# SCBF Directors Meeting

# 10th May 2023 at 1800

# Market House Conference Room

**Present**

Chris Bunyan, Alistair Laurenson, Jim Anderson, Aileen Brown, David Cooper, Jamie Macbeath, Colin Clark, James Garrick, Alistair Christie-Henry, John Dally and Neville Martin.

**In Attendance**

Eleanor Gear, Administration Officer

**Election of officers**

Prior to the meeting beginning, the management committee were required to elect officers.

Chair – Chris Bunyan, proposed by Alistair Christie-Henry, seconded by John Dally

Vice-Chair – John Dally, proposed by Chris Bunyan, seconded by Alistair Christie-Henry

Secretary – Neville Martin, proposed by Alistair Laurenson, seconded by Jim Anderson

Treasurer – Aileen Brown, proposed by Alistair Christie-Henry, seconded by Jamie Macbeath

**1. Apologies**

John Parry, Angela Sutherland and Karen Hannay

**2. New declarations of interests**

Chris Bunyan declared receipt of hospitality from RSM as the winner of a prize draw of two tickets (including corporate hospitality) to a Folk Festival concert.

**3. New Directors/Observers**

CB welcomed back the four directors who are serving new 3 year terms. Alistair Christie-Henry, Jim Milne, Aileen Brown and Colin Clark. Skerries and Fetlar still have vacant seats on the board and this has been the case for quite some time. CB will send a letter to both, there are exciting times ahead with the main fund beginning next year and it is hoped both areas could be represented on the board.

**4. Minutes of 8th March 2023**

Proposed by Jim Anderson, seconded by Alistair Laurenson. Agreed.

**Matters Arising and not covered by the agenda**

Colin Clark asked for clarity on why the 10% of the main funding to community councils is less in monetary terms that what they receive now (£6,500 approx. for 1 share areas and not £10,000). CB explained that under the Heads of Terms, the initial amount was 5% of the main fund but that SCBF negotiated this up to 10%. Community councils are likely to receive less larger value applications as these will come directly to SCBF. Lindsay Dougan added the SCBF could revisit the community council allocation if they wished with Jim Anderson suggesting that we should await the results of the community consultation before discussing further. It was agreed to add this to the agenda for the management meeting in June.

**5. Audit and Governance group**

Aileen Brown raised that the membership of the Audit and Governance group perhaps needed revisiting. CB suggested the current group should meet soon and regularly and if current members cannot meet, look at membership of the group.

**6. Administration**

Nothing to Report.

**7. Financial Report**

**(a)** Report on 2023-24 income and expenditure - circulated

Report noted.

**8. Legal and Accountancy Advice**

Nothing to report.

**9. Viking Energy**

**(a)** Management of Main funds – verbal report

The Management of Main Funds subgroup reported on their progress.

**10. Business Plan Sub-Group**

The business Plan sub-Group reported on the consultation progress. The report was noted.

**11. AGS**

**(a)** Application Summary Report – circulated

Eleanor advised that April and May had both been quiet in terms of applications but that SCBF had received lots of enquiries, especially for larger projects. Lindsay Dougan added that the quiet period had been similar across many of the SSE community benefit funds.

Report noted.

**12. Shetland Aerogenerators Community Benefit Fund**

Nothing to Report.

**13**. **Other commercial renewable energy scheme**

Nothing to Report.

**14. Any other business**

David Cooper raised an issue regarding SIC cutbacks and wondered how alert SCBF can be to that. CB stated that this has been touched on over the years and it has always been agreed that SCBF would not be a ‘go to’ for SIC cuts. He advised that this is why the fund currently and in future cannot support projects which are, or should be, the responsibility of a statutory body. Lindsay Dougan added that this is to protect funds for communities. The issue was noted.

James Garrick asked if the Fund Management group would be considering how the main fund will ensure the 4 areas take priority and asked when will branches of funding would become available? CB advised that it is already agreed that the 4 areas get priority for the main fund if it is oversubscribed with applications. Further details of how the fund will operate are still be considered.

Date of next meeting – 14th June 2023 at 1800

**Meeting closed at 1915 with nothing further to discuss.**