

MINUTE 28 APRIL 2020

**Minute of meeting of Kilbraur Windfarm Community Benefit Trust
held online through “Zoom” software on Tuesday 28 April 2020 at 4pm**

Please note that this meeting was held in response to the ongoing Covid-19 situation

PRESENT Ronnie Sim, Iain Miller (Chair), Linda Robichaud (Secretary), Sandy Crawford, Christine Ross (VGS/Treasurer), Mary Nicol

OBSERVERS Erin Hunter (Falck Renewables),

APOLOGIES

ITEM		ACTION
1.0	WELCOME	
1.1	Iain Miller welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.0	APPROVAL OF MINUTES	
2.1	Iain Miller asked for any comments concerning the minutes of the meetings held on 24 July 2019 and 9 October 2019. As no comments were forthcoming the minutes were then approved as an accurate record having been proposed by Ronnie Sim and seconded by Sandy Crawford.	
3.0	HARDSHIP FUND	
3.1	CR began the discussion by stating that the three communities had “pots of funds” and we have to consider how we “fit in”. Would our funding need to be accessed after other funds had been exhausted - otherwise there was the possibility of duplicating payments. SC gave an example of someone he knew who was self-employed and would not be able to receive any money from the government for six weeks. Their issue was that they had a direct debit coming off monthly which was related to their business. SC asked if that was the type of person who we should assist. RS asked if the person had been proactive in getting funds. SC stated that BaDAG have £18k available for the provision of food for the community. SC felt that we needed to fill the gap for the self-employed from now until the government money “kicked in”. CR thought that the money from the government was backdated. MN said that a payment holiday was available for three months. EH said that other Falck windfarms had included the payment of electricity and telephone bills in their allocation of funds. IM felt that we needed people to come to the Trust with applications and that an advert should be put in the Northern Times.	

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<p>CR suggested that a form should be available to download and pick up. CR could print off and give to the appropriate resilience group.</p> <p>SC was concerned about the timescale involved in order to help those in hardship and suggested we be proactive.</p> <p>MN asked for the Trustees to be informed when information went on Facebook so that it could then be “shared”.</p> <p>IM asked CR if we were covering items she had already covered. CR said she needed clarity on the definition of “poverty” e.g. using SC’s example we would need CAB to do financial checks. SC said that some local people have several properties abroad so there would need to be some form of financial check. IM said that VGS should be left to decide how to deal with the applications and we would be able to monitor how things were proceeding.</p> <p>RS asked how, for example TYKES were handling the situation. CR said that Richard Gale of “Go Golspie” has not yet finalised the way forward and that the SPAR in Rogart will invoice the Rogart Development Trust for electricity etc.</p> <p>MN suggested signposting, in the first instance, those accessing hardship funding to BaDAG in the case of Brora and then when BaDAG money has been utilised they should come to us. RS then asked – at what point does one fund stop and another start.</p> <p>CR said that the three development agencies within the Kilbraur area of benefit were happy to keep in touch with VGS.</p> <p>It was decided that CR would get back to the Trustees regarding the case of those who are self-employed.</p> <p>RS said that the Trustees make the final decision but we need to delegate an amount. This was agreed. IM said that £250 was stated on the form. RS proposed leaving £250 and monitor how this progresses. This was agreed.</p> <p>IM asked EH how she felt about the discussion so far. EH replied that Trustees know their community best. Every community is different and each community works the way it suits them best.</p> <p>RS said that in promoting the Fund it should be advertised in the “Northern Times” and on Facebook. An advert should also go on the noticeboard in Brora and in the Co-op. The noticeboards in Golspie and Rogart could also be utilised. This was agreed.</p>	
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	<p>MN suggested a poster along the lines of the Kyle of Sutherland Trust promotion which could be widely disseminated.</p> <p>It was decided that CR would put together a draft poster for the Trustees to consider.</p>	
4.0	MODIFIED PRESS RELEASE	
	<p>It was decided that there would be a new modified press release on which the Trustees would make a final decision.</p>	
5.0	AOCB	
5.1	Grass Cutting in Golspie	
	<p>IM informed the Trustees that there had been talk in Golspie about grass cutting and that Go Golspie wish to buy a new lawnmower as there is currently no grass cutting in cemeteries etc. RS said that the Highland Council was starting grass cutting again. IM said it was expected that Go Golspie would put in a funding application for the lawnmower.</p>	
	<p>NEXT MEETING It was decided that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday, 5 May 2020 at 4.00pm.</p>	
	<p>There being no further business Iain Miller thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 5.00pm.</p>	