

New Cumnock Community Council

**New Cumnock Community Centre, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2014, 7pm.**

Present -

Welcome – opened meeting

Apologies – , Barney Menzies

Police – no police attendance

Minutes of last meeting –

confirmed Events Group day as 9<sup>th</sup> August.

Cllr Ross noted that the general state of Afton Court building and carpets had been highlighted to Chris Mcilvaney, and he had assured that this would be addressed. Keep note on minutes to follow up at next meeting.

proposed minutes as a true and correct record. seconded. Agreed.

Treasurer –

Treasurer position not yet filled. proposed and confirmed that he was willing to accept the position.

Iain Martin noted that the position must be filled by a CC member.

proposed be elected NCCC member. seconded. Agreed.

proposed to take position of Treasurer. seconded. No other nominations. Agreed.

Ashmark Hill Wind Farm –

, RWE Innogy UK (formerly RWE npower renewables) provided a brief update on the project. noted she has taken over as developer for Ashmark from who was the developer on the project since 2010, but she has had an involvement of the project since its conception. will be retained to continue working on the project.

Application submitted end of 2011. No outstanding objections from any statutory consultees (Glasgow Prestwick Airport, GPA objection withdrawn Feb 2014). RWE keen for EAC to determine the application. RWE in dialogue with EAC planners and hoping the application will be determined in autumn, although no commitment on date.

queried how the GPA was withdrawn. explained that RWE had a contract with GPA which ensured a technical radar mitigation solution would be brought forward if the Ashmark Wind Farm was consented.

## Wind farms and opencasts– cumulative map -

queried what the visual impact would be from Burnside.

explained he had prepared a map of all the wind farm and opencast proposals in NCCC boundary area and provided 4 copies for the meeting. requested everyone reviews the map and highlight any errors. He also noted that met masts tend to be 70m tall and this can be used to help scale the size of turbines.

explained that all information regarding the visual impacts associated with Ashmark Wind Farm was provided as part of the Environmental Statement (ES), submitted with the planning application. noted that the NCCC copy was no longer available and requested an electronic copy. **promised to provide CD copies for NCCC.** asked if RWE could provide details of the visibility from Burnside. **Jenny Gascoigne to check the viewpoints included in the ES and provide further comment.**

Cllr Ross noted that EAC have been asked to purchase software so that members of the public can go to EAC and ask to review viewpoints of any wind farm from any location.

Cllr Ross also noted that a motion was to be put to EAC to request that major applications be considered by all Councillors and not just those on the planning committee. This would provide a greater geographic representation of Councillors.

### Afton

To be considered at committee on 27<sup>th</sup> June. Noted that the planning officers had recommended a holding objection because there was no updated cumulative landscape and visual impact assessment. Short discussion on the relevance of the committee meeting proceeding in light of the recommendation and whether this would trigger a Public Inquiry.

Cllr Ross noted for the record that there was no comment at all from his colleague (Cllr Crawford) given his position on the planning committee.

### Kyle South

To be considered 4<sup>th</sup> July. Noted that no recommendation is available yet from the officers. Cllr Ross confirmed this would be available minimum 3 working days before the committee.

## Opencast Coal – Liaison Groups

Hargreaves run 3 liaison groups – Netherton, Chalmerston Complex & House of Water Complex.

noted that anyone with an interest can attend the community liaison groups and queried whether NCCC should be represented at Netherton. Cllr Ross noted that Netherton is not within NCCC boundary, but John Houston noted that the site lorries may come through New Cumnock. **to attend next liaison meeting (9<sup>th</sup> October 2pm).**

Concerns raised regarding number of lorry movements through New Cumnock.  
noted lorries exceeding the weight limit using a 26T bridge.

D&G council approved the application despite EAC objection so little that can be done now. NCCC sent objection to EAC. It is not specifically mentioned by D&G. commented that the only way to do something now, would be if the number of HGV movements exceeds the planning/ S75 consent. (Allowed number believed to be 36 each way).

commented for future applications, NCCC should object direct to the determining authority, and members could also object as individuals to emphasise their objections.

queried why the Kirkconnel conveyor belt can't be used in its entirety to reduce requirements for HGVs from Glenmuckloch to New Cumnock , noting that part of the belt is still used. A discussion was held as to why this might be, the ownership and operation of the conveyor belt and queries raised as to whether the planning permission for coal extraction was conditional on the use of the conveyor belt.

questioned whether the conveyor belts were owned or leased and who they belonged to.

said at least one of the belts was beyond repair and was not capable of being re-animated.

