



## **Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7.00pm, via MS Teams**

### **1. Present**

Jillian Bundy (Chair), Patricia Groves (Secretary), David Craig, Donald Omand, Heather Thompson, Fiona Milligan (Infinergy), Kari Clouston (Infinergy), Karl Rosie (Highland Council), opened the meeting but left to attend another meeting.

### **Apologies**

George MacDougall

Fiona Milligan (Infinergy) updated the Committee on the present working practices at the new access road.

The extension enquiry will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.

The previous project manager, Ken Hardie, has retired and Kari Clouston has taken over the post with Nick Sage dealing with the proposed extension.

Kari's role is to reassess the project, enhance the project, section 36C application and to address the recent changes to the original plan.

Kari gave his reasons to the changes of the original wind farm:

The impact of keeping the Core Path is costly, Ofgem have increased the grid connection charges, enhanced economic viability to have all the turbines the

the same size and of greater height and manufacturers no longer produce different sizes.

Timeline for the project:

Scoping March 2021, Surveys April 2021, Section 36C application May/June 2021, Grid connection October 2023

Slides shown of original proposal and second proposal showing relocation of access track, 1 borrow pit, core path altered, construction compound moved and

extension of the wind farm life from 25 years to 40 years.

Questions raised as to whether the project was viable, less turbines but a greater height, sensitive sighting of turbines, photo montage sightings the same as

before, environmental impact, what type of turbines are proposed. This is more than just “tweaking” the former proposal, there are so many changes that this

should become a new planning application. Greed appears to be driving these new changes.

There will only be an online public consultation and a newsletter will be issued to householders in Reay. The feedback goes to Infinergy and is not an objection to the wind farm.

Kari and Fiona left the meeting at 8.05 pm.

## **2. Adoption of Minutes**

Heather proposed and David seconded the adoption of the minutes, with the name change of David to Karl in Previous Actions.

### **Actions from previous meetings**

Karl to check if notice board can be erected at the bottle bank – ongoing

Notice boards vary a great deal in price and can be very expensive depending on the size, style and material they are made from.

The tourist sign from Venture North for Scrabster has been finalised, but David had a lot of hassle with it.

George and the lawnmower – ongoing

Jillian submitted a written report to Limekiln and issued a press release.

Karl investigating the speed restrictions in the village - ongoing

## **3. Correspondence**

Venture North tourist sign will soon be ready for collection and fixing.

Community Resilience

Rita Leavesley had asked if the Community Council would take over the upkeep of the defibrillator. Jillian was to clarify which defibrillator as Fred Groves checks the one at the Golf Club but not the Hall.

A request from Wind 2 to speak at the next meeting about the proposed wind farm at Kirkton Farm.

Marion Donaldson, the Labour candidate, requested a husting with the Council.

Information from Nick Sage about the Limekiln extension.

## **4. Police Matters**

A car had been vandalised in Reay. Charles Sutherland and Donald Alexander had been contacted about the lights. Charles Sutherland agreed to alter them but Donald Alexander refused. Braemore is activated by movement. New speed restriction signs in Thurso, perhaps Reay could get them too?

## **5. Planning and Licensing**

Nothing to report.

## **6. Treasurer's report**

A sum of £5518.32 is in the account. Jamie was paid for the Scrabster steps but his payment came from the Association.

## **7. Village Officer**

The clearing of the Scrabster steps has been carried out well and Jamie will go back in the summer and spray with insecticide. He will be asked to cut the old Cemetery in Reay, in the summer.

## **8. Renewables Developments**

Scoping for Limekiln and enquiry for extension; Drumhollistan to appeal decision; Ackron; scoping for Kirkton Farm. Ian Kelly still has some involvement but there is no money available to fight all these proposed wind farms. Community Council can still write objections to proposals.

## **9. Dounreay Stakeholder's Group**

David gave an update of the meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The AGM was held first and the officials were re-elected. Concern was voiced as to who will be giving the technical input in the future? The next meeting is on the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and the sub groups on the 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021.

## **10. Association of Community Councils**

Jillian will circulate the minutes from the last meeting.

## **11. AOB**

Jillian, Heather and Pat to meet to discuss the information from Scottish Community Development Trust and the way forward with regard to a village shop. Some of the Hall Committee and Chris Bain are keen to be involved. David will organise the signs for the village from Acorn Signs, Inverness and George has cheques to pay for them. Maintenance of the signs will be required.

Karl to be asked if he has clarified the position of the notice board at the bottle bank.

Karl is still finding out about the allotments at Scrabster.

## **12. Date of next meeting**

An AGM must be held before the end of June and the Accounts signed off.

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 7.00pm via MS Teams

## **Actions**

Jillian will speak to Rita Leavesley about the defibrillator

Pat to email Marion Donaldson about the husting

Pat to take possession of the sign for Scrabster from Venture North

Jillian to contact Karl for an update on speeding signs

Pat to email Ryan Bissoonauth about a twenty-minute slot for Kirkton Wind Farm

Jillian to send minutes out of Association of Community Councils

Jillian, Heather, Pat to meet/telephone to discuss the village shop

Meeting concluded at 20.50