

DUNEATON COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 10 May 2022

(Zoom Meeting)

AGENDA

1 Present

1.1 Malcolm Muir, Anne Jefferies, Gordon Wilson, Alison Mitchell, Liz Steele, Robin Craig

Public Attendee – Glynn Booton.

BayWa r.e. representatives – Laura Fleming, Stuart Davidson

1.2 Apologies

Cllr McAllan, Mark Sykes, Irene Riddell

2 Presentation by BayWa r.e Ltd. - proposed windfarm at Little Gala, Wiston

SD advised the proposed development is 4km West of Wiston, and the current farm will remain on site after the development is complete. Environmental studies show there is no peat in the area and it will not affect any protected species.

Timetable

Scoping Report	June 2021
Design Freeze	Oct – Nov 2021
Consultation	Jan – May 2022
Planning Application	May 2022
Planning Decision	2023
Pre construction	2024/2025
Construction	2026/2027
Grid Connection	2027

The turbines will be 149.9M high, producing 30MW. One turbine has been dropped from the original proposal to reduce the visual impact of the project. The height of the turbines means there is no requirement for aviation lighting at night as it is below the 150m height threshold.

SD then spoke to the view point photos. AJ commented that Wiston did not appear in the photos. RC stated that the turbines will not be hidden and will impact on views around the village. In the view point photo Nos 3 RC stated that the turbine tips will be visible in the village.

Next Steps

Application submission to South Lanarkshire Council(SLC). SLC will advise where the plans can be viewed.

4 weeks for public to lodge objections/comments.

Committee decision estimated in Q4 of 2022.

Community Benefit

£5,000 per MW – to be distributed via the SLC Energy Management Fund. In addition, there are possibilities for local businesses to participate in the construction.

Questions

AJ stated that it was the DCC's experience that if the community benefit money goes to the Energy Management Fund it goes to SLC and accessing it can be very problematic for the community. Could the monies be ring fenced so the money stays in the community and make direct provision? LF advised this has been done at Coalburn where there is a locally managed fund. AJ then asked if that can be finalised before the Planning submission? SD thought that unlikely but they will be in discussion with the Council as the application progresses.

AM advised that this was the company's fourth wind farm in the area. Does it have any further plans? SD advised they were always looking for opportunities but there is nothing definite at this time. AM stated we often found planned wind farms often lead to extensions. Is this likely to happen? SD advised none at present.

GB stated that he found the timing of this meeting a surprise. SD had said that consultation was ongoing but this was not his experience. SD advised that they are consulting now ahead of the second phase of public consultation. GB said that there had previously been no mention on the website of a date of submission for Planning. SD stated that this was available now. And comments can be made in the 4-week period after the submission date. GB asked if there could be a consultation event held in the Robertson Hall. SD agreed to do this and would contact GB to arrange.

MM thanked LF and SD for their presentation and time. SD and LF left the meeting.

DCC Discussion

GB Complained about the lack of information provided and the fact that the DCC webpage was not up to date. MM stated that this was the first notification of the Planning submission date DCC had received. He would update the webpage accordingly. MM further said that there have been a few emails between the developer and DCC, which had discussed Little Gala before but this information was the first major update DCC had been given. MM stated it would be good for the developer to speak to Wiston as it was the village most impacted by the development.

AM asked about the community benefit discussion as the big issue for DCC is that we talk about the level of funding and how to process it but we have difficulty spending it. AJ advised that we are not necessarily supporting wind farms but they are likely to proceed and we are trying to make the best of it. When the Clyde Wind Farm was in development, we didn't shape the process of how the community benefit would be managed, but we are trying to do that now.

RC commented on the significant visual impact that the wind farm will have in the area around Wiston. MM advised it is for the locals to highlight the Planning implications and local

community concerns. RC asked how much notification DCC had received about the wind farm proposal. MM/GW agreed to check back through emails.

3 Minutes of Previous Meeting – 1 March 2022

- 2.1 GW advised he had received no comments on the draft previously circulated.
The Minute was proposed by AJ and seconded by MM.

4. Treasurer's Report

- 4.1 AJ went through the Treasurer's report as detailed below.

Balances

SLC Admin account balance: £291.93

Transaction date ▼	Type	Description	Paid in	Paid out	Balance
21 April 2022	CHQ	▼ 000110	-	£70.30	£291.93

DCC General account balance: £43,410.33, pending cheques being cashed.

