

DUNEATON COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH 2023

Abington Business Centre

with

Zoom Input

AGENDA

1 Present

1.1 Malcolm Muir, Anne Jefferies, Gordon Wilson, Liz Steele, Nichola Hill, Irene Riddell, Cllr Allison, Cllr Barker

1.2 Apologies

Clare Symonds, Alison Mitchell, Cllr MacAllan

1.3 Banks Renewables

Robin Winstanley + 2 colleagues

2 Minute of Last Meeting and Matter Arising

2.1 GW advised he had received 2 amendments from AJ. One referred to a deletion of some text while the other was appoint of clarification in the text. GW had no objections to these amendments and advised he would amend the minute and circulate to DCC and SLC. Subject to the amendments the minute was proposed by MM and seconded by IR.

3 Treasurer's Report

3.1 AJ spoke to her report as below:

SLC Admin account balance: £94.76, no change since last month

DCC General account balance: £9861.39

| Transaction date ▼ | Type | Description | Paid in | Paid out | Balance |
|--------------------|------|----------------------|-----------|----------|------------|
| 2 March 2023 | CHQ | ▼ 000355 | - | £369.96 | £9,871.39 |
| 23 February 2023 | BAC | ▼ CRAIG IRENE | £85.21 | - | £10,241.35 |
| 21 February 2023 | BAC | ▼ JEFFERIES A | £2.40 | - | £10,156.14 |
| 9 February 2023 | BAC | ▼ VOLUNTARY ACTION S | £2,000.00 | - | £10,153.74 |
| 7 February 2023 | CHQ | ▼ 000352 | - | £240.00 | £8,153.74 |

[Activity since February meeting](#)

- Completed paperwork for 1 grant
- Closed out 4 grants after receipts received, overpayment refunds of £87.61 for Glenkerie across 2 grants
- Received VASLAN Community Mental Health Fund of £2000 for shopping bus trips
- Completed CWFF microgrant EOY report

With Others

- Pending SSE approval for Community Development Worker role extension for 2023-5
- SLC to review/approve CWFF microgrant report and release 2023-24 funds (expected April)

Actions

- Issue 2 x RDT cheques covering CDW wages
 1. £1000 for CMHWF work
 2. £2175.37 to close out SSE CDW Year 3 funding
- Issue 1 x £210 cheque to Liz Steele reimbursing CMHWF hall hire costs

Grant Monies Remaining (excludes Actions amounts)

- CWFF: £4.22 remaining of the 2022-23 grant
 - Ventient Energy Glenkerie: £1030.16 remaining of the 2022-23 grant
 - Clyde Extension: £2110 remaining of the 2022-23 grant
 - Other grants: £3436.47
- Clyde Extension DCC-directed pot: £53,277.36 remaining of £143,000 allocation

4 Grants

- 4.1 AJ advised there were 4 grant applications to consider:

Clyde Extension Community Fund

- Chair Yoga, Abington - £240 requested for hall hire/instructor's fee
- Abington Slot Car (Scalextric) Event - £105 sought for hall hire

Glenkerie Micro Grant

- Lamington Primary School - £250 requested for gardening equipment etc
 - Robertson Social Group – Insurance for Robertson Hall – requirement of SLLC Lease.
- AM removed herself from the vote by email as she is a member of the RSG.

These were all approved unanimously.

5 Banks Renewables – Bodinglee Wind Farm Update.

RW thanked the DCC for giving Banks the opportunity to provide an update on progress with the Bodinglee wind farm. The main points from his presentation are as follows:

Overview

Up to 38 turbines

17 turbines with a maximum tip height of 230m and 21 turbines with a maximum tip height of 250m

40 years in operation

Timeline

Spring 2023 – Design proposal submitted

Spring 2023 – Spring 2025 – Planning application determined

2026 – 2028 – Construction period
2029 – Operational with grid connection.

Initial Consultation Feedback

Scheme too large and too close to local villages
Lots of benefit funds but lack of ‘big ideas’ and outcomes in people’s homes
Local people do not have time to progress large scale projects
Need to think of local jobs/skill creation
Energy bills should be reduced for those near wind farms
Communities have a strong sense of identity
Communities want to participate in decisions that affect them
Nature to be at centre of activities

Principles/Actions Going Forward

Nature Positive

- Access to land on site for nearby communities
- Community spaces near/in the site
- Native tree planting

Heritage, Place and Community

- Heritage based land and skills fund
- New footpaths for public use
- Restoring community spaces and heritage assts

Just Transition – sharing benefits of change

- Getting renewable energy to homes
- Improve energy efficiency to reduce bills/carbon footprint
- Community empowerment through community owned organisation to deliver change

Outcomes

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Douglas Valley landscape enhancements | Community land |
| Peat bog restoration | Commercial Forestry |
| Upland birch shrub | Enhanced access/Roberton Drive roads |
| Heather restoration | Native woodlands |

Community Benefit Proposal – supported by Banks Board

Commissioned a report by Natural Power. Potential to help 6,500 properties near wind farm (within 10km) with thermal efficiency and energy interventions. Shows

measures that can be taken to improve the Energy Performance Certificate ratings through use of 5k/MW over life of wind farm.

