

# Ray Windfarm Fund CIC Board Meeting

Date 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022  
Otterburn Memorial Hall  
Time 7.00pm

## 1. In attendance

**Action**

David Burn, (DB) Chair; Lesley Gosling (LG); Katie Wood (KW) Mark Neale (MN); Peter Ramsden (PR); Martin Chilvers (MC); Berry Jordan (BJ) Vattenfall; Joanne Willis, (JW) CDO (Minutes)

**Apologies** Sarah Crone (SC); Chris Robson (CR)

**Non-attendance** Andrew Harding (AH); Paul Cowie (PC)

## 2. Minutes of the last CIC meeting 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022 and matters arising

Accepted as a true record.

## 3. Minutes of Virtual F & GP 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Accepted as a true record.

## 4. Notes of Virtual ARC 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022

Accepted as a true record.

## 5. Declarations of interest

None

## 6. Applications

- **233 £6,000**

This unique project will entail working with Otterburn Primary, Bellingham Primary, Bellingham Middle and Haydon Bridge High Schools exploring the mining heritage of the local area. The remaining funding is in place. It could provide a good opportunity for publicity pieces. **Unanimous decision to support.**

## 7. Schools report 2022-23

**JW**

KW has prepared this year's report, which has used the same formula as previous years. **KW**  
The recommendation is that schools could utilise the money for school meals for those no longer eligible for free school meals e.g., nursery and years 3 to 6. JW and KW to consult with schools directly to find out what their funding priorities and shortfalls are in the current cost of living crisis. The schools will receive the usual £10,000 split, between six schools and will be informed to contact us if they require extra assistance outside of statutory funding.

## 8. Community Consultation

**JW**

JW outlined the points of action Directors had outlined following the community consultation report. Various ideas were discussed surrounding energy, BJ clarified that small scale solar does not work, it needs to be on a large scale to generate sufficient

**BJ**

power and income, BJ then pointed out that insulation assistance maybe better for homeowners than solar or wind to private households, though there would be issues with funding individuals and demonstrating community benefit. The priority should be with established organisations such as CAN, Foodbanks, Citizens Advice Bureau etc to work together to alleviate issues related to cost of living crisis.

BJ gave some detail on the repayable grants offered by PyC. We are not a bank, therefore, it cannot be classed as a loan. They are offered on a 0% interest basis over 5 years. PyC offer them with a split between repayable grant and grant and have struggled to decide on a formula for the split between the two grants offered. BJ will look to provide some guidance from PyC.

### **9. EAT Fund**

**JW**

Approved by Directors this evening. JW to circulate to those that have expressed an interest in the need for financial support once the minor amendments have been made. There will be no application form, applicants should supply a personal statement detailing the required information similar to the Small Donation Fund and JW will circulate among Directors.

### **10. Visits to Ray Windfarm**

**JW**

**LG**

BJ and Vattenfall are working on the possibility of establishing a series of visits to the Windfarm particularly to celebrate 5 years of RWF, as the first grants were awarded in 2018. Directors advised that the spring would be a better time to start as opposed to the autumn. Vattenfall hope to have the batteries operational before winter 2022. Vattenfall are also working on a series of films to promote the grants that have been awarded. JW and LG to discuss possible subjects for this and send to BJ.

### **11. Leaflet celebrating 5 years of the Ray Windfarm**

Vattenfall have produced a leaflet celebrating five years of the windfarm, including facts about the grants that have been awarded and the benefit to the local community. BJ delivered some to the Revitalising Redesdale event held in Elsdon this evening, which appeared very well attended. To hand out at any events attended, and place in village halls and other community spaces around the area.

### **12. AOB**

**MC**

JW raised the SDF request for the defibrillator in Elsdon to be moved from a private dwelling to the pub. One further approval required. MC to check on the pricing as this had been discussed at Elsdon PC meetings.

**Closed 8.30pm**