Transaction date ▼	Type	Description	Paid in	Paid out	Balance
3 May 2022	CHQ	▼ 000322	-	£2,500.00	£43,855.93
21 April 2022	CHQ	▼ 000321	-	£30.03	£46,355.93
21 April 2022	CHQ	▼ 000320	-	£1,926.00	£46,385.96
21 April 2022	CHQ	▼ 000319	-	£2,153.20	£48,311.96
21 April 2022	CHQ	▼ 000318	-	£120.00	£50,465.16

Activity since March meeting

- Completed paperwork for 2 grants; cancelled Robertson Kids' Christmas as it wasn't used, £104 returned to Glenkerie pot
- Repaid Liz Steele for multiple Covid grant outgoings
- 28-Mar-22 received £4725 from Healthy Valleys/CCCG as their 2022 Covid grant, £2500 paid to RDT to cover the CDW time required under the terms of the grant
- RBS updates completed, all office bearers are now authorised signatories

Actions

- Complete EOY accounts by 1 August
- Complete CWFF 2021-22 micro grant EOY paperwork
- CWFF Extension micro grants - £3k per year. Do we want to ringfence it for the villages that can't access Glenkerie (Abington and Crawfordjohn) and make the limit £250, or open it to all with a limit of £500?
- Treasurer and Secretary 2022-23 Honorarium cheques (£50 each) will be completed this month
- Grant applications:
 - o Wiston jubilee celebrations - Glenkerie £250
 - o Robertson jubilee celebrations - Clyde £500
 - o Biggar & District Men's Shed - Clyde £500

Grant Monies Remaining

- CWFF: £880.66 remaining of the £5000 2020-21 grant
- Ventient Energy Glenkerie: £842.57 remaining of the £1370 2021-22 grant
- Covid grants: £2637.09

Clyde Extension DCC-directed pot: £53,277.36 remaining of £143,000 allocation

5 Grants

5.1 After discussion it was agreed that the £3,000 CWFF Extension micro grant monies be open to all villages with a limit of £250 on any one application. This would be in place for a year before being reviewed.

5.2 Grant applications:

- Wiston jubilee celebrations - Glenkerie £250
Roberton jubilee celebrations - Clyde £500
Both of the above were unanimously approved.
- Biggar & District Men's Shed - Clyde £500
 - (grant provided more than 12 months ago)

- However as there are only 4 members from the DCC area this bordered on individual benefit. In addition, other potential funding streams are available to the group and the application was turned down.

6 Planning Issues

6.1 No planning issues for discussion.

7 Wind Farm Update

7.1 Grayside

MM confirmed that the Planning application has been lodged. He felt that we should have a sub -group meeting to discuss the DCC response to it. There are 4 responses on the site and Edinburgh Airport has already lodged an objection. A key Planning consideration is the cumulative impact of this proposal given the numbers already located in the DCC area. In addition, the community benefit remains an area the DCC can challenge. It should also be noted that the application still shows the original new road proposal which is a concern.

GB stated that he had tried to get a statement from the developer regarding their proposal to use the existing SSE road system, but he had received no response. MM stated that this could form part of our objection, as the new road length is not acceptable. He confirmed that there are hard copies of the documents in the Biggar and Coulter libraries. GB pointed out that the camera giving the Roberton view was pointing in the wrong direction. He has a CD of the documents if this would be useful. AM advised she had some points that she would email to MM.

7.2 Bodinglee

MM ssid LS and he had met with Banks but that there was nothing new.

7.3 **Andershaw West**

GW advised that he had representatives from Staatskraft and the developers of the Glentagart site to his house to discuss the new turbines they were proposing. They confirmed that the 14 turbines they propose will be visible from his property. There is however limited impact on Crawfordjohn itself due to the local topography.

7.4 **Kennoxhead**

No update.

7.5 **Little Gala**

Already discussed – presentation above.

8 **Community Development Worker DCC monthly report April 2022**

Funding Update:

Covid Response Funding:

REF Covid support £1,000. Full amount has been paid to DCC. Request for remaining £30.03 to be paid to cover a portion of volunteer mileage for delivery of the recent Afternoon Tea Boxes. **Current balance £00.00.** I am in the process of closing this 'account'

SLC £900. Full amount paid to DCC. **£450 remains.**

Healthy Valleys/Rural Communities into Action: Communities Recovery Fund Phase 2: £5,000. All the fund has been spent and final report submitted.

Inspiring Scotland: Rural Communities into Action Fund: £3,000. All the fund has been spent and final report submitted.

New: Scottish Government 'Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund': £4,725. £2,500 salary and £2,225 project funding. The fund has been paid into the DCC account.

