

# Ray Windfarm Fund CIC Board Meeting

Date 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022  
Elsdon Village Hall  
Time 7.00pm

## 1. In attendance

David Burn, (DB) Chair; Lesley Gosling (LG); Mark Neale (MN); Sarah Crone (SC); Martin Chilvers (MC); Paul Cowie (PC); Joanne Willis, (JW) CDO (Minutes)

**Apologies** Peter Ramsden (PR); Chris Robson (CR); Katie Wood (KW); Andrew Harding (AH)

**Action**

## 2. Minutes of the last CIC meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022 and matters arising

Accepted as a true record.

## 3. Notes of Virtual ARC 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Accepted as a true record.

## 4. Declarations of interest

PC - Northumberland Log Bank

## 5. Applications

- **237 £936.74**

Business started this year providing a service to the community in and around Bellingham for their website and computing requirements. DB suggested awarding £981.08, which includes the requested amount plus the applicant's contribution of £44.34. **Unanimous decision to award, all supported awarding the full amount of £981.08.**

- **250 £3,169**

The charity is not registered and as such can only have an income of £5,000 in a financial year. The ARC had requested knowledge of the financial year end and the potential income that the charity was able to receive without being penalised. JW reported the financial year runs from April to March and the income received so far since April is £4,800. Due to the constraints of their allowed income the applicant asked whether the RWF could award the funding to a local business in the form of a credit account, and they could then refuel their vehicles to continue deliveries. The CIC are not permitted to award grants to a third party, so this would not be possible. Directors all agreed that the charity must become a registered charity/ CIC or charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), to receive potential funds that would benefit the applicant and those that require it's services. The application is to be deferred until this has been carried out. In the meantime, **unanimous decision made to award £200**, which will take the charity to its income limit for the financial year.

## 6. Education Apprenticeship and Training (EAT) Bursary

- **232**

JW had circulated the evidence required for a decision to be made, the funds are required to enable the applicant to travel to and from college and for computer equipment.

**Unanimous decision to award the £1,500.**

- **212**

JW had circulated the evidence required for a decision to be made the funding is required to enable the applicant to attend training at North Tyneside Hospital once a week, they are unable to use public transport due to the timing constraints. **Unanimous decision to award the £1,500.**

Proposed decision making process for the EAT Bursary, JW to forward applications by email. Once four approvals are received, the bursary can be awarded, if there are any negative comments then decisions should go to the CIC.

## **7. Director recruitment**

**JW  
SC  
PC  
KW  
DB**

Discussions ensued regarding the optimum size of the Board of Directors, there is the potential to increase to 15 Directors from the current ten. All agreed that twelve would be the optimum number of Directors. JW has received Seven applications, though one has withdrawn due to a clash with the main meeting day. An interview panel agreed upon, SC, PC and KW to make up the panel with DB in reserve. JW to ensure KW is available to sit on the panel. Applicant's details will be sent on to the panel and interviews by zoom will be arranged.

## **8. B4RN**

**JW  
SC  
CR**

JW had circulated an email from CEO of B4RN Michael Lee, explaining the reason for the delay with the Barrasford build. This is due to the DCMS voucher scheme and iNorthumberland top up vouchers being delayed. As this is out of the control of B4RN, Directors agreed that the extenuating circumstances should result in the extension of the time available to claim the grant awarded from six months until a decision has been made by DCMS and iNorthumberland.

The share investment of £50,000 is due to mature on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022, after the three-year period. All Directors agreed that due to the lack of progress made that the shares should be redeemed rather than reinvested or converted to a grant. JW to draft an email to B4RN and send to SC and CR for prior approval.

## **9. AOB**

**JW**

- JW has received an open invitation for Directors to visit the newly installed First & Last Brewery in Bellingham, to see how the grant awarded has been spent. JW to liaise with F & L to arrange a suitable time for a visit.
- JW has received the invoice for the plaques for The Gun at Ridsdale and the H2o Trails wheelchair. Payment to be set up.
- JW is working on the annual report.

**Closed 8.05pm**