

EKREG

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 7th September, 2021

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 agreed/outstanding at previous meeting (Tuesday 24th August)

- No matters outstanding

3. Treasurers' Report

- No transactions to report. Management accounts were approved.

4. Correspondence with wind farm operators/developers

- Notification of a planning application to progress the Rowan windfarm development had been received.
- RL/AB had met with senior UK officers representing Energiekontor (EK) to discuss community benefits and community shared ownership in EK's proposed developments at Narachan and Rowan (Kilberry). It had been agreed that EK will pay £5k/MW in community benefits at both locations, and discussions with regard shared ownership were advancing slowly.
- It was agreed that AB should establish contact with EDF over their proposed development at Airigh (Nr. Kilberry) [**Action: AB**].
- There were no updates to report in connection with early-stage CSO correspondence allied to the ongoing dialogue with Muirden, ESB and SSEN over multiple developments.

5. BaT3

- **SPR/Iberdrola**
Meetings were ongoing to evolve the dialogue with SPR over CSO, and to reflect the outcome of these discussions in the hearing scheduled to consider SPRs proposed development at Sheirdrim [**Action: RL/JB**].
- **Community Investment Vehicle: Lussa Community Wind Ltd**
No updates to report.
- **LES/CARES Grant/Tender documentation**
Dialogue with LES was ongoing with regard the CSO negotiations with SPR.

6. CC Charitable Bodies

MOWI had generously donated £20K in community benefit and this would be disseminated to eligible projects via EKCF.

7. Communications & Marketing

- Marketing

EKCF pages had been evolved and added to the eastkintyre.org website to facilitate the dissemination of funds received.

- Engagement Strategy

It was noted that a multi-community-led petition entitled 'Share the Wind' promoting community shared ownership in local windfarms had received significant support. The petition was now closed and a date awaited for the resulting Scottish Government hearing.

- Briefings/CC MoUs

The EKREG briefing document allied to CSO and the problems experienced therewith had been updated and recirculated to previous recipient MSPs to prompt them to action (incl Jenni Minto and Donald Cameron) plus Green Party MSPs (incl Arianne Burgess, Lorna Slater and Mark Ruskell) - with a view to gaining cross-party support to make the offer of >10% CSO a mandatory requirement of all future windfarm developments.

9. Governance

No updates to report

10. AOB

Research had revealed that Community Shared Ownership had already been made a mandatory requirement associated with windfarm developments in some Scandinavian countries. In Denmark, for example, developers are legally required to offer impacted communities 20% ownership in new windfarm developments.

No other matters were tabled at the meeting

DONM: Tuesday 21st September 2021, 09.00 [virtual meeting: Zoom]