

EKREG Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 6th Feb, 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 23rd Jan, 2023)

- Minutes of the previous meeting were approved

3. Treasurers' Report

- The only transaction to report was 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.
Following approval by the Board, RL had modified the Society's model rules to accommodate the proposed extension of LCW that can service all locally-impacted communities invited by developers to participate in offers of CBF and/or CSO. JB was tasked with tabling a vote to the membership and anchor charity representatives with regards the plan approved by the board [**Action: JB/RL**]

JB/RL were discussing the establishment of Fhroaich Ltd. with EKREG's legal team.

Arrangements were discussed for the dissemination of the balance of funds remaining at the 2022 year-end to the three anchor charities [**Action: AB/JB**]

- East Kintyre Community Fund (EKCF).

Due to personal circumstances the Chair (Margaret Richardson) had stepped down, and the trustees were now searching for a new Chair.

The next call for applications (opened 26th January) was advertised in the local press and via social media. 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)

- A virtual meeting had been scheduled.

7. Clachaig Glen (CG)

- Several actions agreed at a meeting with the RWE Project team remain outstanding, and are now overdue.

- Remaining NDA's had been signed off with potential lenders already identified.
- 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 meetings/dialogue were required with both the EKREG legal team [**Action: JB**] and QMPF/LES regarding financial advice [**Action: RL**].

8. High Constellation

- The Chair had chased but there was still no response 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.

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 positive meeting with nominated representatives of the six communities invited to participate in the Clachaig Glen CSO had taken place as scheduled and a presentation tabled to update them on progress made by EKREG with regard CSO/CBFs due to the nominated communities from this development (if consented) and the planned expansion of LCW.

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

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. JB had written to make contact with those suggested with a view

to organizing a virtual meeting to discuss, and had updated Jenni Minto MSP (via her Office Manager). Responses are awaited from both offices.

12. Governance

- No updates to report

13. AOB

The following matters were briefly discussed:

The formulation of a due diligence folder on dropbox that would also service successional processes (as and when required).

Meeting with Ian Mitchell

Receipt of advanced notice from RWE of their intent to create a significant windfarm in/on Carradale Forest that will ultimately consume the original Deucheran Hill windfarm. The new development is to be labelled Deucheran Hill 2. Public consultation events to be organized by RWE's project team later in the year, and planning permission sought in the interim for mast(s) to gather micro-meteorological data will be submitted to A&BC.

DONM: Tues 20th Feb, 2024. 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]