

EKREG Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 6th Sept., 2022

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

Venue: Remote working: conference via Zoom

1. Apologies for Absence

- None

2. Minutes and actions outstanding at previous meeting (Tues 23rd August)

- No matters outstanding. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. Treasurers' Report

- There were no transactions to report other than routine bank charges. An up-to-date bank statement was reviewed and approved at the meeting.

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- No matters to report

5. ESB – West Torrisdale (WT)

- A response to the prompt serviced by RL was still awaited.

6. Clachaig Glen (CG)

- Ward Hadaway (a major Newcastle-based legal firm, well known to JB) had been engaged to service as EKREG's legal advisor for this project – with costs to be met from the awarded LES/CARES 'staged and gated' grant. The received NDA had been discussed with Alex Shiel, a Senior Partner at WH, and he had provided a slightly amended version which had been returned by the Chairman to RWE for their comment/sign-off.
- RL reported on a positive and informative first-meeting with a potential Senior lender with regard the financing of the project. The dialogue will be advanced once the NDA is signed-off enabling the exchange of the required information to populate the lenders' financial models

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

- Lussa Community Wind. There was a brief discussion about the problems that the company's experienced insurance agent was having in obtaining a suitable policy to cover the Directors of LCW. JB agreed to revisit the requirement with the insurance agent.
- East Kintyre Community Fund (EKCF). The first call for applications for funding will close on September 9th. Application information: www.kintyrewind.com/east-kintyre-community-fund or contact the fund secretary at info.ekcf@gmail.com

8. Cnoc Buidhe (Belltown Power)

- No updates to report.

9. Communications & Marketing

- Marketing

The Chair had been interviewed by James Shaw, a BBC Scotland correspondent, with regard to concerns over the industrial scale of windfarm development in Kintyre. A heavily edited version of the interview was broadcast as part of a Radio programme that aired on Saturday 10th Sept. A rather less edited and more informative version of the article is available at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-62766251>

EK Windfarm Trust had agreed to cover the annual costs of website licence/software renewals, and a first draft of an intended second-round application to EKCF on behalf of the community for display materials (to support events such as Open Days etc) had been actioned by RE.

- Engagement Strategy

A response was awaited from the Minister following the upload of additional information addressing the Ministers responses to the petition currently being debated by the Scottish Governments' Citizen Participation and Public Petition Committee. The latest hearing at which the petition entitled 'Share the Wind' (PE1885/C) promoting mandatory community shared ownership in Scottish windfarms via land tax reform applicable to developers can be viewed at: https://www.scottishparliament.tv/meeting/citizen-participation-and-public-petitions-committee-june-29-2022?clip_start=10:05:10&clip_end=10:12:09. A date for the next hearing is awaited

- Communications

The Chair agreed to contact all the CCs with whom EKREG have an MoU to establish a date for a briefing/update mid4Q22 prospectively in Campbeltown Town Hall. It was agreed that appropriate councilors should also be invited to participate. JB agreed to provide a 'presentation skeleton' for agreement prior to population of a ppt presentation [Action: AB/JB].

10. Governance

- No matters outstanding.

11. AOB

- The Chairman highlighted ongoing concerns about the noise from wind turbines at Blary Hill. So sincere are the concerns that two of the turbines remain inoperative while the scale of the problem is determined. Things could well be exacerbated if EK's development at nearby Arnicle is given the go ahead. The potential issues associated with noise pollution were discussed and concerns over a similar problem allied to ESBs development at West Torrisdale were highlighted.

DONM: Tues 20th September, 2022, 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]