

EKREG

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 7th December, 2021

Present: Alasdair Bennett ('Chair'), Jerry Barnes, Rhona Elder and Rob Lee

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- Rhona Elder serviced her apologies in advance of the meeting

2. Minutes and actions outstanding at previous meeting (Tues 23rd November)

- No matters outstanding

3. Treasurers' Report

- No transactions to report. Management accounts were approved.
- Since it was the two year anniversary of the establishment of EKREG banking arrangements, the gratis period with the bank was now complete and as a consequence the company's account would now be subject to routine monthly charges. It was anticipated that unexpected savings in accountancy charges would be sufficient to meet these costs for the coming year.

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- ESB will hold a face-to-face public consultation event with regard their planned wind farm at West Torrisdale Dec. 10/11th at Carradale Village Hall. This development will be highly visible especially from Carradale point/golf club.
- There were no updates to report in connection with early-stage CSO correspondence allied to the ongoing dialogue with EnergieKontor, Muirden and ESB over multiple developments. EnergieKontor will not hold any face-to-face public consultations with regard their planned developments in the region.
- WKCC had presented strong opposition, supported by A&B Council and Historic Environment Scotland (HES), to the hearing convened to consider objections to SPR's proposed development at Sheirdrim Hill. The result of the hearing will be published in the New Year.

5. BaT3

• SPR/Iberdrola

EKREG's engaged legal team had received no response from SPR's legal section regarding the concerns raised on their first draft of the legal agreement underpinning the payment of Community Benefit Funds, despite multiple communications.

• Community Investment Vehicle: Lussa Community Wind [LCW] Ltd

The update letter to Lussa Pioneer shareholders still needed to be disseminated along with share certification [**Action: JB**].

No further updates to report

- **LES/CARES Grant/Tender documentation**

The first of two meetings had been convened between LES, Abundance and QMPF with a view to making SPR understand why their proposals for Community Share Ownership in BaT3 doesn't work for communities, and assist with the development of a future SPR model that will be attractive to impacted communities downstream.

6. CC Charitable Bodies

- No matters to report

7. Communications & Marketing

- Marketing

Routine updates had been made to the eastkintyre.org website

- Engagement Strategy

A community petition entitled 'Share the Wind' (PE1885/C) promoting community shared ownership in local windfarms had received significant support when tabled by the Scottish Governments' Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee on 6th October 2021. A date was awaited for the next hearing at which the petition would be retabled – where the support of our elected political representatives had been pledged – to gain a fair and just financial outcome for communities impacted by renewable energy developments. The discussion can be viewed live @ <https://www.scottishparliament.tv/>.

- Briefings/CC MoUs

It was agreed that (i) Brendan O'Hara and Donald Cameron, respectively, should be reprompted for their support to make CSO mandatory and (ii) EKREG should reach out to Calum MacDonald following an article published in the Herald where it was clear the community he was engaged with shared many of EKREG's views on the need to make CSO mandatory for all Scottish renewable energy developments [**Action: AB/JB**]

9. Governance

The company's accountant had contacted HMRC with a view to aligning EKREG's annual tax return with other Companies House returns.

10. AOB

No other matters were tabled at the meeting

DONM: Tues 21st December, 2021, 09.30 [virtual meeting: Zoom]