



**Energy Isles Wind Farm
Community Liaison Group (CLG) Meeting 23rd April 2018
Cullivoe Hall, Yell**

Minutes

Present:

Jeanette Thomson (JT) – Element Power
Angus Ward (AW) – Energy Isles
Derek Jamieson (DJ) – Energy Isles

Lawrence Odie (LO) – Yell Community Council
Lynsay Cunningham (LC) - Yell Community Council
Robert Jamieson (RJ) - Yell Community Council
Graham Hughson (GH) - Yell Community Council
James Nicholson (JN) - Yell Community Council
Gordon Thomson (GT) – Unst Community Council
Cllr Alec Priest (AP) – Northern Isles

Apologies:

Fetlar Community Council

Welcome & Introduction

JT opened the meeting at 7pm and welcomed all those in attendance, noting apologies.

Role of the Liaison Group & Terms of Reference:

As a part of the community consultation process Energy Isles invited local representatives to this meeting to establish a Community Liaison Group (CLG) to provide a channel of communication between representatives of the company, Energy Isles and the local communities.

The meeting agreed to meet on a regularly basis throughout the pre-application phase of the project.

Membership of the Liaison Group

LO had consulted SIC regarding membership of the group and it was agreed that individual members should not have a pecuniary interest in the project.

The draft Terms of Reference distributed with the agenda were agreed with one amendment and are attached to these minutes.

It was agreed to hold meetings on a Tuesday evening to avoid clashing with community council meetings.

Exhibition Update

To advertise the upcoming exhibitions Energy Isles will be posting newsletters to the 945 households on Yell, Unst and Fetlar. The group felt that this would adequately notify interested parties in the absence of a business address database.

An advertisement will also be placed in the Shetland Times.

Exhibition Dates

26 th June	Sellafirth Exhibition, Yell
26 th June	Uyeasound Exhibition, Unst
27 th June	Fetlar Exhibition, Fetlar
27 th June	Cullivoe Exhibition, Yell

Planning Timetable showing milestones and possible dates for completion

Key Milestones	Dates
Scoping Received	20 April 2018
Exhibitions	June 2018
Surveys and Studies	May- October 2018
2 nd CLG Suppliers Day	July 2018
Exhibitions 2 nd round	October 2018
Submission of EIA	January 2019
Consultation period	March 2019
Shetland Council Decision	October 2019
Energy Consents	September 2020
CFD Allocation	March 2021
Viking link completion	2024
COD	2024/2025

Project Update

Scoping Responses: Energy Isles received the official scoping response from the Energy Consents Unit on 20th April and are currently reviewing this.

Birds and Ecology:

Surveys To date:

- A full breeding season of bird surveys was undertaken in 2016, including vantage point and walkover surveys, following agreement of survey methodology with SNH;

- A phase 1 habitat survey and A National Vegetation Classification (NVC) survey undertaken by Botanaeco in June/July 2016.

Upcoming Surveys

A full wintering season of bird surveys has been ongoing from September 2017 until March 2018. A second full breeding season is now being undertaken between April and August 2018, including vantage point and walkover surveys and focussed vantage point lochan surveys for breeding red-throated diver, following agreement of survey methodology with SNH.

Landscape and Visual

The wind farm design that was originally submitted for scoping was a 63-turbine layout which has subsequently been reduced to 50 turbines. The design will continue to evolve as the results of further survey work is received and community consultation takes place.

Energy Isles has hired a landscape consultant and we are currently agreeing viewpoints (VPs) for assessment with SNH. Any layout will be guided by the assessment of these effects. Studies are to start this month once VPs agreed. A full assessment will be included in the EIA along with photomontages.

The CLG was asked if there were VPs they would like to see included. LO said views from dwelling areas on Yell would be important, in particular Gloup. GT stated that the distance between the site and Unst was such that Unst would be happy with agreed VPs.

LC, and AP asked it would be possible to design the wind farm tracks and hard standing in a way that would make the site more accessible to local people.

LO commented that a 3D model at the exhibitions would be most informative. JT explained that at this time it was proposed to bring the 3D model to the second round of exhibitions when the design was more advanced.

Aviation

Energy Isles is in consultation with Scatsa and Saxa Vord about undertaking further work if required to understand any effects of the wind farm on the airports.

Peat and Hydrology

The initial peat grid survey is starting in May/June with the scope of works to be agreed in consultation with Shetland Council and SEPA. We are commissioning a peat expert to make sure we undertake the most comprehensive surveys and methods of managing and conserving peat on site, in consultation with the Shetland amenity trust. We are also in consultation with SEPA and the council over drainage and water supply. An engineering/drainage specialist will be commissioned to make sure all amenities are protected.

Archaeology

A geophysical survey to be undertaken and consideration on the impact on setting of scheduled monuments such as Burgi Geos. A method statement will be required, including permanent fencing, watching brief and interpretive strategy.

