



## **Energy Isles Wind Farm**

**Community Liaison Group (CLG) Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

**Cullivoe Hall, Yell**

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Present & Apologies**

JT opened the meeting at 6.30pm and welcomed all those in attendance, noting apologies.

##### **Present:**

Jeanette Thomson (JT) – Element Power

Derek Jamieson (DJ) – Energy Isles

Charlotte Healey (CH) – Element Power

Sharon Powell (SP) – Energy Isles

Lawrence Odie (LO) – Yell Community Council

Lynsay Cunningham (LC) - Yell Community Council

Annette Jamieson (AJ) – Yell Community Council

Gordon Thomson (GT) – Unst Community Council

##### **Apologies:**

Fetlar Community Council

Lisa Ward (LW) – Energy Isles

Graham Hughson (GH) – Yell Community Council

#### **2. Action Points from the last minutes**

The minutes of the last meeting had previously been approved by the group with no comments and had been circulated to key stakeholders and uploaded to the Energy Isles website.

##### **Action Points**

JT and CH to request production of updated ZTV map for public exhibitions. **Completed**

CH to pass on concerns to peat expert re: unusual dry weather conditions **Completed**

JT to bring example of successful community benefit management scheme to next CLG meeting.

JT produced a legal agreement from the Twenty Shilling Wind Farm for discussion to give an example and provide some assurance to the Community on how things are undertaken.

Action: CH to bring some examples of community apprenticeships in wind farm development to next CLG meeting. JT has met with Foundation Scotland, an independent charity which is involved in administering approx £3M each year in community benefit funds from wind farms across Scotland. Foundation Scotland



helps local people to identify ways they can use funds to make a positive change in their communities, including apprenticeship schemes.

It was agreed that the CLG would like to meet with Foundation Scotland and JT said that she would action.

Action: LW to add Shetland College UHI and Train Shetland to list of EI key stakeholders.

It was noted that these are not key stakeholders and further discussion would be held after the Foundation Scotland meeting as to what roles they would play.

#### **Exhibition dates and feedback.**

JT distributed a document breaking down the feedback received from the June exhibitions and stated how pleased the Energy Isles team had been with the turnout and how the information had been collated, recorded and broken down.

AJ commented that not many of the combined population of 1500 had attended. JT highlighted that the leaflets had been sent to every household and everyone had the opportunity to attend if they wished.

LC asked about the feedback concerns and an in-depth discussion was held - it was noted that location, size, noise and access were concerns for some attendees. 32 out of 65 attendees were pleased with the tangible benefits the wind farm could provide to Yell.

LC raised that the cards were quite small for attendees to record contents and this was noted as a good point.

AJ felt that the question on environment, economic and community benefit may be weighted to the answer being yes. All agreed that this was a bigger question, but it demonstrated that renewables were important, and the answer was useful in the wider context. This was then discussed with LC raising a concern about issues with "wider context". CH explained, and a discussion was held around the carbon footprint and the power station and forms of fuel.

JT reminded everyone that this was a general induction on scoping and this was only the first opportunity for feedback.

AJ agreed but felt that the questions were leading and next time they should be more specific with more space for feedback.

JT thanked everyone for their helpful and detailed input and explained that the next round of exhibitions would feature more specific questioning.

A discussion was held around the number and placement of turbines and JT and CH reassured the group that another meeting would be held before Christmas which would focus on the design point with exhibitions being held in the New Year.

JT asked the group for comment on whether a second exhibition should be held on Fetlar. There is a desire to go but the group agreed the response was disappointing (1 person attended) and therefore there was no requirement to return. JT agreed that the timings of the Yell and Unst exhibitions would allow for Fetlar residents to attend if they wish.

The group discussed the timing of the next exhibitions – specifically around weather and Up Helly A' dates. Early February was felt to be appropriate. It was also agreed that the Baltasound Hall in Unst be used this time instead of Uyeasound.

AJ suggested a public meeting instead of a drop-in event but it was agreed that it was more productive for all to have one to one sessions at an exhibition.

JT updated the group that a Shetland Renewable Suppliers Day Exhibition was being planned in Lerwick in November and that Energy Isles would take part. However, Energy Isles still planned to hold a supplier's day on Yell in February.

A school's visit was also discussed and agreed that this would be set up in conjunction with the schools and work in with days that the schools travel and combine the event. Thursday it was thought Cullivoe and Burravoe attended Mid Yell school and Fetlar travelled to Baltasound.

AJ asked for the feedback to be detailed by community council area and requested a copy of the feedback card for reference.

**ACTION SP**

**Birds and Ecology Update**

CH had met with the RSPB/SEPA and Shetland Amenity Trust this visit, and all are continuing to work together throughout the design process.

The group discussed the concerns that RSPB have in particular the birds and the flight lines. There was talk over where the peat will be stored and how it will be used to maintain the natural habitat.

The second full breeding season survey is now completed.

**Landscape and Visual**

WTG are being sited to take into account landscape and on-site constraints such as peat and hydrology.

AJ asked about numbers and output an CH explained that the design was continuing to evolve as the results of surveys are received together with the feedback from the community engagement work.

GT asked if a reduction in numbers of turbines would mean a reduction in community benefit. CH and JT explained that numbers were dependant on turbine technology and this was ever changing.



## **Future Meeting Dates**

The next meeting was provisionally agreed for October 2018, in advance of the second round of public exhibitions proposed for February 2019.

## **AOB**

### **CARES**

This was discussed and agreed that answers were required on specific community benefit questions previously asked before they came to Shetland.

### **ACTION DJ**

No other business was raised.

**Meeting closed at 7.40pm**