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| **Loch Broom Community Renewables** | | | | |
| Minutes meeting held 16 December 2020 19:30 - Zoom | | | | |
| Present: Rob Gibson (Chair), Paul Copestake, Kathleen Donald, Sarah Donald (Di Rollo), Andy Kaye, Dave Maxwell, Sandy Osborne, Robert Mackenzie  Apologies: Seori Burnett, Alex Cochrane, Tim Gauntlet, Alison Parsons  Minutes: Edel Walsh | | | | |
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| **No** | **Details** | **Action** | **Comment** | |
| 1 | Approval (and publication) of minutes of 4 December 2020: Prop DM/ Sec KD | | | |
| **No** | **Details** | **Action** | **Comment** | |
| **2** | **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes** | | | |
| 2.1 | Flow enhancements.  RG has been in touch with Nature Scotland. The SSSI follows a path to the south side of the burn, just above the hydro. Any plans can be discussed with NS. Important to note extensive list of prohibited actions (eg drainage, plant destruction). | PGC | Report next meeting | |
| 2.2 | Land purchase agreement. Valuers were in touch with S Underwood during the week seeking UCT and LBC’s mitigation claim to reduce valuation. AK contributed to this. |  | Ongoing. See Main Agenda Item 7.2 | |
| 2.3 | Community Benefit Fund |  | See Main Agenda Item 8 | |
| 2.4 | Hydro project with High School | SD | Carry Forward | |
| 2.5 | Power Purchase Agreement: process starts in Feb, to approach Locogen to conduct on LCR behalf. Are there other options? Investigate and report back. | AK and SO | Review & action February 2021 | |
| **No** | **Details** | **Action** |  | |
| **3** | **Treasurer’s Report** | | | |
| 3.1  3.2 | AK circulated report for September/October. Too early to deliver November report.  An investor who donated £50k has approached LCR for repayment of £35k. In the past several weeks, a further £6k has been requested in refunds and £5,600 worth of shares have been donated. | AK  AK | |  |
| **No** | **Details** | **Action** | | **Comment** |
| **4** | **Generation** | | | |
| 4.1 | The performance report was circulated by PGC. Slightly down but within range of what would be expected for November. December figures on track given that we’re only halfway through the month. Hopeful that we’ll achieve above an acceptable 80%.  The FiT payment was received this week. | PGC | |  |

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| **No** | **Details** | **Action** | **Comment** |
| **5** | **Operating Update** | | |
| 5.1 | SO together with Gilkes conducted the annual inspection on 23rd November. All in order except for a slight concern about a crack (or scratch?) on the runner. This is causing more concern to SO, Locogen and Hugh Campbell than to Gilkes. Gilkes will however attend site in Ullapool in February (at no charge) to re-inspect. They hope to grind/polish the runner in situ which will hopefully not affect its balance. In the event that it has to be repaired, the runner will have to go to Kendal.  SO will draft a statement and pass to AK in order that the insurers can be informed.  If there’s a fault, LCR will argue that it’s a latent defect as it would be necessary to claim for loss of income at arguably an optimal performing time of the year. | SO-AK | February 2021 |
| **No** | **Details** | **Action** | **Comment** |
| **6** | **Community Benefit Fund** | | |
| 6.1 | Still some work to be carried out on MoU. | PGC | Ongoing |
| **No** | **Details** | **Action** | **Comment** |
| **7** | **Lease Update / Hydro Land Purchase** | | |
| 7.1  7.2 | AK and RG finally got to sign the lease. It is now lodged with the Registers of Scotland; Harper MacLeod and Joe Duncan have matters in hand.  RG made some enquiries with Community Land Scotland. They have never heard of problems such as LCR has encountered but are willing to look into matters on LCR’s behalf. If LCR would like to take out associate membership with CLS for a small annual fee, it would give access to a range of people who have been through the purchase experience. This in turn could help inform LCR’s decision to take proceedings further. There’s no urgency with this.  **Hydro Land Purchase**  Area being considered is at Inverlael. UCT has approved a quote from FLS on who will conduct a land valuation. Full consideration will be undertaken on its receipt. | RG  RG | Ongoing |
| **No** | **Details** | **Action** | **Comment** |
| **8** | **Community Benefit Fund** | | |
| 8.1 | DM reported on outcomes of Community Benefit Fund meeting. A total of £18k was requested; the committee has ringfenced 10% of the fund for investment in potential larger future projects. Overall a total of £8,336.32 was fully or part-allocated to eight diverse local projects. All successful project applications have been published on the BroomPower website and Facebook page; three projects were unsuccessful.  UCT (Community Benefit Fund Committee) had previously agreed to defer their fee (£900) for this year but have indicated that they will in fact issue an invoice. There is some confusion about this and AK will circulate the email of agreement reminding them of their arrangement. | DM  AK/DM |  |
| **No** | **Details** | **Action** | **Comment** |
| **9** | **AOB** |  | |
| 9.1  9.2  9.3  9.4 | PGC highlighted mandatory compliance obliging LCR to ensure grid connection is compliant with network resilience by September 2022. This will incur costs and possibility exists to apply to SSE for funding to offset.  SD reporting for absent TG – UCT’s recent AGM appointed a new temporary chair, Amanda Barry. As part of her strategy, she intends to focus on communicating aims and roles within the community including areas such as land promotion, forestry purchase and LCR should be aware of this.  SEPA have been approached by a company who are doing a hydropower/dance project as part of the Year of Coasts & Waters and they are looking for hydro experts.  LCR has 33 members from whom there has been no contact; 17 of them are local. DM suggested making direct contact with them to establish their intentions. AK will draw up a letter for board approval. | PGC  PGC  DM/AK | Discuss at next meeting  For info  Approve at next meeting |
| **Date Next Meeting** | | | |
|  | Wednesday 28 January 2020 @7.30pm |  |  |