Profile of local housing (Natural Power report)

- More than 2/3 of properties will need to be improved by 2033 (or earlier)
- All settlements/villages except Lesmahagow and Thankerton are “off-gas”
- Per-household carbon emissions from energy use are 170% of the UK average
- High prevalence of least energy efficient properties – fuel poverty higher than Scottish average

Proposals

Increased insulation in local housing

Use of air source heat pumps and solar panels

200-400 full time job years created for local businesses.

Creation of Clydesdale Community Energy Transition Company

Delivering warmer homes/lower energy bills

Community run /wind farm funded

Delivering jobs/successful businesses

Clydesdale Community Energy Transition Company – potential structure

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|----------|
| Community representatives | } | decision |
| Employees | } | making |
| SLC Councillors (rotational) | } | |
| SLC Economic Devlt | } | all |
| Local experts (rotational) | } | advisory |
| Banks Renewables | } | |

Feedback from February Consultation – key points

Community benefit could be extended to include transport

Some concerns about SLC involvement

Community shared ownership supported

Some concerns from Roberton community.

Aviation lighting a concern

Roberton/Uddington concerns about flooding after tree felling

Rigside/Douglas/Carmichael keen to see footpath etc links

Road safety in Roberton, Rigside

Actions

Reduce turbines to 37 – remove one nearest Roberton

Meet with Estate regarding flooding issues
Arrange night time visuals to show lighting impact
Have first CCETCo workshop with Community Councils

DCC Comments

AJ – Need to prioritise owner occupied properties and not subsidise the Council ones

MM – supportive of proposal, need to be effective solutions

GW – advised of some key issues to be aware of – dealing with a wide range of tenures/need to offer a wide range of solutions to properties/agreeing the specification for the works/who signs off on the work on completion.B

Banks Actions

- We will add Little Gala wind farm to the 3D model and can share it with the group once that has been updated (we can maybe do a teams call to view it)
- We will make it more clear on the information we send out about Community decarbon co.(CCETco) to include the fact that interventions like solar panels are included in the study.
- We will make some night time visuals with the current specification of the lighting solution. Today we have one viewpoint in mind from Robertson – but could potentially do more from Duneaton and are open to suggestions
- We will look at the viability of Ground Source Heat pumps versus Air source heat pumps and the challenges with the cold weather is noted. On this issue it is clear that at one of the next meetings on the journey we should invite an expert to talk about the study and some of the technologies that are included.
- There is an opportunity to try and identify local businesses as early as possible together with partners so that we maximise the number of local people involved with the delivery – no action there on us but more that we work together. Banks have spent some time putting together all of the details of every business in ML12 and ML11 – so as a first step we may email them to raise awareness about the project over the coming months.
- There is a valid concern about the complexity and challenge with respect to the delivery of the CCETco's aims. On this point we agree that we need to collectively manage expectations but also start early – meaning prior to Bodinglee even going into the planning system. We have already spoken to Local Energy Scotland and as a starting point thought we could set-up a focussed call with them and other potential members of the panel.

MM thanked the Banks Renewables staff for their input and they left the meeting.

AJ also left the meeting at this point.

6 Fly-tipping and litter; how could we approach this?

- 6.1 MM/LS spoken to contacts in Clyde Wind Farm e=Extension Fund about using wind farm monies to tackle this problem. Small grants can be made available for small local litter picks but the money cannot be used for clearing fly-tipping, as this is either a Council responsibility on public ground and landowners on private ground.

Individual case could be reported to Environmental Health. GW to respond to Mr Jackson who raised the issue.

- 6.2 GW passed his thanks to the Councillors for the fact that a litter pick team had tackled part of the B7078 and made a significant difference to how it looked.

7 Community Development Worker report

7.1 LS advised she had spoken to AJ regarding her reporting to the meeting and had agreed that in future instead of reading through the whole report sent out to everyone, she would select up to 3 main points of action from the month to discuss with the group.

7.2 Updates

LS wanted to thank the DCC for extending her contract of employment.

Abington Hall – aware that the hall is on a list of properties the Council is considering for asset transfer, however there is no structure for handovers to take place. Not easy for local residents to take on – LS experience shows Crawfordjohn Hall costs approx. £12,000 per year to maintain.

Coronation activities in villages – Liz is collating an SSE Clyde Extension small grant application on behalf of all 6 villages with a total of £4,000.

Additional funding. My application for further Mental Health and Wellbeing Funding has been successful, with £2k for shopping buses, being managed by Pearl Jones in Abington, and £5,850 to run another round of Community Cafes. As a volunteer I've also secured £7k to promote events and activities for Crawfordjohn Hall.

8 Local News

- 8.1 Lamington – IR raised the issue of the flooding at Lamington. After the first positive meeting she is concerned that any momentum has been lost because of the lack of action by the landowners. Others are doing their best but it cannot be resolved without their input. MM agreed, but commented that the Council Legal Section is very risk averse. IR asked if SLC could assist. It was agreed that a joint letter be sent from the DCC and Council.

9 Date of Next Meeting

- 9.1 Next meeting will be at Robertyon Hall on Tuesday 4 April 2023 at 7.30pm. Zoom will be available for the meeting.
