

# EKREG

## Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July, 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 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2023)

- Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

### 3. Treasurers' Report

- The annual accountants fee had been paid along with standard monthly bank charges. An up-to-date bank statement was reviewed and approved at the meeting.

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

- SPR's application (2019) for planning permission to create a 50MW windfarm at Sheirdrim (behind Clachan and traversing the spine between East and West Kintyre) has been refused by the Scottish Government following a protracted public inquiry at which WKCC, EKCC and, particularly, Historic Environment Scotlands' objections were influential.
- A proposal (see: [Scottish Government - Energy Consents Unit - Application Details](#)) has been lodged by E Power Ltd to construct a windfarm approximately 1.2k north east of Tayinloan. The application proposes to use what are, in effect, repurposed offshore turbines - 19 turbines with tip heights of 220m plus ancillary battery storage and associated infrastructure.

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

- Lussa Community Wind.

This year's AGM is scheduled for August 2<sup>nd</sup>@18.00 and membership and anchor charity representatives have been informed. An agenda and instructions will be circulated in advance.

The clarification requested by SPR with regard a few specific donations made by the Anchor Charities from their 2022-23 budgets, had been dispatched to SPR.

After chasing, notification of the 2023-24 CBF payment had been received. This showed that a BACS payment of £252,163.67 was imminent. It was agreed that a virtual meeting of the Directors should be convened on 11<sup>th</sup> July to discuss arrangements for the donations to the charities as soon as the funds were received by Lussa.

- East Kintyre Community Fund (EKCF).

The next call for applications will open on July 28<sup>th</sup> and close 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2023. Applications are invited from projects meeting the funding criteria, See <https://www.eastkintyre.org/east-kintyre-community-fund/> for further information.

## 6. ESB – West Torrisdale (WT)

- No updates to report

## 7. Clachaig Glen (CG)

- The company's legal team had received a response from Gavin Williams@RWE suggesting some rewording for the yet-to-be-signed-off NDA. It was agreed that RWE's response was a workable compromise, with some caveats, and the company's legal team had been requested to ask RWE's legal team to flesh-out the document along the lines agreed. Sight of a reworded document was expected prior to the next EKREG meeting.
- RL was liaising with Local Energy Scotland over an increase in the CARES grant to cover legal costs given the invoices already received from the company's legal team.

## 8. High Constellation

- It was agreed that the Chair should recontact BayWa with regard the establishment of a meeting to progress CBF discussions [**Action: AB**].

## 9. Cnoc Buidhe (Belltown Power)

- No updates to report

## 10. Earraghail

- No updates to report; The chair had prompted SPR over arrangements with regard (i) a follow-up meeting to discuss CBF arrangements with impacted CCs and/or their representatives. (ii) a separate meeting with EKREG to discuss the CSO offer to be tabled.

## 11. Communications & Marketing

### - Marketing

Emma Roberts was underway with the updating of the Kintyre Wind website. News items, windfarm map and inventory, plus donations made by the charities had already been added and several presentational aspects embedded in the framework were being updated.

### - Engagement Strategy

There were no updates to report with regard the 'Share the Wind' petition (PE1885/C) promoting mandatory community shared ownership in Scottish windfarms via land tax reform – currently being discussed by the Scottish Governments' Citizen Participation and Public Petition Committee. The petitioner awaits a response from the new Energy Minister, Gillian Martin, who – having seemingly accepted that this matter is worthy of further exploration – seeks to discuss the proposals. The petition will be retabled once actions outstanding have been addressed.

- **Communications**  
No updates to report

## 12. Governance

- Confirmation had been received from the company's accountant that the company's 2022-23 accounts and tax returns had been filed with HMRC and Companies House. The accountant prefers to file the confirmation statement nearer the due date (15<sup>th</sup> Sept) and so will handle this downstream.

## 13. AOB

It was agreed that JB should destroy the company debit card received (and held in) in Rhona Elder's name, and that the Treasurer would cancel any credit card reissues with the bank [**Action: AB**].

It was agreed that the Chair should approach the EK & WK Windfarm Trusts for £3k contributions to meet EKREG administrative costs projected for the next 3 years.

No other items were tabled for discussion

**DONM:** Tues 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]