



SUSTAINABILITY IN THE GAP

Newsletter 6—Energy



COMMUNITY SEMINAR SERIES

7.30 PM @ TAYLOR RANGE COUNTRY CLUB

28 Greenlanes Rd, Ashgrove QLD 4060

On the 12th of May, Mr Luke Reade from the Energetic Communities Association Inc. explained community energy investment models to us. Given that current interest rates are so low and a term deposit would only attract 1-2% interest, it was very enlightening to hear that **investing in community energy projects may bring a return of 5% or more.** Using a successful South Brisbane project as example, Mr Reade explained that 20 community investors came together to fund a solar and battery project for a community foodshed. The solar system allowed the shed to avoid requiring peak energy that would be very costly. After 10 years the investors will have received back their full investment plus at least annual 5% return (possibly more if the income generated through the system is over and above 5%); after the 10 years the solar system then belongs to the foodshed and will bring them free energy for the life of the system. Besides these benefit, all work was done by a local company which again then invested money back into employing more staff etc.

Mr Reade then provided information about a variety of other investment models. He also told us about a number of similar successful projects, and community companies that could serve as examples. If a similar project was undertaken at The Gap, we could build on these existing models. When asked about our next steps, he suggested to talk to local NGOs, Schools and businesses to see if there was appetite for such ideas. In some areas it was the local Council that leads such community investment projects.

Therefore it is fantastic that we can announce **on the 9th of June starting at 7.30 pm Councillor Steve Toomey will be our next speaker.** Brisbane City Council is part of the Cities Power Partnership, and Councillor Toomey will report to us about how the BCC can support our initiative and partner with us to achieve our aims.

In other news, you can now like us on [Facebook](#).

We hope to see you at the seminar on the 9th of June.

Yours sincerely,

The Gap Sustainability Initiative

What is next?

Next seminar on the
9th May 2021, 7.30pm
Taylor Range Club

Please spread the word
Invite your friends and
neighbours to join us!!

Purpose?

Talk to Councillor Toomey
about how community sus-
tainability projects could
be initiated in The Gap and
what the Brisbane City
Council can do to support
such community initia-
tives?

Actions?

Check out the [Energetic
Communities](#) website to
learn about their sus-
tainability investment
models

For interesting news and resources, please visit our website: thegapsustainability.org