

ENCOMM

MINUTES OF TRUSTEE MEETING THURSDAY 25 March 2021 7pm via a Zoom call

PRESENT: Linda Henderson (LH), Peter Arris (PA), Brian Mountjoy (BM), Aileen Asher (AA), Martine Scott (MS)

APOLOGIES: Oliver Stone (OS)

1. Minutes of 22 October 2020 were approved. To be posted to website. **Action:BM**
2. Matters Arising: To be covered under other items.
3. Chair report: LH congratulated the Trustees on completing an AGM via email with 25 public engagements. She wished her particular thanks to BM for his work on it to be minuted. LH and MS had attended a “get to know you” zoom call with the Moray Firth area of DTAS. Most of the other participants were community groups looking for funding and many had employed development officers. Unfortunatley Pery Zakeri from our neighbours at Finderne Community trust wasn’t available. LH still has to follow up on this contact. **Action:LH**  
LH reported that she had not taken the Clash Gour shared ownership option any further due to misgivings around this Community’s capacity and resilience to handle the commitment involved even when part of a larger group; recent conversations around uncertainties in the onshore wind sector vis-à-vis how the industry economics work; a dislike of the site design; her own dislike of EDF’s nuclear footprint which may not be shared. Following discussion it was decided to take the offer no further while recognising that East Nairnshire would still qualify for community benefit “in the ordinary way”. **Action: LH inform Steven Park**  
Further wind farm proposals in the area at Ourack behind Dava and more significantly at Lochindorb were discussed. It was noted that the latter is a Lethen Estate enterprise and could produce funds for Fornighty Hall which is on their land. LH said that ENCC had misgivings about the siting and were consulting at present.
4. Treasurer report: PA reported that the Bank of Scotland funds at this morning stood at £90700 with £500 accountancy bill to come. The EQ investment like all markets was volatile but remained positive.
5. OSCR return – **LH and PA** to complete this in early April now we have accounts. It is all online.
6. Website and membership: Membership is unchanged at 55. BM still feels website needs to keep refreshing. Ideas to him if and when.
7. Grant upcoming applications: LH reported that the defibrillator group would not need any funding this year but perhaps next. AA had spoken with Fornighty Hall Committee who were facing hugely increasing costs as everywhere in the building sector – perhaps £160k. They intend to apply for a decision in principle to our April meeting and AA will attend their zoom AGM on Tuesday 6 April on our behalf.
8. AOCB: It was decided not to push for any press item in the Courier (Nairn) for the time being.
9. Next Trustee management meeting date to be set hopefully when a garden meeting is possible.  
New dates for the grant cycle:  
Thursday 22 April 2021 [closing date for applications – Friday 9 April 2021]  
Thursday 22 July 2021 [closing date for applications – Friday 9 July 2021]  
Thursday 21 October 2021 [8 October 2021]  
Thursday 21 January 2022 [closing date for applications – Friday 7 January 2022]