

# Ray Windfarm Fund CIC

## Board Meeting

25<sup>th</sup> July 2019  
Birtley Village 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); Ian Rawles (IR); Andrew Harding (AH); Sarah Crone (SC); Martin Chilvers (MC); David Burn (DB); Paul Cowie (PC); Jane Cartridge (JC) Minutes.  
**Apologies**  
Chris Robson;
- 2 **Presentations to the Board**  
Adapt (NE) and Community Action Northumberland
- 3 **Declarations of interest**  
None notified
- 4 **Minutes of the last meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> June 2019**  
Accepted as a true record of the meeting and signed.  
**Matters arising.**  
PC - Churches Heritage – this is now on hold until a new appointment is made.  
5d. Grant invoice – MC has requested from Vattenfall the calculation of the index linking.  
6. Business plans. CR has offered to help set up a system for RWF to manage business plan applications.  
The Risk Register will be a standing agenda item for this Committee henceforth.  
9. The Annual Report has now been approved and is ready for publication.  
10. Local Shows – there is no charge for our stand at Kirkwhelpington show, but we will make a donation – to be advised.
- 5 **Update from the Local Initiatives Committee – paper circulated.**  
AH reported to the Committee a query from application reference 044. This is to be referred to the LIC for further discussion. Admin will communicate with the applicant.
- 6 **Update from the Finance and General Purposes Committee**  
MC discussed the Risk Register (previously circulated). Some amendments to the format were discussed and agreed. It was noted that reminders to update the register should be highlighted at CIC. The Chair extended thanks on behalf of the CIC to MC for his work.
  - a. Proposed Small Donations Fund. Necessary governance safeguards were discussed for a simple application and awards procedure. MC to develop this proposal in light of the discussions.
  - b. Staged payments for large grant awards had previously been discussed. The CIC approved this.

7 **Website Review**

The website was reviewed by PR/IR/JC and updates are in hand.

8 **Schools Meeting – PC declared an interest as a school governor and withdrew from the discussion.**

KW reported from the meeting that was held with the head teachers on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Every recipient school was delighted with their award. The formula KW had employed in calculating the amount of money for each school was approved by them as being equitable. Going forward KW was keen that we are able to offer the schools some certainty about funding. The meeting agreed that we would make similar grants to the schools for the school year 2019/20. The head teachers had been assured that the receipt of these grants does not exclude them from making other applications to the RWF.

The head teachers had expressed the wish to obtain the support of a person who would not only fill in grant applications on their behalf, but more importantly have the expertise and resources to seek out appropriate funding opportunities. None of the school staff have the time or expertise to carry this out themselves. The meeting could not immediately think of a solution to this.

TP suggested that there are lists of likely funders and he will obtain this information.

The Chair extended thanks on behalf of the CIC to KW for her work.

An enquiry had been received regarding transport of children who had moved at the parents' discretion to schools outside their resident catchment area. The CIC would be unable to help with this. KW to draft a response to be sent from the admin office.

9 **Grant Applications**

Two grant applications (046 and 048) had been forwarded from the LIC for approval.

10 **Any other business**

TP tabled a proposal to support a tree planting scheme within our area of benefit. This is to form part of a wider initiative to mitigate climate change and is proposed by VONNE who hope to bring this to the COP26 UN summit in 2020. There was some discussion, but the idea was approved in principle.

11 **Key dates**

- Finance and General Purposes Committee 11<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm venue to be confirmed
- Local Initiatives Committee 15<sup>th</sup> August at 7pm at Shawm House
- CIC Board meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> August at 7pm venue to be confirmed

**Meeting closed at 9.15pm**