Funding

As there was no meeting last month, I've left in the following from my March report:

The £8,000 secured from 2 Inspiring Scotland Fund awards has now been spent. £6,000 to support village events and initiatives and £2k to support additional hours for me. I am really pleased the money has been embraced, giving our villages opportunities to work together to create Covid recovery events and activities. I think star prize goes to Janice and Bill Cross from Roberton for thinking to engage the fish a chip van from Lanark market. On separate days the staff cooked 100 portions for the Roberton village day and 50 portions for the event in Wiston. 5 villages have spent funds buying planters and plants and have established temporary community groups to move their projects forwards. The afternoon tea boxes for 2 have also been very well received again, as has the monthly craft/soup lunch at Crawfordjohn Hall. There are many individuals who have

taken advantage of either or both of the latter as the 1st time to re-engage with life since the start of the pandemic. I'm sure the village events have done the same for others. Abington has organised 2 social evenings and 3 bus trips; Coulter ladies enjoyed a lunch, community lunch at the Colebrook Arms in Crawfordjohn and more.

The idea of the planting days are to initially get people of all ages together to make up the planters and then for them to be points of interest to encourage chat as people walk around the villages. Of course the hope is they will also brighten up the villages. I found a contact at SLC roads and have encourage all organisers to arrange a visit to make sure the positioning of the planters and benches are in line with SLC roads regulations.

Healthy Valleys and I have delivered 3 of 4 planned monthly craft/soup lunch sessions. The average attendance is 20, which is well above most other events supported by Healthy Valleys, so a good marker for them to be encouraged to deliver more in our area. At the last session 2 ladies thanked me personally for the initiative as it was the 1st time they had attended an event in 2 years. Very pleased for them and for me that the initiative is successful in the way it was planned.

All-in-all I'm very pleased the additional funding has had such good outcomes within all 6 villages related to Covid recovery and mental health.

Additional funding:

I have now secured a Scottish Government 'Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund' via VASLan and managed by Healthy Valleys to spend over the next 12 months.

£2,500 salary and £2,225 capital. The fund has been paid into the DCC account

Part of an initiative working with the CCC Group that I've been a part of since lockdown. The idea of the funding is to work with Healthy Valleys and CCI to bring their initiatives to our villages. An idea to work with Healthy Valleys to set up a weekly community café in Abington, and with CCI to help bring their planned service of free, simple house repair project to Duneaton. I've had a meeting with Niall from CCI, with the idea of me supporting his 'Clydesdale Handy Folk' initiative so it can be extended out to Duneaton, offering 2 visits per week for our area. I am unsure if there will be a take-up, as am told most people in need ask a neighbour, friend or family to help, but good to have the opportunity to give it a try.

Connect2Renewables:

Community fund from Middlemuir windfarm to support an SLC Employability initiative. I attended a presentation/discussion event at Strathaven Hotel on Friday 29th April. Good networking and opportunity to suggest changes to their publicity to make the information clearer and to receive updates on grant opportunities. I'll continue to promote their fund.

Clydesdale Community Forum:

SLC has an aim to increase their engagement with the views/needs of local communities. Gregor Leishman, head of SLC's Community Engagement Team for Clydesdale is leading the project in our area. I'm representing on behalf of DCC/Duneaton area, as are other development/organization workers. There is a request for Community Council members to join the monthly meetings. The aim is to realise the main issues that affect Clydesdale and to discuss each in turn to be able present to the quarterly Council meetings. The idea SLC picks up on the projects in the hope of creating positive outcomes. The obvious starter is to use local community plans which mostly all have the same main issues as their base, be it roads, recreation, village halls etc.

CDW Village Project Updates: my actions and outcomes

Abington

Abington Hall updates

I've been liaising with Joanne Forbes, head of SLC owned properties, about the future of Abington Hall. I asked if a project similar to that at Robertson could be instigated to refurbish the Hall, but was told SLC has no resources to support my proposal at this time. I've been assured there are no current plans to either close or repair the hall in the near future. Joanne has invited me to contact her for an update in a few months time.

I have also emailed Kenny Lean to ask if REF might support the cost of repairs. Reasonably he says the fund can't be used for repairs that should be undertaken by SLC, but will cover a refurbishment project. He also talks of funding for Community Asset Transfer, but I've batted that idea back to him. Abington PTA is also asking about ways to reopen the property.

In my opinion, at least this means the Hall is safe at least until the new Hub has a chance to get up and running. Whether the Hub has the capacity to replace the hall or not I think will be the big question.

Abington Hub update

The new Centre Manager Nichola Hillosch from Abington started work full time at the Hub in April. I'm meeting with her today for a tour of the new facility. I initiated the meeting to be able to share resources and ideas.

Abington M74 Roundabout:

I had a funding enquiry from a resident of Symington who regularly devotes his time to a 'litter-pick' around the north bound Abington exit of the roundabout. He has spent years trying to liaise with Bear for bollards to be set in the pavement to stop vehicles from stopping and littering. He was requesting funding for barrel planters.