**to investigate why the conveyor belt isn't being used to reduce HGV movements and whether this could in fact be enforced under the terms of the existing planning permission.**

Chalmerston Complex – liaison group re-convening later in year Jerry Mulders will attend as near neighbour.

House of Water Complex – and will be representing NCCC.

It is unclear if Hargreaves are involved in the liaison group for Garleffan. **to contact Garlaffan liaison group and establish. and to attend next Garlaffan liaison meeting (23/9/14) on behalf of NCCC.**

Fulton noted that she was a representative on Kier Mining's liaison group for Gleneagle and Burnside.

New Cumnock Windfarm Energy Fund – provided details of how the money has been spent (see separate breakdown at end of this document.)

Minerals Trus Fund – Jim Hastie provided details of how the money has been spent (see separate breakdown at end of this document.)

Opencast Coal – Dalfad Bond –

Announcement yesterday, EAC had £3.3m insurance bond in place for restoration, but insurers (Zurich) required 60 days' notice to release bond. The bond reduces in value with time, and as a consequence EAC are only able to claim £1.6m for restoration (i.e. £1.7m less than anticipated). Position has been challenged in Court, but Judge has ruled in favour of Zurich.

Cllr Ross also confirmed that the position has now led to a review of all bonds held by EAC. EAC currently hold £12m worth bonds for road re-surfacing, yet many roads are not surfaced. Investigation underway as to why these bonds are not being drawn down.

expressed concern about the pavements near Burnside, noting that EAC have refused to make required repairs. **Gette Fulton to take photos (with help of neighbour) and email details of concerns to so he can raise with EAC from NCCC on behalf of residents.**

Events Group. Next meeting 9 August 12.00 to 1.00 in the big hall.

Communication with wider community –

noted cost to produce quarterly newsletter (as agreed at May meeting) is £400. Separate meeting to be held to prepare letter.

A discussion was held as to whether NCCC required a website to encourage two way communication.

Given the costs of setting up a web page, it was agreed that NCCC would instead establish a facebook page. In order to avoid confusion/ unhelpful commentary, the page will be established so that only administrators can provide information, and no comments will be allowed. The intention is the page will allow NCCC to provide news, notification of meetings (including coal liaison group meetings) etc to wider community. **to set up facebook page.**

Correspondence – none received

Any other Business –

asked why there are no shrubs or hanging baskets in New Cumnock village when all surrounding villages have them? Cllr Ross noted that all other villages (with exception of Cumnock and Kilmarnock) have arranged funding themselves and water them themselves. Cumnock and Kilmarnock flowers are provided by EAC.

**to ask NC improvement group to apply for funding and permission for New Cumnock to have flowers and make arrangements for watering.**

could be asked to water 'their own' baskets.

suggested the nearest residents also offered to water baskets.

asked whether there had been any progress with confirmed there had not, and there appears to be little NCCC can do, since the owner claims the building is wind and waterproof. **to contact Ciss McCraidey (EAC) to request details of state of building repairs.**

Date of Next Meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

Note, minutes recorded by (non member) at request of NCCC in the absence of NCCC minutes secretary,

<b>NewCumnock Windfarm Energy Fund</b>	
<i>Re - Convened Quarterly Meeting</i>	
At the quarterly meeting of the NewCumnock Wind Farm Energy Trust held on Friday 30th May the following Organisations received Grant Funds	
Steering Group	£100.00p
N/C Parents Group	£1,600.00p
Disabled Club	£930.00p
Baptist Church	£800.00p
N/C Scouts	£960.00p
Total Grants Awarded	<b>£4590.00p</b>
<u>£ 590</u>	
<b>Grants Refused</b>	
N/C W.M.C	Outwith Criteria
Evangelical Church	Late Request

<b>Minerals Trust</b>		
At the Minerals Trust meeting held in Visions on 20th June the following Organisations received Grants		
N.C.W.M.C	Toilets	£12,990.00p
N.C Events Group	Fun Day	£2,000.00p
Afton Lily	Roughcast	£6,280.00p
Glenafton J.F.C	Toilets	£14,920.00p
Baptist Church	Kitchen	£7,817.29p
Dalleagles W.R.I	Guests	£500.00p
	TOTAL	<b>£44,507.29p</b>
N.C Activity Group	Withdrawn	

