

# The Nant y Moch Wind Farm

## Community Liaison Group

### Fourth Meeting 28th July 2009 at 7.00pm Neuadd Goffa Talybont

## Minutes

<b>Chair:</b>	Hazel Lloyd Lurban	Ceredigion's Association of Voluntary Organisations
<b>Active Members:</b>	Gerwyn Jones	Ceulanamaesmawr Community Council
	Andy Rowland	Ecodyfi Manager
	Anwen Haynes	Llancynfelin Community Council
	Gareth Daniel	Melindwr Community Council
	Kari Walker	Trefeurig Community Council
	Harry Toland	Ysgybor y Coed Community Council
	Madeline Cowley	Project Manager, Airtricity
<b>Observers:</b>	Aaron Fortt	Forestry Commission Wales
	Tony Ellis	Forestry Commission Wales
	Eirlys Lloyd	Ceredigion County Council
	Paul Burrell	Dulas
	Alex Fornal	Development Manager, Airtricity
	Eluned Lewis	Community Liaison Officer, Airtricity
<b>Secretariat:</b>	Eluned Lewis	Community Liaison Officer, Airtricity
<b>Translator:</b>	Heledd Davies	
<b>Apologies:</b>	Aled Thomas	Blaenrheidol Community Council
	Gwyn Lewis	Cadfarch Community Council
	Wynne Jones	Pentir Pumlumon Development Officer
	Gwennan Davies	Menter Aberystwyth
	Allan Lewis	Assistant Chief Executive, Ceredigion County Council
	Vanessa Garwood	Regeneration Manager, Powys County Council
	Lowri Jones	Regeneration Officer, Powys County Council
	Michael Phillips	Dulas

## **1. Welcome and Introductions:**

Hazel Lloyd Lurban welcomed everyone to the fourth meeting of the Community Liaison Group (CLG). Alex Fornal introduced Madeline Cowley, who is the new Nant y Moch Project Manager and who will be Airtricity's representative at the CLG meetings from now on. Aaron Fortt, Forestry Commission Wales introduced Tony Ellis the District Area Manager and explained he would now be attending as an observer on behalf of the Forestry Commission.

## **2. Apologies' received:**

The above apologies were noted. Representatives were reminded that if they are unable to attend they should inform the Alternate Active Member in order to ensure that the organisation is represented at the meeting and involved in any decision making which takes place.

## **3. Declarations of Interest:**

Hazel Lloyd Lurban asked if there were any declarations of interest, of which there were none.

## **4. Agree the minutes of the last meeting – Active Member discussion:**

Hazel Lloyd Lurban asked members to look over the minutes of the last meeting page by page before confirming them as accurate. Andy Rowland proposed the minutes as accurate, Harry Toland seconded them and all the Active Members agreed with this.

## **5. Matters Arising from the minutes:**

Kari Walker suggested that the Community Liaison Officer should attend the Penrhynoch Village show on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August. Andy Rowland suggested that she attend the Miri Mawr in Machynlleth on the 18<sup>th</sup> of August also. Eluned Lewis agreed to add these to her event attendance calendar.

## **6. Update on the Community Engagement Plan:**

Eluned Lewis gave a verbal report on the Community Engagement Plan activities carried out since the last meeting including the recent public exhibitions held in June. Gerwyn Jones congratulated Airtricity on the attendance achieved at the Public Exhibitions, commenting that at the Tal y bont exhibition a good cross section of the community were present. Andy Rowland asked how Airtricity will now act on the comments received at the exhibitions and questionnaires. Alex Fornal replied that as the project progresses on to a final wind farm design layout and Public Exhibitions difficult decisions will need to be made. Airtricity were keeping records of all comments received and will need to demonstrate how they were dealt with. Eluned Lewis reported that in total six letters had been received so far from concerned residents, raising a number of issues which Airtricity had responded to. It was agreed that a report detailing the issues raised and response by Airtricity would be prepared and circulated to CLG members. It was agreed that the Community Liaison Officer would write to the Community Councils and request an opportunity to give a project update presentation during October / November to inform on how the issues of most concern such as transport and access are progressing prior to the final series of Public Exhibitions which are scheduled to take place at the end of 2009. Alex Fornal explained that the end of the year was fast

approaching and that assessments and ongoing project work may not be complete meaning that the final series of Public Exhibitions would be better held during the first quarter of 2010 when everything is finalised. He asked if the Active Members of the CLG were comfortable with this. All agreed that a thorough consultation process and project development was essential and if this required more time than had been allotted in the Community Engagement Plan then so be it.

#### **7. Next meeting of the Community Liaison Group:**

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Community Liaison Group would be held on Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> of October at 7pm at Y Neuadd Goffa Tal y bont.

#### **8. Signing the Terms of Reference:**

The Active Members present signed the Terms of Reference.

#### **9. Any other business:**

Annwen Haynes and a number of other members raised concerns about the transport and access issue and the effect it would have on the communities during the construction phase. Eluned Lewis noted this and explained that Airtricity were aware of these concerns.

Kari Walker raised a question about the effect of the potential wind farm construction on the hydrology and water quality at Craig y Pistyll, noting that the reservoir supplies drinking water to the Aberystwyth area and that Trefeurig Community Council were concerned about this. Paul Burrell from Dulas answered that hydrology was one of the aspects looked at in detail within the Environmental Impact Assessment and that Dwr Cymru were also consultants in this process. Eluned Lewis agreed to send a written response to the question to Trefeurig Community Council.

Harry Toland asked if it was possible for Airtricity to provide information on how the amount of community benefits funding compared to the percentage of the company's profits from the potential wind farm. Alex Fornal agreed to raise this request with his superiors at Scottish and Southern.

Gerwyn Jones suggested that the best benefit for people living in the area would be to qualify for cheaper energy bills as a result of the wind farm. Alex Fornal replied that Scottish and Southern preferred to use the community benefits fund to implement energy efficiency measures in people's homes which saves them money and reduces energy consumption at the same time.

Eluned Lewis asked if at future CLG meetings the Active Members would like to have information provided about wind farm technology. Gerwyn Jones answered he did not think this was necessary. Eirlys Lloyd suggested that it would be useful for the Communities First Partnership of the Tregaron upland villages.

Madeline Cowley asked if the Active Members were happy for the minutes of the CLG meetings to appear on the Nant y Moch project website along with information about the structure of the CLG and its membership. All agreed with this, however it was agreed that there would be delay as minutes would need to be approved at the subsequent meeting of the CLG prior to being placed on the website.

There being no further business Hazel Lloyd Lurban thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting was closed.