

# **EKREG Meeting Minutes**

Date: Tues. 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2025

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

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

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## **1. Apologies for Absence**

- None

## **2. Minutes and actions outstanding at previous meeting (Tues 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2025)**

- Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. There were no significant actions outstanding.

## **3. Treasurers' Report**

- There had been only routine bank charges charged against the account since the last meeting. An up-to-date bank statement was reviewed and approved at the meeting.

## **4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers**

A significant lithium-ion battery energy storage system (BESS) servicing 249 MW energy storage is proposed to be built on farm land at Whitehouse (near the village hall) by Whitehouse BESS Ltd, which is part of Island Green Power (IGP) Ltd. The first public consultation event in relation to this development will be held at Whitehouse Village Hall on Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup> between 2 and 7 pm (Whitehouse, Tarbert PA29 6XR). Local residents have been encouraged by WKCC to participate and air their views on this development. For those who cannot participate in the event there will be an online webinar on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. between 6 and 7pm. For further information see: [www.whitehouse-bess.co.uk](http://www.whitehouse-bess.co.uk) and/or contact [feedback@whitehousebess.co.uk](mailto:feedback@whitehousebess.co.uk).

## **5. Lussa Community Wind [LCW]/CC Charitable Bodies (EKCF, WKCF & CCWF)**

- Lussa Community Wind.

The Chair had received anchor charity reports from EKCF and CCWF employing the onerous new SPR reporting templates. WKCF are due to submit theirs before the 14<sup>th</sup> June deadline for receipt by the Chair.

The Secretary had received and shared the draft annual accounts, tax return and FCA reports from the Society's accountant. A few amends to the presentation of the accounts were agreed and the Secretary was tasked with liaising with the Society's accountant to have the amends done in a timely manner.

All receipts for the latest donations amounting to £261,000 had been received promptly from the three recipient anchor charities

Actions pertaining to the AGM on 7<sup>th</sup> August were discussed.

- Community Funds (EKCF/CCWF/WKCF).

No updates to report. For the latest news from the anchor charities and application forms/eligibility For EKCF see [www.eastkintyre.org](http://www.eastkintyre.org). For WKCF and CCWF see [www.kintyrewind.com](http://www.kintyrewind.com)

## 6. West Torrisdale

No updates to report – S36 application under consideration by A&BC.

## 7. Clachaig Glen

No updates to report – ‘on hold’ following consent for the development by the Scottish Government.

## 8. Killean and Tangy IV

No updates to report

## 9. Cnoc Buidhe (Belltown Power)

No updates to report – S36 application under consideration by A&BC.

## 10. High Constellation

Still no response received from the developer to the Chairs’ recent correspondence.

## 11. Communications & Marketing

### • Marketing

Routine website updates had been completed, and correspondence responded to.

### Engagement Strategy

The petition (PE1885) submitted by a local resident to the Scottish Governments Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee, (and supported by EKREG) received its Ninth hearing on 2<sup>nd</sup> April. The Committee once again supported the proposals and the matter was, once again, referred to the Scottish Government for feedback/action. The minutes of the meeting can be accessed here:

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/committees/current-and-previous-committees/session-6-citizen-participation-and-public-petitions-committee/meetings/2025/citizen-participation-and-public-petitions-committee-02-april-2025> and a video of recording of the session is available to watch [here](#). The Official Report (a reliable written record of what is said in public meetings) is available on the petition’s webpage at: [Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee | Scottish Parliament TV](#).

### • Communications

Having waited for more than a year for a follow-up meeting on actions previously tabled with the civil servants with whom EKREG have been liaising with regard changing government policy on community ownership, it was extremely disappointing to have the meeting cancelled at 3 days’ notice with no explanation. A written response from the Minister for Climate Action (Alasdair Alan) is expected to the agenda items proposed.

## **12. Governance**

The company's accounts must be filed prior to 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2025. It was agreed that the Secretary would liaise with the company's accountant over the preparation of the annual accounts when the timing was appropriate – following receipt of the Lussa accounts and FCA reports.

## **13. AOB**

Media reporting about SSE's £3bn reduction in budget for renewable energy developments was discussed.

**DONM:** Tues 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2025. 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]