

EKREG

Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, 25th October, 2021

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

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- None

2. Minutes and actions outstanding at previous meeting (Friday 8th October)

- JB to update Lussa CW pioneer shareholders and provide share certificates

No other matters outstanding

3. Treasurers' Report

- QMPF's invoice had been paid and full reimbursement of costs received from Local Energy Scotland for the expenses incurred via the ongoing CARES grant, resulting in a null balance on the transaction. Management accounts were approved.

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- Details were still awaited from South Knapdale CC regarding EDF contact re Airigh (Nr. Kilberry) windfarm in order to introduce EKREG and begin CSO dialogue.
- Intelligent Land Investment (ILI) who plan to expand Carradale sub-station to accommodate 52 x 20' reefer containers to hold batteries had flatly turned-down EKREG's approach, on behalf of the community, for Community Benefit Fund-style Payments as compensation for the new development. ILI will hold a public consultation event in relation to the significant, and highly impactful, expansion of Carradale sub-station at Carradale Village Hall Nov. 4th.
- ESB have scheduled a 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 from Carradale point/golf club in particular.
- 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. Dialogue with EKREG via EKCC indicated that EnergieKontor will not hold any face-to-face public consultations with regard their planned developments in the region.

5. BaT3

- **SPR/Iberdrola**
AB agreed to prompt SPR for their overdue first draft of the legal agreement underpinning the payment of Community Benefit Funds. A dialogue with LES regards the engagement of EKREG's legal advisors had been initiated (**Action: AB/JB/RL**).

- **Community Investment Vehicle: Lussa Community Wind Ltd**

No further updates to report

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

Subject to requirements post receipt of draft CBF agreement from SPR aka BaT3, LES/CARES had been approached with a view to accessing the available grant funds to engage legal support for CBF negotiations, rather than CSO.

6. CC Charitable Bodies

EKCF had received a £20K endowment from MOWI. For further information/applications from worthy beneficiaries see: www.eastkintyre.org

7. Communications & Marketing

- **Marketing**

EKCF pages had been added, along with routine updates, to the eastkintyre.org website

- **Engagement Strategy**

A multi-community-led petition entitled 'Share the Wind' (PE1885) 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**

JB had prompted Donald Cameron for his support for the petition and AB was awaiting a response from Brendan O'Hara and Paul Sweeney following his transmission of the latest version of EKREG's CSO briefing document which provided a land tax solution to ensure the offer of CSO is mandatory for all developers across Scotland and thus yield parity with similar arrangements in several Scandinavian countries [**Action: follow up as needed: AB/JB**].

Representations with regards to EnergieKontors' impactful windfarm development at Narachan, incorporating turbines of an unprecedented size in the region (which breach Argyll and Bute Councils Landscape Capacity Study maximum height of 150m and will require every mast to bare night-time aviation lighting), which will be visible from many parts of the region and affecting the Rhonadale/Deer Hill vista, need to be logged with the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) by email before 21st November - responses to be sent to: representations@gov.scot

9. Governance

A prompt for an annual tax return had been received from HMRC, and the company's accountant had been duly furnished with the required bank statements to make the filing on behalf of the company.

10. AOB

No other matters were tabled at the meeting

DONM: Tues 9th November, 2021, 09.30 [virtual meeting: Zoom]