

# **Energy Isles Shetland Wind Farm**

# Community Liaison Group (CLG) Meeting 03 November 2020

# 6.00pm, Teams call

### **Minutes**

#### 1. Present & Apologies

DW opened the meeting at 6.00pm and welcomed all those in attendance, noting apologies and ran through the agenda for the meeting.

#### Present:

Doug Wilson (DW) - Smithy House Associates Charlotte Healey (CH) - Statkraft Lisa Ward (LW) - Energy Isles Limited Derek Jamieson (DJ) - Energy Isles Limited Laurence Odie (LO) - Yell Community Council

#### **Apologies:**

Gordon Thomson (GT) – Unst Community Council

Patrick Fordyce (PF) – Unst Community Council – due to network issues

Murray Cooper (MC) – Fetlar Community Council

Annette Jamieson (AJ) - Yell Community Council – due to network issues

## 2. Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were approved by the group and have been circulated to key stakeholders

DW summarised the actions from the last minutes.

**Action: How will members of the fund committee would be chosen?** DW, the fund committee would be decided by the CLG, 2 from each Community Council and up to four additional resident or stakeholders who have an interest in the community.

Action: Check with Mark Brennan that the £25K is still available from CARES? Mark was going to get back in touch with the group. As far as we are aware the monies are still available to explore establishing the group to look at the Shared Ownership option.

Action: Concerns over the investment commitment and is there flexibility over the timings of this? DW, the Shared Ownership MoU states in section 3.6 The final Proposed Contract setting out the details of the shared revenue investment opportunity shall be presented to the Community

Investment Vehicle during construction and just prior to the commissioning of the Project, so there is flexibility over the timing of a final decision.

**Action: Statkraft to attend the CARES call when its arranged.** CH, Statkraft are happy to attend a call with CARES when its arranged.

## 3. Planning Update

CH, our SEI was submitted in September with the consultation period ended on 12 October. Some consultees have requested an extension, but we have everything back from the statutory consultees. It was noted that there was a requirement to wait for Scottish Water before process can be completed. There is no objection from NATS and the MOD have removed their objection (subject to conditions being met) and Historic Scotland would not be objecting.

Current objections were from Nature Scot (SNH) because of the impact on the national scenic area. We are providing them with further information on the collision risk modelling. It was noted that more work is required with Nature Scot and around the response on peat. SEPA have objected based on the climate change 2019 act. We are working with them to understand their objection given that the scheme pays back all the carbon within 2 years, so it will be net zero from year 3 to 30. Non statutory organisations that objected included RSPB, John Muir Trust and the Shetland Bird Club. Nothing back from Shetland Amenity Trust.

LW updated on the public consultee responses,

The total is 197 including the letters received during the original consultation process when we submitted the planning application in 2019. There have been 85 letters of support, 56 letters of objection in response to the SEI. Support from the North Isles was 36 in support and 18 objections. There were 36 responses in support from the rest of Shetland and 35 objections and the rest, 16, were from outside Shetland or not disclosed. We are expecting more letters to be submitted over the coming weeks and will update further at the next meeting.

CH updated the group on the expected timings. The SIC Planning Committee meeting where the application will be considered has been pushed back from December to allow time to consider responses and the committee is now expected in March. The SIC would then make a recommendation and this would be sent to the ECU for final determination.

#### 4. Call with SCBF

DW and CH will be meeting with SCBF members, Colin Clark and, Chris Bunyan on 4 November.

DW talked through the email response from Unst Community Council. Unst CC felt that each Community Council out with the North Isles (there are 15) could be allocated a percentage of the funds with the rest remaining in the North Isles. The other suggestion that was proposed was that all the money be put into the Viking Shetland Community Benefit Fund, saving on paperwork and administration. Unst CC mentioned that if the North Isles are to receive funds from the Viking Fund as CC's, then the same thing should be done in return. Unst CC is happy to have further discussions on the monies through the CLG and with SCBF.

LO updated the CLG on the view of Yell CC on how the funds should be distributed. Yell CC felt that the fund should be controlled and administered in the North Isles. This was something that the people of Yell felt very strongly about. CH, we feel that it is very much a decision for the local community

Yell also felt that they should have a stronger representation on the committee than Fetlar.

### 5. Signing of the Community Benefit Fund MoU

The group agreed that the MOU should be discussed when more people were available. DW, currently the MOU is in a good place and there was now a requirement for the group to decide how this should move forward and how it would be signed.

LO highlighted the difficulty within Yell Community Council and the lack of members allowed to vote due to vested interests with only three people allowed to speak on the fund. Yell CC have taken advice from SIC Community Engagement Officer on the matter. DW suggested that perhaps it would be good to discuss the issue with Foundation Scotland to see if they had encountered this type of issue before. This was agreed.

**ACTION: DW to seek advice from FS** 

6. AOB

None

# 7. Future Meeting Dates

The next meeting date would be in early December to update the group on progress. CH would be happy to do one to one call with any of the CLG if they had missed the meeting tonight. LW pointed out the previous call in August had been held on Zoom and it was agreed that due to the technical difficulties tonight on Teams the next call would revert to a Zoom call.

Meeting closed at 6.45.