

# EKREG Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2021

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

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

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- **Apologies for Absence**

- None applicable

- **Minutes and actions agreed/outstanding at previous meeting (Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April)**

- No matters outstanding

- **Treasurers' Report**

- Management accounts were approved. No interim transactions to report.

- **Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers**

- There were no updates to report with regard ongoing discussions with ESB and Duncan Farms over their proposed developments at West Torrisdale and Cnoc Breacam, respectively.
- A letter had been agreed, translated and dispatched to the CEO@EnergieKontor addressing the companies' unethical and unorthodox decision not to offer the communities impacted by their proposed developments at Narachan, Arnicle and Kilberry (proposing to use turbines of an unprecedented height in the region - up to 230m tip height), any opportunity for shared ownership - in flagrant breach of Scottish Government guidelines upheld by the majority of developers across Scotland. The companies' communication relating to their withdrawal of the offer of CSO and unacceptable terms for CBF prompted EKREG to brief all the community councils they represent about the communication received from EK. It was unanimously agreed that the viewpoint on CSO and CBF expressed by EK, and similarly a handful of opportunist 'flip' developers, was – and would never be – acceptable to the impacted communities. A response from EK was awaited.

- **CSO**

- **Funding Streams**

No updates to report

- **Local SSEN-T grid network**

Nothing further to report

- **BaT3**

- **SPR/Iberdrola**

With the assistance of a sector-experienced lawyer (via Gillespie MacAndrew) agreement had been reached over the wording applicable to the NDA with EKREG and its associated Ben Comms, plus a modus operandi applicable to named 3<sup>rd</sup> parties that need to be involved from a consultancy and financial perspective, so as to facilitate

the CSO opportunity in BaT3. The clean documentation was awaited and would be signed off and returned on receipt to enable the termsheet to be transmitted.  
[Action: RL/JB]

- **Community Investment Vehicles: Lussa Community Wind Ltd (BaT3)**

Valerie Nimmo had confirmed that she would be appointed as CCCs Director on the Board of Lussa Community Wind Limited. It was agreed that Margaret Pratt should be recontacted to confirm WKCCs appointee [Action: JB].

The paperwork to set-up a bank account at Clydesdale/Virgin bank was underway and a meeting had been scheduled for May 11<sup>th</sup> to further the objective. The fourteen received pioneer share payments required to establish the Ben Comm (each of £25) would be credited as soon as the bank account was open for business [Action: JB].

An inaugural board meeting had been convened at which JB, RL and AB were appointed Directors of Lussa Community Wind Ltd.

The content of an application to meet the marketing costs associated with the launch of the Community Share Offer (video, crowdfunding via Ethex, mailshots and advertising) was agreed following the receipt of quotes from several sources. RE, who had led the bid, agreed to polish-off the application and then submit it to Fern Community Funds for consideration via the Cour Community Fund [Action: RE]

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

Monthly report submissions were up-to-date. No other updates to report

- **CC Charitable Bodies**

An inaugural board meeting had been held at which Russ Baum had been introduced. During the course of the meeting he was elected as a Trustee and also agreed to act as Secretary for the Charity.

- **Clachaig Glen**

AB had chased RWE with regard to re-engaging in discussions over CBF and CSO opportunities. Meeting date to be confirmed [Action: AB]

## 9. **Communications & Marketing**

### - **Marketing**

An interim EKREG meeting had focused on the development of the Kintyre Wind website. This website will carry all information allied to community share offers associated with local wind farm developments and the charitable donations and benefits resulting. It was agreed that the EKREG pages presently housed on the eastkintyre.org website should be switched into the Kintyre Wind website. It was also approved that the website should utilize the .com address with .co.uk and .org.uk feeding-in. Work on the website frame and text was ongoing [Action: RE/JB].

### - **Engagement Strategy**

No updates to report.

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

A well-attended virtual meeting had taken place with all Kintyre CCs and incl SK to bring them up to speed on ongoing discussions with developers and highlight problems/non-compliance issues encountered in dealings with a few 'rogue' developers. Actions were agreed.

AB reported on a meeting he had been invited to participate in the previous day with Jenni Minto, the SNP Candidate for the Scottish Parliament Elections (now elected) who he had briefed on some of the problems EKREG were encountering when trying to negotiate CSO and CBF opportunities on behalf of the impacted Kintyre communities. JM appreciated the briefing and agreed to help take forward the issues if elected.

**10. Governance**

The company's full accounts had been received, signed-off and returned to the accountant for him to file at Companies House. Then accounts were circulated to all members of the board and cover the period 16/9/19 – 15/3/21. They must be filed before mid-June. The invoice for the accountants' services had been received and passed to the Treasurer for payment.

**11. AOB**

It was agreed that policy documents and agreements over the handling of confidential information by EKREG and its affiliates should be signed-off by all Board participants and sent to the company secretary so they could be added to the company's central records.

- No other matters were tabled at the meeting

**12. DONM:** Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021, 09.00 via Zoom