

K-SET

KILLINGTON AND DISTRICT
SUSTAINABLE ENERGY TRUST



Newsletter 13

July 2018

Hydro Project Celebration

On Saturday 19th May, K-SET invited its members to help celebrate the opening of the Broad Raine Hydro Project. Around 30 people attended, a fantastic turn out considering it was the same day as the Royal Wedding and the FA Cup finals.

A short presentation was given by Chris Preston of Broad Raine, showing how the fish pass and power house were constructed. He also highlighted the weather issues that caused the project to be delayed for so long, with dramatic photos of the River Lune flooding its banks. We learnt that at low water the turbine produces 5-6 kWh per hour, but at other times it had been getting 32-33 kWh, more than predicted. In its first ten weeks of operation, the hydro project has produced 38 megawatts of power.

After the presentation the assembled group celebrated with a glass of champagne and nibbles. Although some members already knew each other, some were meeting for the first time. The members who attended came from all over the local area including Killington, Sedbergh, Garsdale and Kendal.

From the village hall some of the members visited the project. It was a warm and sunny afternoon and spring had definitely sprung at the hydro site. The powerhouse, clad in local stone, fit nicely into the beautiful environment. Inside the powerhouse the heart of the operation could be seen, displaying the amount of energy being produced. Outside the only noise was the rush of water through the fish pass and the gentle thump of the Archimedes screw.



Standing at the site of the old mill it was hard not to think about the past. A water powered mill had been built there next to the Lune some time at the end of the 17th century and closed in 1972, 300 years later. 2018 saw the beginning of another venture, one based on similar mechanical principles and using the same water source. Like the original Broadrairie mill, the purpose was also the same, to harness the power of the Lune River. So perhaps, like its predecessor, our turbine project will also continue for 300 years.

The Numbers Add Up!

In its first ten weeks of operation, the hydro project has produced 38 megawatts (MW) of power. To put these numbers into perspective, the average UK house uses around 4,000 kWh (or 4 MW) each year. This means the turbine has already produced the annual energy consumption of almost ten houses. If the turbine were to continue at this rate it would produce around 200 MW of power each year, providing all the electricity needs for 50 houses, about half of Killington parish!

Finishing Touches

The Broad Raine Hydro Electric project is now producing energy, but there is still some more to do. The main aspects of the project are complete, so now is the time to focus on the smaller details and that is why we still need your help! To finish the site, we need:

1. Security fencing
2. Landscaping
3. Seating
4. Shelter
5. Information board

Obviously, some are more important than others, but all would be desirable. Although a financial contribution is the easiest way to help, there are many other things you may be able to do.

- Volunteering abilities/time (gardening, construct fence/shelter)
- Donation of materials (plants, construction supplies)
- Discount on materials (if in the business/industry)

If you can help with any of these things or in any other way, please contact us.

Other Local Environmental News

SLDC invites public views on climate change options

South Lakeland District Council wants to hear local people's ideas on how the community can all work together in the ongoing fight against climate change.

The council is holding a series of public meetings to explore new ways of tackling climate change. Councillor Dylan Jones, portfolio holder for environment, said: "South Lakeland has already had its fair share of extreme weather and climate change is predicted to bring more storms and more flooding. By working with communities, businesses and local groups we are committed to finding ways to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

"The big question is what can we do? So, if you have any good ideas or suggestions for how we can influence change, please come along to these meetings and have your say."

Thu 26 July, Kendal Town Hall, 7-9pm

<https://www.southlakeland.gov.uk/news/have-your-say-on-climate-change/>

Sedbergh working towards Zero Waste town

A campaign has begun in Sedbergh to reduce single-use plastic as well as other waste sent to landfill. It is also working with local residents and businesses towards making Sedbergh a Zero Waste town. Residents are now enjoying milk delivered in glass bottles, various businesses have agreed to offer free water bottle refills, a pop-up Repair Cafe is lined up for October (run by Simply Repair South Lakes) as well as a future screening of A Plastic Ocean. If you're local to the Sedbergh area and would like to know more, visit www.zerowastesedbergh.com



Visit the Hydro Site

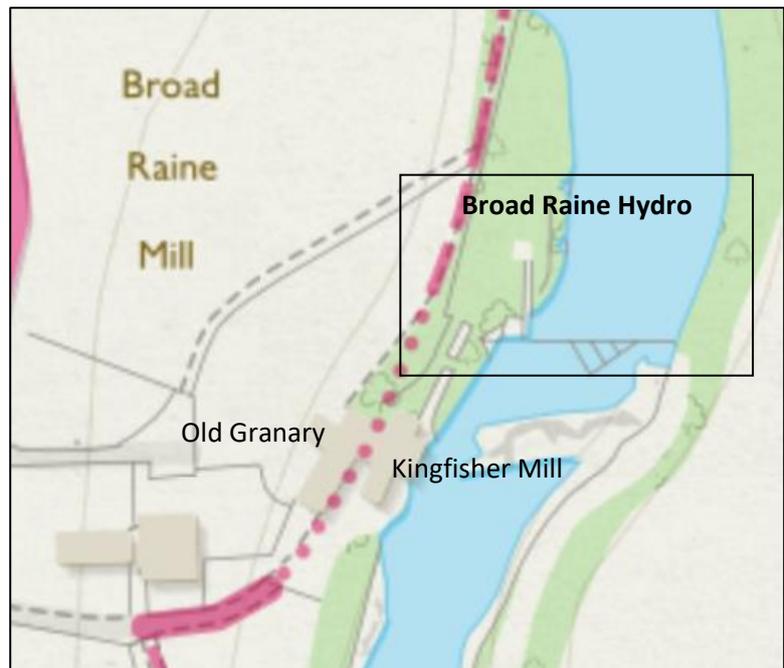
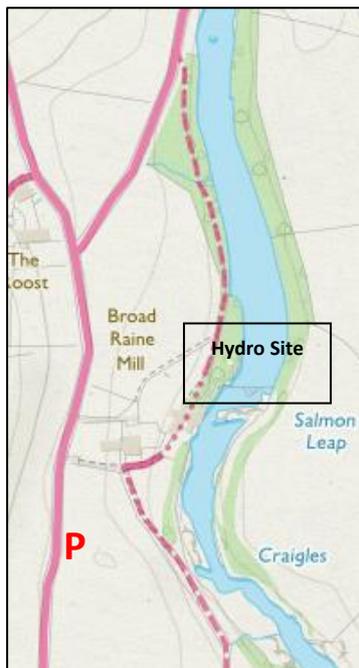
Option #1

Park on the verge next to Killington New Bridge on the B6256. On the west side of the bridge turn south down a single lane road. Walk for about 0.3 miles (7 minutes), shortly passed the metal road barrier there will be a narrow clearing in the hedge with a small stile. A right of way path can be seen leading towards the river (*green dashes*). Follow the path to the hydro site. The route is easy, but involves stairs, stiles and a narrow footbridge.

OR

Option #2

Park in the large passing place a short distance south of the entrance/driveway to Broad Raine Cottage (0.5 miles south of B6256). Walk north back along the road to the entrance of Broad Raine and follow the driveway to the last house. Pass between the Old Granary and Kingfisher Mill (*pink dots in map below right*), you will see the hydro site. Please be aware that it is a private road, but permission to use it has been given to visitors to the hydro site.



K-SET Trustees

Judith Aston – *Chair*

Ian Dawson – *Parish Representative*

Paul Robinson – *Minuting Secretary*

Michelle Hartley – *Membership Secretary*

New Members

We are always looking for a few more people to help out, if you are interested please contact us at info@k-set.org