholder analysis**: Who should we focus on?

Based on our current understanding of the parish and the stakeholders, we have identified and categorised six main stakeholder groups relevant to this stage of the project.

Levels of participation:



CORE – Final decision makers. Will develop the solutions and make sure the services are delivered

INVOLVED – Will be regularly informed and consulted about the project developments

INFORMED – Will receive regular updates on the project. Should communicate with their representative in the working group for any contributions they wish to make

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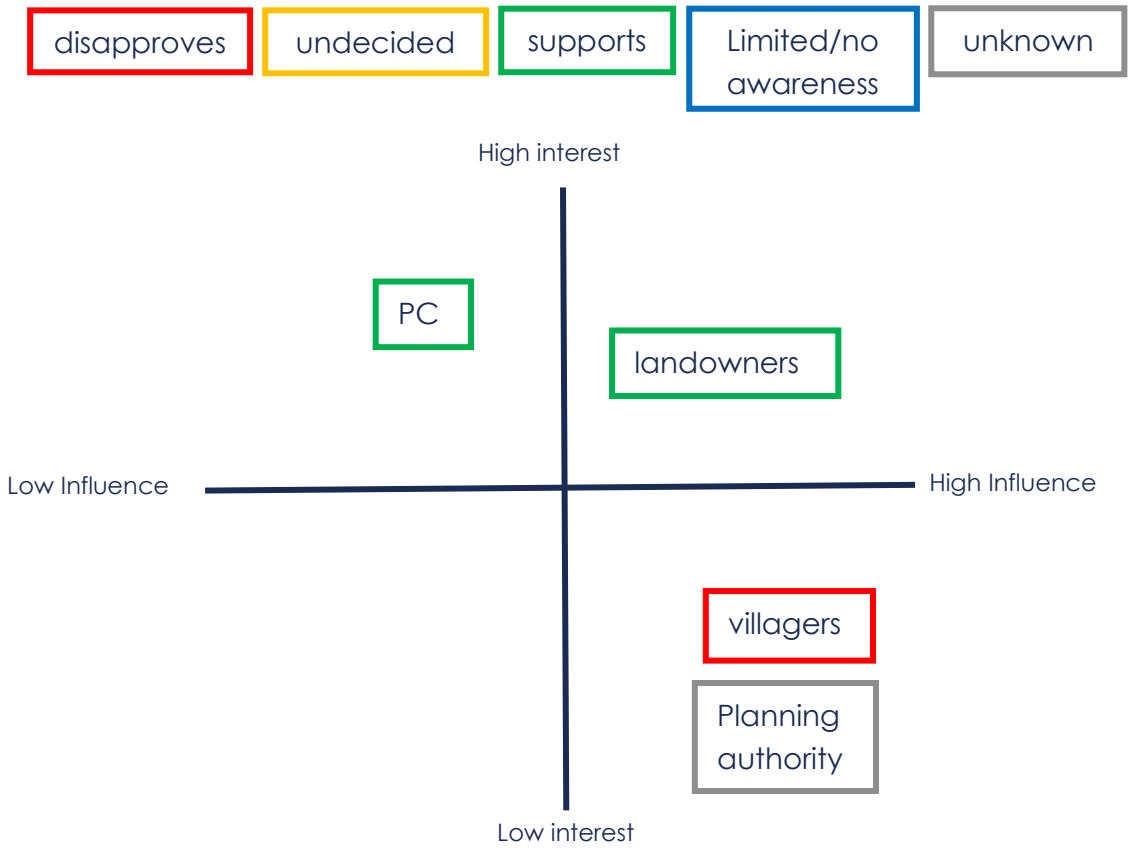
Stakeholders	Level of participation
Working group – PC representatives, Avieco, representatives of each group.	Core
Parish Council	Involved
Villagers	Informed
Landowners	Informed
Planning Authority	Involved

Example (preliminary information, to be verified):



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2. **Stakeholder engagement**: What do they need to support the project?

