



Enoch Hill Wind Farm
Community Liaison Group (CLG) Meeting
Kick-off Meeting

18:00 – 19:20
11th December 2023
New Cumnock Town Hall, New Cumnock

Attendees

Nicholas Taylor (NT)	RWE
Dean Guy (DG)	RWE
Mark Cunnane (MC)	Farrans
Laura Sutherland (LS)	Farrans
Gette Fulton (GF)	Resident / NCCC member
Andy Gillies (AG)	B741 resident
Caroline Gillies (CG)	B741 resident
Lady Jane Ross (LJR)	Dalleagles resident

Meeting Notes

NT welcomed everyone to the meeting and proceeded to make introductions.

All attendees were given a handout which contained the following agenda topics:

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Purpose of the CLG
 - Overview of the Terms of Reference
 - Membership
 - General Housekeeping
 - Election of a Chairperson
3. Project Update
4. Matter Arising
5. Confirmation of actions and AOB

NT continued to explain the reason and purpose of holding a CLG during the construction period of Enoch Hill Wind Farm. The purpose of the CLG is to provide an additional opportunity for meaningful two-way communication between the local communities and RWE/ Farrans during the construction of the Enoch Hill Wind Farm project. This forum will therefore provide local stakeholders with an opportunity to raise issues and key points directly with RWE and their project team on an ongoing basis; providing an opportunity for members of the CLG to help ensure disruption is minimised

The CLG will have the following objectives:

1. To obtain feedback and input from the local communities regarding the proposals;
2. To identify and discuss any issues requiring clarification, to ensure any potential concerns regarding the proposals are fully understood and addressed where possible;

RWE

3. To identify and understand potential impacts of the project on the community and local environment and, if appropriate, explore mitigation options.

In terms of meeting housekeeping, RWE has committed to the following:

The agenda and minutes will be circulated to CLG members and available on the RWE project website www.rwe.com/enochhill .

A project email address has now been created enoch_hill@rwe.com

The agenda for each meeting will be circulated one week in advance of the CLG. Minutes will be circulated within three weeks of the meeting.

Dates and venues for future meetings will be decided on by the CLG.

The frequency of the meetings shall be decided between the CLG and RWE but will not be more than two monthly.

To ensure the meetings are productive and efficient, it will not be open to members of the general public.

Note: following explanation of the CLG, NT asked the group if they wanted to elect a chairperson going forward. IT was agreed by all member of the group that they liked the informality of the group and wanted to avoid having a strict meeting format including appointing a Chairperson. The group agreed that attendees would feel more comfortable sharing issues and engaging in open discussion in a more open atmosphere. Therefore, the group will continue without a chair but can readdress this at any point should the need arise.

NT highlighted that only 5 local residents were able to attend this first meeting but membership is still open for following meetings. NT explained that ideally, the group would be made up of the following:

New Cumnock Community Council	Two representatives
Meikle Hill Community Group	Two representatives
Dalleagles Residents	Two representatives
Burnside Residents	Two representatives
Connel Park Residents	Two representatives
Other B741 Residents	Two representatives
Ward Councillors	Two representatives
RWE	Two representatives
Farrans	Two representatives

If there are other interested parties then they are welcome to make themselves known to the group and/or RWE.

DG then proceeded to provide a full update on construction activities to date including the expected programme for the next 18 months.

DG outlined work on construction of the access tracks, construction compound and initial foundation excavations with a view to complete the first concrete pour before the end of the year.

DG also explained the delivery of wind turbine components which are due to be delivered into Kind George V docks in Glasgow. These components will be delivered during the night between midnight and 5am. These deliveries are expected to commence around June 2024.



DG then explained the reasoning for the blasting of rock that has occurred on site. The purpose of this is to provide rock to be used to construct the access roads and construction compound. Doing the blasts has avoided the need to import the aggregate needed which would have resulted in approx. 15,000 lorry movements.

QUESTION GF asked how many individual explosions are used in each blast? Impact is reduced if a single blast is made each time rather than multiple smaller ones in each blast. DG & MC advised that it is usually a single blast.

QUESTION LJR advised that a loud blast had been heard at around 9pm on Thursday 7th December from up on the hill to the south of Dalleagles and asked if we were responsible for this. DG & MC both confirmed that no blasting has occurred for over the past month and we were not responsible for that. To confirm this, DG and MC confirmed that work on site is also limited to the hrs between 7am and 7pm and any blasting only takes place during this time.

QUESTION LJR also advised that deposits of clay were also beginning to flow down Dalleagles Burn and LJR has made a complaint to the “compliance” team. LJR also advised that she had encountered fisheries personnel investigating land around Dalleagles but they failed to identify themselves. RWE were unable to confirm if they were there on behalf of Enoch Hill as we were unaware. However, RWE took an action away to ensure anyone acting on behalf of the wind farm should identify as such.

LJR requested the peat survey report and NT confirmed he will find it and issue.

The group then moved on to further topics which solely centred on the discussion of speeding. NT acknowledged that speeding around the local area is an increasing concern and that is why RWE implemented a temporary speed restriction around the site entrance in order to protect both construction colleagues and other road users. However, it is acknowledged that people then speed up after this area which added to the problem. This is clearly a wider problem in the area and these minor roads are frequently used and excessive speed is becoming more common. NT confirmed that RWE can only reinforce the importance of observing speed limits to employees and contractors whilst they are working within their working hrs. However, RWE will reinforce this to colleagues to ensure we continue to be respectful of our neighbours and the wider community.

LJR advised that Ayrshire Road Alliance (ARA) had speed assessments and asked if RWE would be willing to support the need for a reduction in the speed limit on the roads approaching New Cumnock (especially on the B741). NT said that he saw no reason why RWE would not support this call and put our name to it if required. With all things such as this, it would require internal approval which would be sought if formally requested by the community.

AG highlighted specific dangers of the bends in the roads near to his property (between Burnside and the 30mph sign). NT confirmed he would send a map to AG to ensure RWE was aware of these specific areas. It was also highlighted about traffic on the Daldrig (spelling?) road and Boig road which are known locally to be used as short cuts and excessive speed is common. Loud music from cars early in the morning is common but it is unsure who is responsible. RWE took it away to advise to employees and contractors to be mindful of neighbours when travelling to and from site.

Actions

NT to find and issue peat survey report
NT to issue map to AG
NT to confirm time and date of next meeting