Community and Economic Benefits

JT confirmed that Energy Isles will follow national guidance for the community benefits package which is the equivalent of £5,000 per installed MW per year, indexed linked for the operational lifetime of the development. It is anticipated that the installed capacity of the Energy Isles wind farm will be more than 100MW.

Energy Isles is committed to ensuring that local businesses benefit as much as possible from the Energy Isles development and will adopt Element Power's Local Procurement Policy (attached to these minutes) to support a strong local supply chain, and maximise the positive local impact of this development.

JT confirmed that Energy Isles would hold a suppliers' day later in the year to introduce local businesses to the project. The meeting suggested holding 2 events; one in Lerwick and one on Yell.

LC asked if it would be possible for the wind farm to sponsor an apprenticeship scheme.

Work Programme

JT explained that over the coming months particular issues may be raised within the group and it may be appropriate to invite a specialist to come and meet with the CLG i.e. peat specialist.

Future Meeting Dates

The Group requested a CLG before the first round of exhibitions, therefore the provisional date of next meeting:

13th June 2018

AOB

It was agreed that, in the autumn, there would be merit in inviting all three community council's members to a joint presentation of the project.

Meeting closed at 7.55pm

Energy Isles Community Liaison Group Terms of Reference – agreed 23.04.2018

1. The group will be known as the Energy Isles Wind Farm Community Liaison Group (CLG)
2. The CLG will have the following appointed community members:
 - *Yell Community Council Area – 3 representatives appointed by the Community Council*
 - *Unst Community Council Area – 2 representatives appointed by the Community Council*
 - *Fetlar Community Council Area – 1 representative appointed by the Community Council*
3. The aim of the CLG is to provide a forum for discussion and the exchange of information and to improve and maintain channels of communication between representatives of Energy Isles, and the local community.
4. The CLG will:
 - Receive progress updates about proposals for the site;
 - Seek clarification from the developer on issues arising from the surrounding communities;
 - Establish workshop discussions on key specific elements of the potential proposals, development and operation of the site.
5. Energy Isles is responsible for the administration costs of the meetings.
6. Detailed minutes shall be kept as a record of the meeting and these will be agreed and distributed by email, subject to any agreed amendment proposed by any member of the group.
7. Copies of all CLG meeting notices and minutes will be sent to the local Member of Parliament, MSPs, Shetland Island Councillors and the SIC Planning Department for information purposes.
8. The agreed minutes will be published on the Project Website and issued through the Community Councils.
9. Where possible any questions from members of the public or interest groups should be sent in advance to the Chairman or should be directed through an existing CLG member.
10. Attendance at these meetings does not imply support or otherwise for the Energy Isles Wind Farm proposal.

Element Power Local Procurement Policy

Onshore Wind Scotland

Element Power is an established global renewable energy developer that develops, acquires, builds, owns and operates a portfolio of onshore wind and solar power generation facilities worldwide. We offer the full range of services from origination to asset operation and maintenance.

Element Power is committed to ensuring that local businesses benefit as much as possible from our developments and are committed to the following actions to support a strong local supply chain, maximising the positive local impact of our developments.

Element Power Ltd will:

1. Host supply chain days for developments, promoting general opportunities and establishing contact with local business;
2. Maintain an up to date Register of local businesses for each development and make this available in a pack provided to companies bidding to be main contractor;
3. For each consented development, facilitate meetings between local business and Element Power's construction team, helping local businesses understand opportunities and general contracting requirements;
4. Make engagement of local businesses on the Register a material consideration in selection of the main contractor;
5. Require main contractors to report on local economic impact to enable monitoring and reporting on performance, with general lessons learnt and best practice communicated to local authorities and economic development agencies to help them plan support programmes;
6. Require tenderers to state their actions on apprenticeships and local employment and make this a material consideration of the contracting process;
7. Welcome tenders from local consortia to deliver major contracts.;
8. Work in partnership with local chambers of commerce, business networks and local authorities to share best practice and ensure work to promote local supply chains is effective.

Typical Balance of Plant work for contractors

- Access: Including new and improved tracks, road improvements, traffic control measures, geo-textiles, road edge markers and plant.
- Crane hardstands: Geo-textiles, geotechnical testing, plant, aggregate and construction materials.
- Site Compound: Service requirements include construction, cleaning, services, water, wireless communications, waste management, removal and security.
- Substation: Building materials, block layers, groundworkers, painters, joiners, lighting, fire protection systems, door manufacturers, palisade fencing, etc.
- Electrical Installation: Cabling and electrical equipment.
- Operation and maintenance. Statutory inspections, alarms, signage, waste management, high voltage maintenance and environmental contractors for habitat monitoring.
- Accommodation and catering for construction phase and operational phase workers.

