

# EKREG Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2023

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 17<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2023)

- Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

## 3. Treasurers' Report

- The only transactions to report were payment of the annual standing charge for website domain and monthly routine bank charges. An up-to-date bank statement was reviewed and approved at the meeting.

Agreement was reached over the most appropriate means to fund EKREG administrative charges moving forward.

## 4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- No updates to report

## 5. ESB – West Torrisdale (WT)

- No updates to report

## 6. Clachaig Glen (CG)

- The Chair had pushed RWE yet again for a response to the returned NDA, but as yet no response whatsoever had been received. The matter has now been outstanding for RWE's attention for > 6 months, and as such has required an application for an extension of the CARES small grant to assist with legal costs associated in the finalization of the outstanding agreement.

## 7. High Constellation

- It was agreed that the Chair would try to set up a meeting with the developer to discuss CBF arrangements (on behalf of EKCC) and CSO offerings [**Action: AB**].

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

- Lussa Community Wind.

Discussions focused on tidying-up the financial year end. It was agreed that (i) RL would circulate timelines and establish an end-of-April date for a Directors Board Meeting (ii) JB would contact the company's accountant to identify the fees payable for engaging their year-end services on a *pari passu* basis to last year [**Action: RL & JB**]

- East Kintyre Community Fund (EKCF).

Discussions qualified that individuals could apply to be reimbursed through the charity for eligible projects servicing the community and/or its associated charities.

A means to fast-track eligible receipted-applications through the fund for < £1K was discussed.

The second call for applications to the Fund is to be advertised and launched as of Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>.

## 8. Cnoc Buidhe (Belltown Power)

- No updates to report

## 9. Earraghail

- It was agreed that the Chair would contact SPR to attain an update on the status of CBF discussions and seek details of the CSO offer to be made [**Action: AB**].

## 10. Communications & Marketing

### - Marketing

Regular website updates had been instigated

### - Engagement Strategy

The 'Share the Wind' petition (PE1885/C) promoting mandatory community shared ownership in Scottish windfarms via land tax reform was discussed by the Scottish Governments' Citizen Participation and Public Petition Committee at their latest meeting: Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>. The petition again received strong support from the former Energy Minister, Fergus Ewing MSP, amongst other members of the panel. The Chair agreed to reiterate the questions posed by the petitioner, and added to by the committee, to the appropriate Ministers since they had so far failed to address the key questions raised. The petition will be retabled once the Minister(s) approached by the Committee Chair have responded.

### - Communications

It was agreed that the East Kintyre Community Council website (eastkintyre.org) should be split from the Kintyre wind website (kintyrewind.com). Russ Baum had kindly agreed to 'take charge' of the updating/management of the East Kintyre website moving forward. In parallel, Emma Roberts (virtual PA) would be tasked with responsibility for updates/management of the Kintyre Wind website – under direction from JB. RE had agreed to liaise with the tasked individuals with regard hand-over/software training etc.

JB and RL had represented Kintyre Wind at a climate-oriented 'winter gathering' held at SKDT Hall, Cambeltown on 7<sup>th</sup> Feb.

RL and JB had held a positive 'update' meeting with Morven Lyon, Community Shares Scotland

## 11. Governance

- RE had tendered her resignation due to personal circumstances. Sincere thanks for her service were delivered by all members of the Board.

## 12. AOB

No other items were tabled

**DONM:** Tues 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2023, 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]