

Isle of Arran Community Council

MINUTES OF MEETING

held at Lochranza Hall on 26th November 2013

Those present:

John Inglis (Chair), William Calderwood (Vice Chair), Hazel Gardiner (Secretary), Jim Henderson, Alan Stout, Liz Evans, Barbara McNeice, Richard McMaster. Colin McKenzie

Also present were: Hugh Boag – Arran Banner, Kevin O'Reilly and Catherine Walker– Scottish Power (Beinn an Tuire Wind Farm), member of Police, and Jim Nichols (minutes).

13/11/1 Apologies: John Bruce, Sgt Dodds, John Lamont, Brenda Stewart, Gus McLeod

13/11/2 Minutes of meeting – 29th October 2013

The Minutes of the meeting held 29th October 2013 were adopted as a true record.

Proposed: R. McMaster

Seconded: W. Calderwood

The minutes can be viewed at <http://www.arrancommunitycouncil.org.uk/records.php> following the meeting.

13/11/3 Scottish Power

Kevin and Catherine made a presentation of the proposals for a new wind farm.

Wind farm Beinn an Tuire, Kintyre.

Kevin gave the background info into the company, including its current portfolio in Scotland. The targets set by the SG was explained and the ambitions of Scottish Power.

Phase 1 was 45 turbines
Phase 2 was 20 turbines } **68 Megawatt output**

Scottish Power have identified a site south of the existing sites.

Kevin O'Reilly explained the scope of the environmental impact assessment and the statement which will be made available to the public.

The timeline of the outline programme was shown.

2 further public information days will be held early in the New Year.

Arran Community Council will be consulted regarding whether a further public information day will be need on Arran or a further meeting similar to tonight's.

Details were given of the components of the application.

Construction was expected to take 18 months.

Operational period for the farm will be 25 years.

Phase 3 was proposed to be 34 wind turbines.

The scope of theoretical visibility included the whole of the west coast of Arran.

2 viewpoints on Arran are proposed Machrie Bay and Blackwaterfoot.

26 – 34 turbines would be visible from Arran.

A summary of the questions raised and responses follows: -

Q. Did anything in phase 1 or phase 2 change as a result of public consultation?

A. Yes – guidance, technology and the processes with the Local Authority.

- Q.** Are wind turbines getting bigger?
A. Yes – in the last 15 years, bigger with more powerful output.
- Q.** We don't see phase 1 and 2 from Lochranza – will we see phase 3?
A. Not much from North of Arran, more in the South West of Arran.
- Q.** How is electricity carried by the pylons?
A. By cable and pylons. Not currently known how many pylons will be needed.
- Q.** Are they nearer the sea than phase 1 and 2?
A. Yes nearer the East Coast.
- Q.** Did consultations result in change?
A. Yes – A lot, gave examples e.g. Archaeology.
- Q.** Subsea cable Hunterston – Kintyre
 What is capacity in figures?
A. 9 MW.
- Q.** We know there will be more wind farms – How many?
A. Landscape capacity study being done by Argyle and Bute Council.
- Q.** What is wind farm capacity in relation to Government targets.
A. Numbers relating to total capacity not available from Scottish Power.
- Q.** Are Scottish Power required to put a Bond up?
A. Yes
- Q.** What is North/South extent of phase 3?
A. Approximately 6km.
- Q.** Was the North changed after 1st consultation?
A. Argyle and Bute Council have consultation information.

Catherine Walker agreed that a Public Information Day will take place.
 Artist's impressions of phase 1, 2 and 3 of Beinn an Tuire were shown.
 View from Machrie Bay was shown.

- Q.** Will phase 3 be same height as phase 1 turbines?
A. They will be taller.

Chair called for a show of hand based on information available tonight.
9 Against
17 Undecided
1 For

William Calderwood spoke of renewable energy survey for Arran to be conducted by the University of Glasgow. He distributed survey forms and requested forms were sent back.

13/11/4 Community Land Initiative:

David (secretary) Juliette (Treasurer)
 David introduced flyer and explained stages to date.
 Feasibility study.
 Getting land is a straightforward process but sustainability a problem.

Needs community support.

Project SCIO has been set up with the charitable objectives of sport and further educational advancements.

The proposed site is disused farmland, (Formerly Viewbank farm).

Juliette explained that they have got funding for 2 years through Investing in Ideas, Highland and Islands, Scottish Land Fund.

Must have income generation e.g. grazing, camping pods.

The next steps are consultation, feasibility study, then an application will be made to Scottish Land Fund.

Jim Henderson expressed thoughts that project may be good for tourism.

Richard McMaster had reservations re difficulties in crofting and working off the land.

13/11/5 Matters Arising

13/10/5/1 School speed safety Lighting.

Whiting Bay's lights are now working.

Brodick's lights are only working in one direction.

13/10/5/2 Ferry Committee

Noted deputies are acceptable.

Response for the 2nd ferry has been that there will be status quo for new ferry. Public meeting re new terminal held by CMAL. William Calderwood will send link with revised terminal plan.

Passenger numbers have been circulated. Summer 2013 up 4-5%, cars increased, HGV's flat, coaches slightly down. Claonaig numbers up.

Richard McMaster explained that when RET comes in more toilet facilities will be required around Arran.

Position re deputies – Jim Henderson will ensure it is minuted.

13/11/6 Police Matters

The Police representative explained that Police Scotland were running a road safety campaign at the weekend.

13/11/7 Community Energy Scheme

There was the possibility of training for 2 persons on the energy planning.

13/11/8 Correspondence

13/11/8/1 Cllr Bruce's Report

1. Cabinet supported COAST submission re MPA.
2. Pirnmill road is now open again.
3. Brodick Pier Development – NAC putting in a funding bid to SPT.
4. Corrie Schoolhouse will remain on school estate.
5. Results of NA household survey now open.
6. Care Homes and Care Home pressures.
7. NAC Gaelic plans now available.

13/11/8/2

Secretaries Report

1. Communication from NAC re Community Councils review has been circulated.
2. Community Empowerment Bill – Deadline for responses is 24th January.
3. NAC review of Polling stations etc., response has been sent.
4. Condition of War memorials CC members were requested to feedback to Hazel Gardiner regarding refurbishment required.
5. CPP briefing re Census circulated.
6. Scot Planning Framework proposals circulated.

7. Enquiry on Scottish Wild Cat Sanctuary on Arran was referred to the Arran NH Group.

13/11/9 Resilience Plan

William Calderwood reported that he is still awaiting feedback forms to be returned – these must be back by the 9th of December.

On the 19th of January SSE are planning to host a training event on Arran.

The official report has been circulated relating to the snow last March.

13/11/10 Neighbourhood Planning Community Seminar

A neighbourhood planning community seminar was held last Friday.

13/11/11 A.O.B

Colin McKenzie made a suggestion on double yellow lines on Market Road expressing that the parking situation will only get worse. The car park could do with being made into a short term car park. Colin to confirm who has ownership / responsibility for area.

13/11/12 Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was agreed to be

Tuesday the 28th of January 2014.