Temple Guiting Parish Council

Annual Meeting 15 May 2019

**Report on green energy projects -** Cllr Stephen Gower

**Solar panels**

The proposal to investigate the installation of solar panels as part of a village-wide solar energy project has concluded that the current financial framework for solar panel installations unfortunately does not provide sufficient incentive to progress a local project at this point in time.

**Other projects**

Two initiatives have been identified that will require further work **before** proposals are brought to the Parish Council for support. These would aim to improve awareness of:

\* sustainability (a short course to help turn theory into practice)

\* energy efficiency in our homes - potentially using a thermal imaging camera.

Both topics are part of the current national debate on climate change.

(a) Sustainability

Guy and Cathy Mansfield Smith would like to run a short course to help turn theory into practice and would cover everything from recycling to minimising food waste.

(b) Energy efficiency

A key part of reducing carbon emissions is how we reduce the energy footprint of our homes. Although the age and type of structure typically found in our Parish may not be very energy efficient, there is still a lot we can do to reduce our energy footprint. Use of thermal imaging cameras is a good way of raising awareness of where heat is being lost from our homes. The ideal time to carry out thermal imaging surveys is in early winter, when cold air outside contrasts strongly with warmer air escaping or radiating from buildings. Funding would be needed for the initial purchase of a camera but it may be possible to off-set the cost by charging a nominal fee for each survey done and by seeking possible grant funding.   The current cost of a suitable camera is in the region of £400.