

East Kintyre Windfarm Trust

Minutes of Meeting 7 November 2019

Carradale Village Hall

In Attendance: Ian Brodie (IB- Chair), Alasdair Bennett (AB - Secretary/Treasurer), Eleanor Sloan (ES), Robert Strang (RS), Jennifer Conley (JC) Kenneth Semple (KS), Rebecca Paterson (RP), Ronnie Brownie (RB), Trish Collins(TC) and Elaine Batchelor (EB).

Welcome; IB welcomed everyone to the meeting

Apologies: Thomas McPherson

Minutes of Last Meeting: Minutes of the meeting of 9 June 2019, which had been previously circulated, were accepted as an accurate record. Proposed by IB and seconded by RB

Declarations of Interest: Declarations of interest were as follows: AB for the EKREG application, AB, IB, TC and JC for the Open Day, JC for the Mothers and Toddlers, Carradale Scouts and Carradale Primary School Applications, AB and TC for the shop valuation, IB and RS for First Responders, RS for both Kintyre Way Applications. All community councillors would not vote on the Well Park application as it is owned by EKCC.

Financial Update: AB provided an update on the finances of the EKWFT and advised that sufficient funds were available in the current account for this tranche of grants.

Scottish Power Renewables (SPR): AB reminded the meeting of correspondence Argyll & Bute Council received from SPR earlier this year following a review of community benefit funding. SPR Compliance Department propose conducting random audits of individual trusts to check on grant spending against outcomes. To do this they will need to speak to individual applicants to check completion reports and receipts. Since EKWFT receives about 80% of its community benefit funds from SPR in relation to Beinn an Tuirc I & II, it is very much in our interest to work with SPR and ensure all our processes and those of applicants can withstand scrutiny. In particular, grant funding will only be paid on production of appropriate receipts, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Scottish Government Good Practice: AB informed the meeting of the Scottish Government's good practice document for community benefits from renewable energy developments published in June this year. The document sets out the principles both developers and communities should operate within to ensure communities benefit from new wind farms and other renewables. The document also highlights the importance of community action plans in aligning benefits to community priorities.

Applications: 16 applications were received although one (Kintyre Way maintenance) was withdrawn before the meeting. Grants were agreed as per the attached schedule.

Cour WindFarm Community Benefit Fund: AB updated the meeting on this fund which has been in place since April 2019. It was disappointing to note that over 2 tranches where £100,000 was available to the 3 communities eligible to apply, only one application had come from East Kintyre. AB suggested that East Kintyre was missing out on these funds and that applications from community groups etc should be encouraged. AB suggested that all grant letters, whether successful or unsuccessful, should advise applicants that future applications may not be considered as favourably if no effort has been made to apply to the Cour Community Benefit Fund. The meeting agreed to this course of action. AB advised the meeting that the Cour Fund should open again in the New Year and that groups can find the application form on the Fern Community Funds website - <https://fern-communityfunds.com/>

AOCB: There was no further business to discuss and IB closed the meeting at 8.25 pm.