Example (preliminary information, to be verified):

Who?	Parish Council	Villagers	Landowners	Planning Authority
Needs?	Respond to climate emergency Reduce carbon emissions?	Understand disruptions and costs, lower costs	Understand disruptions and opportunities Lower costs	Receive project documentation
Concerns?	Project perception with population	Increase in costs Disruption to everyday life	Decision on land use	
What do we need from them?	Agreement to approaches and reviews	Annual energy spend and consumption	Annual energy spend and consumption Land available	Planning requirements for wind/solar
Potential actions	Fortnightly call and interim reports	Energy use survey by post Informative communication Consultation on participation	Video call workshop Consultation on participation	Consultation

2.1. After deciding on the potential actions for each group and prioritising actions for the ones in the high interest/high power quads (but involving all groups), we can agree on which actions to develop first.

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3. Engagement strategies

As we have different types of stakeholders on the village, more than one solution is necessary, and one solution will not be fit for all. Thus, we propose different channels:

- **Digital communication**: Use existing and new channels to do consultations and send fortnightly updates to the community
  - **Create a Facebook group** for the project and put targeted ads to engage the community to join the group and see notifications. Targeted ads can be set for people in a specific geography, they don't necessarily need to be on the existing Parish Council group.
  - **Create a dedicated information webpage on the Parish Council's website** with the full information on the project and a 'sign up' function for informative newsletters and updates. A link for the villager's survey will also be accessible from the webpage. *Obs: Avieco will need admin access to the website to create the page. We will aim to build it ourselves but it's possible we'll need support from Parish Council's IT. Avieco will support all text and structure for the website. TBC when the details on the website architecture are confirmed.*
- **Physical communication**:
  - **Direct mail by post** – aiming to reach those who do not use or have access to the internet. The leaflets will be developed by Avieco with inputs from the Parish Council. For GDPR reasons, the delivery will have to be handled by the Parish Council.
- **Online meetings**
  - **Workshops** - discussion sessions by Zoom or Teams, with smaller groups of main stakeholders to clarify any preferences, questions and objections to the project. We propose starting this with the landowners, since their active involvement is necessary at this stage to define which lands can be used.
- **Surveys**
  - Structured questionnaires to collect supporting data necessary for the feasibility study. These will be done by post or in a digital channel for those who access the internet. Distribution of the physical leaflets will be the responsibility of the Parish Council for GDPR reasons.

4. Work group

Include representatives of each stakeholder group

Parish Council	Sandra Morrison Edward Peacock Gavin Coe Andrew Frost
Villagers	*Parish Council to provide contacts if any representatives are needed*
Landowners	*Parish Council to provide contacts*
Planning Authority	Informed only – names TBC
Avieco	Helen Troup

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	Luiza Haussen Oliver Cowburn

5. Potential solutions – renewable energy

Based on the outcomes of the survey made for the Parish Plan for 2017, there is a considerable interest from the Thwing and Octon Community in implementing renewable energy sources in the area.

The main areas of interest according to the survey were solar PV, wind turbines and local arrangements with power suppliers.

For the purposes of this feasibility study, the main technologies that will be considered are:

- Large-scale solar PV
- Community solar PV on rooftops
- Individual solar PV on rooftops + battery
- Efficient street lighting with built-in renewable supply

5.1. Heating

We will include questions about heating usage on the questionnaire to assess current technologies used and the villagers' disposition to switch to renewable heating sources.

For the purposes of this feasibility study, the main technologies that will be considered are:

- Solar thermal panels
- Ground source heat pump
- Biomass boilers
- Air source heat pumps

6. Timelines

Date start	Date finish	Responsible	Action
23/03	27/03	PC	Review community engagement plan and send back to Avieco with any relevant comments
06/07	07/07	Avieco	Perform the stakeholder analysis and define which communication strategies will be used for each stakeholder group
06/07	10/07	Avieco	Produce the deliverables defined in the stakeholder analysis phase Send out all communication to stakeholders
13/07	24/07	PC/community	Review deliverables, fill in surveys, have discussions and gather all documents resulting from the consultation
20/07	24/07	Avieco	Digital surveys and interactions

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27/07	29/07	PC	Return all physical communication to Avieco
29/07	31/07	Avieco	Analyse the consultation results and include it on the feasibility study.

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