

EKREG

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 23rd Jan, 2024

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

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- None

2. Minutes and actions outstanding at previous meeting (Tues 9th Jan, 2023)

- Minutes of the previous meeting were approved

3. Treasurers' Report

- There was one transaction to report aka routine annual website costs plus routine monthly bank charges. An up-to-date bank statement was reviewed and approved at the meeting.

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- No updates to report

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

- Lussa Community Wind.
A board meeting had been convened and Board approval received for the proposed extension of LCW to develop an 'umbrella' that can service all locally-impacted communities invited by developers to participate in offers of CBF and/or CSO plus the incorporation of the first, of what might become several, special purpose vehicle(s)
- East Kintyre Community Fund (EKCF).
The next call for applications will open 26th January, 2024. Applications are invited from projects meeting the funding criteria, See <https://www.eastkintyre.org/east-kintyre-community-fund/> for further information. The call for applications will be advertised in the local press. AB agreed to promote the funding round on Carradale chat (**Action: AB**).

6. ESB – West Torrisdale (WT)

- An update had been received from the ESB project team and a meeting scheduled.

7. Clachaig Glen (CG)

- A meeting had taken place with the RWE Project team, and several actions agreed.
- Positive early-stage discussions had continued with several potential lenders and NDAs signed-off with several.
- Responses had been received from legal and financial advisors in relation to the approaches made to service quotes for works discussed with LES, which are required to manage CARES grant applications pending. Further dialogue was required with

the EKREG legal team [**Action: JB**] and with LES regarding financial advice [**Action: RL**].

8. High Constellation

- Still no response received from Bay Wa aka the Chairs' enquiry with regard their plans for CBFs, following-up previous discussions where the community's preferences to utilize the structures already established within Kintyre Wind to disseminate funds incoming were clearly iterated. It was agreed that the Chair would chase for an update [**Action: AB**].

9. Cnoc Buidhe (Belltown Power)

- The first draft of an NDA remains overdue review by the developer

10. Earraghail (SPR)

- Discussions were ongoing between the CCs to be potentially invited to participate in CBF discussions.

11. Communications & Marketing

- Marketing

Regular updates to the Kintyre Wind website had been completed.

- Engagement Strategy

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 – was last tabled by the committee Wed Oct 25th. On this occasion there was agreement that the pursuit of this petition was worthwhile and in the best interests of the rural communities impacted by many windfarms. The committee agreed to chase SNIB, LES and the Environment Minister for their support/input. The Energy Minister's response had already been received but it was inadequate and the petitioner had responded accordingly to the committee. The latest hearing of the petition can be viewed (and is minuted) at: [Citizen Participation and Public Petitions Committee 15th Meeting, 2023 | Scottish Parliament Website.](#)

- Communications

A meeting with nominated representatives of the six communities invited to participate in the Clachaig Glen CSO had been arranged with a view to updating them on progress made by EKREG and the planned expansion of LCW. RL had taken the lead in drafting a presentation.

Following a positive meeting with nominated representatives of (reconstituted) South Knapdale Community Council to introduce EKREG/Kintyre Wind, EKREG had submitted the invited MoU to represent SKCC interests in all CBF and CSO negotiations with developers.

Gillian Martin (The Energy Minister) had responded and whilst declining a face-to-face meeting had suggested EKREG should contact the civil servants associated with land tax regulation. It was agreed that JB should make contact with those suggested with a view to organizing a virtual meeting to discuss, and that he would also update Jenni Minto MSP (as requested) [**Action: JB**].

12. Governance

- No updates to report

13. AOB

Post-meeting discussions focused on the opportunities available to drawdown the capital to fund Clachaig Glen CSO, and the formulation of a due diligence folder on dropbox that would also service successional processes (as and when required).

DONM: Tues 6th Feb, 2024. 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]