

Ray Windfarm Fund CIC Board Meeting

Date 25th May 2023
Elsdon Village Hall
Time 7.00pm

1. In attendance

Action

David Burn, (DB) Chair; Katie Wood (KW); Mark Neale (MN); Lesley Gosling (LG); Paul Cowie (PC); Martin Dickson-Green (MDG); Alison Thomson (AT); Chris Robson (CR); Sarah Lunn (SL); Sarah Crone (SC); Deb Walton (DW); Joanne Willis, (JW) CDO (Minutes)

Apologies

Martin Chilvers (MC); Peter Ramsden (PR)

2. Minutes of the last CIC meetings 27th April 2023 and matters arising

Accepted as a true record.

4. Notes of Virtual ARC 18th May 2023

Accepted as a true record.

5. Minutes of Virtual F & GP 9th May 2023

Accepted as a true record.

6. Declarations of interest

CR application 293 Northern Stoneworks.

7. Remaining budget and B4RN award from 2021-22 grant year

JW

There is £1,827 in total remaining from the 2022-23 grant year. However, since the grant to B4RN was signed off and allocated in May 2022 and they have not yet claimed any of the £66,000 awarded, Directors felt they should reapply in the new grant year if any funding is required. The grant award cannot be carried over for a further year. This brings the total remaining to £67,827. JW to inform B4RN of the decision.

8. Applications

- **Adapt North East £9,640**

The funding will allow the community bus service from Byrness to Morpeth to continue to run, the service is fully every Wednesday and the customers who use it value the service. There is an increase in the funding required due to increasing wage and fuel costs from last year.

Unanimous decision to support.

- **286 Groundwork NE £30,000 Peatland restoration work**

**JW
PC**

DB gave a little background to peat restoration works that he has been part of. Still further information required before a decision can be made, who owns the site, will it remain in perpetuity, who else has been approached for funding? Though the application scored well, and a healthy discussion ensued it was felt that Directors could not make an informed decision without further information and possibly a site visit/ attendance by the applicant at a meeting, to explain the background. JW to liaise with PC regarding information required.

Scoring – Impact 30 Organisation 17 Engagement and Inclusion 17 Planning and Delivery 6 = Total 70

Split decision on whether to award funding, further information required, defer decision.

- **291 Corsenside Parish Show £3,000 to run the show on 16th September**

This funding will go towards costs on the day. Widely attended by all in Corsenside and surrounding parishes, fundraising is carried out at events throughout the year that involve businesses and the community.

Scoring – Impact 30 Organisation 15 Engagement and Inclusion 15 Planning and delivery 10 = Total 70

Majority decision to support the application.

DW left the meeting.

- **293 Northern Stoneworks £5,000 start-up stonemasonry business**

While this is currently only supporting one person as a sole trader, this is a skilled profession required in this area. There is the potential to take on employees or an apprentice in the future if the business is successful.

Scoring amended as this is a start-up business, so some elements are not applicable. Scored 40/60.

Unanimous decision to support the grant.

9. Repayable Grants/ Loans

PyC documentation has been shared with Directors, MC has forwarded his opinion and would not support offering repayable grants, CR agreed with MC and feels that the administrative burden would be too much, we have a very different demographic to PyC and less money. To defer till the next CIC when PR should be in attendance.

10. 5 Year plan

**PC
JW**

JW to speak to PC and see what further information is required. To have a draft for the next CIC.

11. Community Engagement Event Planning

JW
AT

8th September was agreed. JW suggested some possible locations for the event. Directors felt that it worked very well at The Gun last year, AT to check on availability. MDG feels that it would be good to concentrate on the funds, what is available and how to apply, to use the event as a promotional activity to try to increase our exposure and reach.

12. Rescheduled Ray Windfarm Visit 23rd August 2023 5-6pm

JW

All agreed to the date, though could the time be amended to 6-7pm to accommodate those who work. JW to enquire with Matt at Vattenfall.

KW left the meeting.

13. AOB

- North Tyne and Redesdale Community Partnership SDF063 for £500 for the soup and sandwich social, SC has approved via email. **Unanimous decision to support.**
- Elsdon Village Hall SDF064 for £500 towards the cost of installing a heavy duty electric supply to the hall to power the generator in emergency situations. Quote over £2,000 received, another funder and the village hall will cover the remainder of the cost. **Unanimous decision to support.**
- JW has received a PEF from We Fibre for NE46 and NE48 areas, some of which JW are not in our Area of benefit. MDG will attend a meeting with JW, advise that we MDG cannot cover homes outside the AoB.
- MN informed the meeting that there had been no progress at Scots Gap surgery JW installing the portacabin funded in December to increase consulting space, JW to contact the surgery.

Closed 8.40pm