Inspiring Scotland funding that finished at the end of March has supported:

3 mini bus trips: 16 ladies enjoyed shopping trips to different venues (it was open to men as well but no takers)

2 Abington social nights at the Masonic hall

A new bench located at Glengonar Court

Planting trough from CCI to go outside the shop. Thanks to Pearl Jones for working with me on most of these projects.

Coulter

Coulter Defibrillator: Clyde windfarm has accepted an enquiry to fund the defibrillator project for Coulter and I have quotations needed for the funding application. As the group now has a new treasurer the project can move forward. As the Group also has plans for a number of events throughout the year, I'll work with Gillian to add costs of the events to the Clyde application.

Inspiring Scotland Fund: 14 ladies from Coulter and nearby areas enjoyed a sociable lunch at the Elphinstone thanks to the additional funding. As there was no other interest for use of the funds within the village, I used Coulter's allocation to fund the afternoon tea boxes, with a good proportion going to Coulter over 70s.

Crawfordjohn

Crawfordjohn Picnic area

Still ongoing. Val who has lead the project over the past 2 years has now said she no longer has interest as it is so difficult to engage with the landowner to be able to move the project forward. I'll see if I can make any progress.

Crawfordjohn Toddlers

The recently microgrant-funded Crawfordjohn Toddler group is very pleased to currently have 7 adults attending their sessions. As the only toddler group on our side of the valley between Crawford and Biggar, hopefully numbers will increase as word gets out.

Crawfordjohn Hall solar/boiler replacement project

All the funding required for the project at Crawfordjohn Hall is now secured, with work to start at the end of July. The Hall committee are so very pleased that with the current surge in energy prices, the project couldn't come at a better time. The 126 panels backed by 4 Tesla batteries are forecast to create a minimum of 80% of the energy needed to run the hall at a more agreeable ambient temperature, with the aim of encouraging greater usage.

Crawfordjohn Museum Quiz night supported by the Covid Recovery funding was a great success. Many people said it was the 1st time they'd attended an event in 2 years.

Crawfordjohn Community Group: The group are using Inspiring Scotland funding to support a community 'planting' day with a light lunch for all involved at the pub.

Lamington

On behalf of the village Irene has kindly spent Inspiring Scotland funds on planters and plants for Lamington.

Roberton

Covid Recovery Fund: Roberton had an extremely successful village day supported by the Inspiring Scotland funding and a micro grant to fund a visit from a fish and chip van and planters, soil and plants to smarten up the village. Almost every household attended in waves, sitting out on the grass area along from the hall to enjoy their fish and chips. Planters and plants have been allocated to volunteers to take care of.

Queen's Jubilee: The village group has organized a celebratory Jubilee day in June, including road closure for Howgate Road.

Roberton Hall

Glyn Booton has advised the refurbishment is now complete and bookings for the Hall will recommence from Monday 9th May.

Wiston

Wiston Hall committee have replicated Roberton's project with 50 people enjoying a fish supper in the hall one evening and a planned planting day. They have also bought a community bench.

The Hall committee have also restarted their '1st Friday' community social nights and have plans to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee Day.

I've meet with Clare to discuss funding possibilities for tree planting in the area. Have suggested she looks at costs to then match to the best funding opportunity.

9 Local News

- 9.1 **Roberton** - GB advised that the work is at snagging stage.- issue with access ramp and the original statetment of work agreed with the Council. Some elements of the work have been removed buy the Council and this is subject to further discussion. Held an open day last Sunday and 60 attended. Ribbon cutting Jubilee weekend.
- 9.2 **Crawfordjohn** – GW advised he has contacted the Crawfordjohn Development Group members to arrange a further meeting. Some feedback but no date as yet.
- 9.3 **Coulter** – MM advised a local group has now been set up with a new Treasurer. It is working with the Library Trust to take over its role and establish itself.

10 AOCB

- 10.1 **Future meetings** – As the Robertson Hall was now operational there was discussion about having face to face meetings there. AJ and GW stated that face to face meetings would present them with particular problems, AJ as she recovers from long covid and GW as his wife recovers from a brain injury. After further discussion DCC agreed to continue with Zoom meetings in the meantime.

11 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 7th June 2022

Actions

March 2022

MM to check with Energy Consent Unit at Scottish Government regarding MoD disturbance levels..

Tracking of Banks Group Scoping Report amendments.

June 2021

DCC to consider review of website. MM to speak to AJ

Cllr McA agreed to follow up on issue regarding Crawfordjohn picnic area; garden waste uplifts;

May 2022

Grayside sub group meeting.
