

# EKREG

## Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2022

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 (Tues 31<sup>st</sup> May)

- No matters outstanding. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### 3. Treasurers' Report

- Annual insurance premium paid. There were no other transactions to report in addition to routine bank charges. An up-to-date bank statement was reviewed and approved at the meeting.

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

- It was agreed that the Chairman should write to EnergieKontor and SSE with regard their proposed developments at Breackerie and High Dalrioch, respectively, so as to (re)express the communities' interests in exploring CSO in these developments, if consented. [Action: AB]

### 5. ESB – West Torrisdale (WT)

- A revised meeting date (June 29<sup>th</sup>) had been confirmed with ESB to discuss progress with the agreed 'CSO road map' allied to their development at West Torrisdale. Positive progress was reported internally at ESB in the interim. JB to circulate zoom invite [Action: JB]

### 6. Clachaig Glen (CG)

- A positive first meeting/presentation had been convened with RWE involving their project management and communications team, FLS and Abundance (financial advisers to RWE). Standard CBF payments of 5k/MW will be paid for the lifetime of the project plus significant CSO. It was agreed that EKREG should pursue the offer tabled of up to 49% equity stake at Financial Investment Decision Date (FID) and/or min 10% equity stake at Commissioning Date point (CD), with focus on the first of these options as the priority. [Actions: AB to contact the 6 communities invited to participate in the offer; RL to submit CARES grant paperwork to LES for assistance with financials and legals; RWE to service an NDA in advance of the technical information exchange required to enable a robust business plan to be built to facilitate a dialogue with regard raising the capital required].

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

- Following a board meeting, at which the small sum to be temporarily retained to pay administrative costs had been agreed, the balance of funds received had been donated to each of the three anchor charities for their dissemination to prioritized local causes. A date was subsequently agreed for the AGM (2<sup>nd</sup> August@ 18.00). An Agenda for the AGM will be disseminated within the week [Action: RL/JB]

- CCWF had elected to split their 1<sup>st</sup> year donation between two funding tranches with £5K max per award at each funding round. WKCF will advertise for projects seeking funding during July, and as agreed at a recent EKCF board meeting, EKCF will do likewise during August.
- Annual Accounts had been prepared for LCW and a report issued by the Society's accountant. The board had approved the documents received, and these would be presented to the membership of the Society for their approval at the forthcoming AGM. CT600 returns had been prepared, approved and submitted to HMRC registering a zero corporation tax return.

## 8. SSEN Transmission Network

- It was agreed that SSEN should be challenged with regard community benefits/compensation – either cash payments or cheaper tariffs for residents impacted by the grid work across the region. It was agreed that FLS were best positioned to challenge SSEN on behalf of the local communities, and that this action fell outside the scope of EKREGs' remit.

## 9. Communications & Marketing

### - Marketing

RE had relaunched the rebuilt [www.eastkintyre.org](http://www.eastkintyre.org) website, and windfarm maps of Kintyre had been updated to reflect recent additions.

### - Engagement Strategy

The community petition entitled 'Share the Wind' (PE1885/C) promoting mandatory community shared ownership in Scottish windfarms via land tax reform applicable to developers had been re-tabled as scheduled by the Scottish Governments' Citizen Participation and Public Petition Committee on June 15<sup>th</sup>. The Minister responsible for finance, planning and community wealth accepted searching questions from the assembled MSPs, especially the former Energy Minister Fergus Ewing. The thrust of the conversation seemed to disappointingly center around planning issues rather than the suggested land tax reforms. The Minister was tasked to chase answers to some questions and report back to the committee when it next convenes to retable the motion.

### - Briefings/CC MoUs

There was a brief discussion relating to the potential agenda for a cross-Kintyre Community Council meet likely to be scheduled 3Q22.

## 9. Governance

- The company's existing annual insurance cover had been renewed and the premium paid.

## 10. AOB

- A date was still awaited from Tim Bailey (recently-appointed Project Manager at MACC) to establish a dialogue allied to Tangy IV, Breackerie and High Dalrioch amongst other matters

**DONM:** Tues 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022, 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]