

EKREG Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday 20th May, 2020

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

Venue: Remote working: video conference via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- None applicable

2. Minutes and actions agreed/outstanding at previous meeting (Monday, 5th May)

- No actions remain outstanding

3. Treasurers' Report

- Expenditure against account was reported and the current balance approved following fee payment to FCA aka 'Model Rules'

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- Nothing to report

5. CSO

- Model Rules - FCA Update

The required £950 fee had been paid to the FCA for their processing of 'Rob's Rules' to underpin aspirations for multi-community BenComm's. It is possible that following sight of 'Rob's Rules' DTAS/CSS and their legal representatives may generate a 'generic set of rules' for possible sponsorship by DTAS/CSS.

- Funding Streams

No updates to report

- FLS/MCS Update

EKREG had been informed that blocks of FLS land in the Deucheran Hill (DH) and Grogport region of Carradale Forest were to be offered to prospective windfarm developers as part of an Energy offering. EKREG had been informed because of expression of interest lodged on behalf of the community in a 3 km² (300H) strip of this land adjacent to DH. EKREG intervention results not only in valuable intel, but an opportunity to explore the long-term lease/ownership of the forested land that the community has expressed an interest in. Options to be discussed with EKCC and WKCC

[Action: RL/JB]

6. BaT3

- LES/CARES Grant/Tender documentation

Feedback on tender documents had eventually been received from LES, resulting in the reconstruction of the documentation and dispatch of invitations to 9 approved contractors to service both legal and financial advice tenders.

- CC Charitable Bodies

No updates to report

- **C-19 concerns**

Understandable concerns over the recommencement of work on several local windfarm associated projects (incl. BaT3) continue to be expressed by East and West CCs and it is understood that regular meetings to gauge progress and feed-back local anxieties are being held between developers and A&BC.

7. Clachaig Glen (RWE/Abundance)

- AB had made contact with Abundance/RWE to explore C-19 impacts on timelines, but no response yet received. Project appeared to be 'on hold' pending FLS decisions over the sale of land between CG and DH.

8. Tangy IV

- AB had made contact with SSE to explore C-19 impacts on timelines, but no response yet received.

9. NDA Update

- The dialogue was reported to be ongoing and remaining positive

10. Communications & Marketing

- **Marketing**

No updates to report

- **Engagement Strategy**

Receipt of correspondence indicated that a meeting to brief A&BC councillors on EKREG is awaited from A&B C.

- **Briefings/CC MoUs**

Responses from S. Knapdale CC and Gigha CC were 'on hold' pending the release of 'lockdown'. No further correspondence with T&SDT.

- **Website**

The first of the discussed project-specific additions to the website that will be used to report high level step-by-step progress toward the objective of community shared ownership in BaT3 had been approved and launched

12. AOB

- It was agreed that the company should instigate the discussed insurance cover through the approved provider on or before 1st June so as to match the likely time-scale for LES/CARES-related financial and legal tenders [**Action: JB**]
- Clarification of position on promised 'outstanding' funding for Cour CBF payments was still awaited from Octopus Investments
- A&BC recommendation to SG over the planned development at Sheirdrim were ongoing

No other matters were tabled at this meeting

14. DONM

Wednesday June 3rd, 10.00 via Zoom [JB to host]