

Ray Windfarm Fund CIC

Board Meeting

25th April 2019
Corsenside Parish Hall
7.00pm

- 1 **In attendance**
Peter Ramsden (PR) Chair; Lesley Gosling (LG); Richard Thornton (RT); Tony Pender (TP); Katie Wood (KW); Andrew Harding (AH); David Burn (DB); Ian Rawles (IR); Paul Cowie (PC); Andrew Harding (AH); Chris Robson (CR); Jane Cartridge (JC)
Minutes.
Apologies
Sarah Crone; Martin Chilvers; Willy Browne-Swinburne
- 2 **Declarations of interest**
None notified
- 3 **Minutes of the last meeting of 28th March 2019**
Accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed.
Matters arising.
None that are not on the agenda.
- 4 **Update from the Local Initiatives Committee**
 - a. Paper circulated with update of enquiries and grant awards.
 - b. It was remarked (TP) that enquiries have diminished overall but that larger projects are now progressing (transport/health/broadband).
 - c. The local First Schools have received notice of their awards and all are delighted. They are keen to know that this funding will continue longer term. It was agreed that, after consultation with the relevant head teachers, the award to West Woodburn School would be reduced and the balance awarded to Bellingham School to reflect pupil numbers.
 - d. The next LIC meeting will address a possible change of roles within the committee.
- 5 **Update from the Finance and General Purposes Committee**
 - a. The accounts showed no movement in the last month. It was agreed to maintain only 3 months running costs in the operational account, with transfer of funds as needed.
 - b. Loans and repayable grants. As yet we have no clear direction and this continues to be reviewed.
 - c. Policies continue to be developed and preparation for review is in hand MC/JC.
 - d. CR will prepare a Finance Statement for the Annual Report.
- 6 **Preparation for the Vattenfall Review Meeting scheduled for 2nd May.**
 - a. IR made the presentation and amendments and expansions were discussed.
 - b. Areas that need to be addressed have been identified, which include management of for-profit entities. PC is to speak to F&GP about strategies to deal with such things as displacement and additionality.

- c. PC informed the meeting of a new funding strand from Heritage Lottery Fund via the Centre for Rural Economy at Newcastle University. This may provide us with a strategic route to manage historic churches.
- d. Financial contributions from applicants was discussed. It was agreed that a contribution from their own funds of 5% - 10% would be expected.
- e. Where a business plan was required of applicants the CIC may provide funding to support professional help. A disclaimer is to be given that provision of a business plan would not guarantee funding.
- f. It was agreed to undertake a further survey of community wishes. It was suggested that this might be usefully done as a student's dissertation. PC to take this forward.
- g. It was agreed that there would be a more structured strategy for public engagement and media relations. As a first step a press release is to be prepared with an overview of the successful awards to date. All to be approved by the Board and Vattenfall before release; and also Pete Barrett if Community Foundation is mentioned. LG/JC

7 **Public Meeting 6th June 2019**

- a. This is to be held in Kirkwhelpington Memorial Hall at 7pm.
- b. PR will chair the meeting. A panel of directors will speak and respond to questions from the floor.
- c. A Public Notice will be inserted into the local press 14 days prior to the meeting.
- d. Local newsletters will receive the notice. Posters will be prepared for display in village halls, community notice boards and other public spaces.
- e. It was agreed to invite grantees to attend the meeting and speak about their award.
- f. Copies of the Annual Report would not be provided at the meeting but will be available on request via a form or to the Admin office.
- g. Copies of the Preliminary Enquiry Form will be made available at the meeting for information.

8 **Any other business**
None

Meeting closed at 9.05

Time at date of next meeting to be notified.