

# EKREG

## Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2022

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

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

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### 1. Apologies for Absence

- None

### 2. Minutes and actions outstanding at previous meeting (Tues 11<sup>th</sup> January)

- No matters outstanding

### 3. Treasurers' Report

- Invoices had been received and paid for lawyer engagement and website fees. Receipts for both payments had been filed, and the lawyer fees promptly reimbursed via LES CARES grant. There were no other transactions to report. An up-to-date bank statement was tabled at the meeting showing the balance of payments/receipts.
- It was agreed that a projected balance would be helpful to forward planning. The Treasurer agreed to supply the board with this information prior to the next meeting [**Action: AB**]

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

- Both Muirden and RWE had responded promptly to the Chairman's latest communiqué with regard their windfarm plans at Cnoc Breacam and Clachaig Glen, respectively. Muirden indicated that, following scoping studies, they had no immediate plans to pursue the development at Cnoc Breacam. RWE's revised plans at Clachaig Glen had been submitted. It had been agreed to schedule a meeting early 2Q22 to develop the CBF/CSO dialogue.
- Belltown Power had contacted West Kintyre & EKREG about a proposed windfarm development on FLS land West of Lussa Loch. A meeting had been arranged to discuss the company's plans and to initiate the CSO/CBF dialogue.

### 5. SPR- BaT3

- **SPR/Iberdrola**  
An updated agreement had been received, commented on and a final version was now awaited from SPR legal team for sign off. The revised agreement guarantees payment of community benefit funds akin to SG 2019 guidelines for the lifetime of the project whilst in their ownership (guaranteeing payments for an extra 15-years+; amounting to an extra £3.35m incoming for equal division to the three local communities impacted). Vendor documentation and money laundering legislative requirements had also been met, completed and returned.
- **Community Investment Vehicle: Lussa Community Wind [LCW] Ltd**  
No matters to report

- **LES/CARES Grant/Tender documentation**  
No matters to report

## 6. **ESB – West Torrisdale**

A virtual meeting with ESB had taken place as scheduled. They have pledged to honour Scottish Government guidelines with regard community benefit payments (i.e. £5k/MW/p.a.) *sensu* 2019 Scottish Government Guidelines for developers, and are seeking executive board level approval for the impacted communities to be given the opportunity to own up to 15% of the equity in their development at West Torrisdale. The first draft of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) had been received and this is currently being redrafted by EKREG to reflect the communities desire for shared equity in the development rather than a shared revenue model. Once evolved and agreeable to both parties, this document will establish the key principles to underpin a binding legal agreement should their planning application be consented [**Action: RL/JB** MoU evolution and CSO road map]

## 7. **CC Charitable Bodies**

- The online application and reporting forms for the first round of EKCF-disseminated funding were under evolution and would be finalized in the coming weeks

## 8. **Communications & Marketing**

### - **Marketing**

Routine updates had been made to the eastkintyre.org website, and the all-new Kintyre Wind website was at an advanced stage of construction.

### - **Engagement Strategy**

A community petition entitled 'Share the Wind' (PE1885/C) promoting community shared ownership in local windfarms which received significant support when tabled by the Scottish Governments' Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 will be retabled by the committee for further discussion 2<sup>nd</sup> February. The aim of the petition: to gain a fair and just financial outcome for communities impacted by renewable energy developments. The discussion can be viewed live/archived @ <https://www.scottishparliament.tv/>.

### - **Briefings/CC MoUs**

The Chairman agreed to make contact with Chris Miles with a view to learning from that local communities' experiences of engaging with Muirhall at Crossdykes to attain a minority equity stake in that development.

## 9. **Governance**

No matters outstanding/to report.

## 10. **AOB**

No other matters were tabled at the meeting

**DONM:** Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2022, 09.30 [virtual meeting: Zoom]