



Bro Dyfi Community Renewables Ltd

Ty Bro Ddyfi, 52 Heol Maengwyn, Machynlleth SY20 8DT

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Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2008 reporting on the Society's activities during the year ended 31st December 2007.

Present: John Williams, chair; Rod Edwards, treasurer; John Harrison, Secretary; other committee members: Judith Thornton, Tim Brewer, Duncan Kerridge, Billy Langley and Michael Phillips.

Share members: David Baines, Harry Chandler, David Crossgrove, Merle Fisher, Francoise Gollain, Jonathan Hill, Jeanne Kerridge, Terry Kerridge, Sonia Kuznetsov, Maureen Sedgwick, Nick Smythe and David Watson.

Apologies received from Tony Burton and Brian Healey. 27 proxy votes were received, for chair's discretion.

Following a presentation by the Treasurer, adoption of the Society's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2007 was proposed by Terry Kerridge and seconded by David Watson. All present voted in favour and the Report and Accounts were thereby adopted.

The committee's recommendation that in view of the state of the Society's finances at the end of the year, no share dividend be declared in respect of 2007's results. This was proposed to the meeting by Nick Smythe and seconded by David Watson. All present voted in favour of the resolution, thus declared adopted.

The third and final resolution put before the meeting was that all present members of the Committee, being eligible, be reappointed for the year ending at the AGM in 2009 for y.e. 31.12.2008. This was proposed by Sonia Kuznetsov and seconded by Jonathan Hill. All other members present voted in favour; the motion was carried.

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Share members Sonia Kuznetsov and Jonathan Hill offered their collaboration in the work of the committee. After discussion, both were invited to attend the next two meetings of the committee and, if they so chose, confirm their candidacy thereafter. In that case, they would be co-opted as members and thus permitted to submit themselves for election at the next AGM.

Committee member Duncan Kerridge then gave a report on progress with BDCR's second turbine project: replacement of the defunct MS4, acquired by the company from the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT):

At the beginning of 2007, as commissioning of the replacement Nordtank 500kW turbine was taking place, the 11kV transformer cabin was badly damaged in a storm. This was subsequently repaired to allow commissioning to continue but in March the high voltage switchgear was damaged due to moisture ingress when Scottish Power (SP) tried to reconnect the grid after a fault. After some discussion and delay, SP quoted £30,000 to replace the switchgear. Subsequent negotiation with CAT resulted in an agreement to share this cost and the switchgear was duly ordered, with a nine month lead time.

Meanwhile, discussions continued with SP over the specification for a replacement cabin. The standard approach would be to use a brick and concrete structure but this was precluded by the planning permission, despite enquiries as to whether this condition could be waived in the circumstances. An alternative proposal with thermal and structural calculations for an insulated fibreglass cabin was submitted early in 2008 and eventually approved. The new cabin was ordered in March and grant funding was secured for 50% of the costs. In July the committee spent a Saturday morning mixing and placing concrete for the new foundation. However, a subsequent site inspection by SP revealed that the space available was less than they had expected. Further discussions ensued with SP and the switch manufacturers (who are responsible for its installation).

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We appear to be on the verge of a workable solution involving some modification of the new cabin and the foundation. Once this is agreed the cabin manufacturer will make the necessary changes and deliver the cabin to site. The switchgear will then be installed and commissioning will be completed and generation started. We envisage the remaining work will take about three months, weather permitting.

In the meantime we have made weekly checks on the turbine. A blade tip was damaged by lightning but a replacement has been secured and will be fitted once the grid connection is restored. To assist cashflow, Finance Wales has granted us a payment holiday on our loan interest for most of the current year (2008).

Committee member Mike Phillips responded to a question regarding future sales of electricity generated by BDCR's turbines. We are in the throes of completing negotiations with Good Energy (GE) for a new power purchase agreement, which will mean they will purchase the power from the V17 75kW wind turbine for the next few years. The negotiations have required a new connection agreement with Scottish Power, a new metering agreement with Siemens and the registration of BDCR as a supplier with Ofgem. We have managed to negotiate a price that is considerably better than we had before with CAT and we're pleased that the agreement is with a company that is a 100% green energy supplier - as well as being one of BDCR's major shareholders!

These minutes confirmed by the committee of BDCR on 30th November 2008

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