

## MINUTES

### CLARKE CREEK WINDFARM COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

February 18, 2021  
Marlborough Hall

#### 1. OPENING

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Meeting commenced 10:05am

#### 2. APOLOGIES/ATTENDANCE

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Noel Herley Chair

Chloe Atkinson  
Amanda Mahy  
Kerry Wallace  
Rob Sherry  
Lynise Conaghan

Goldwind attendees:

Clare Powell  
Noel Fordyce  
Ben Williams (online)

Council representatives:

Cr Viv Coleman, Isaac Regional Council  
Jim Hutchison, Isaac Regional Council (Observer)

Susan Herley (Minutes)

Apologies:

Harry Kemp  
Tony Lau  
Briel Dorr

#### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

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Minutes of last meeting previously distributed were accepted.

#### 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

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Nil

## 5. CORRESPONDENCE

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Nil

## 6. ADJOURNED BUSINESS

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Nil

## 7. GENERAL BUSINESS

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### Project update:

Clare presented Project Update as per PowerPoint previously distributed:

- Project facts refresh
- COVID-19 update
  - Marlborough Information Centre opens with COVID-safe plan on Fridays
  - Travel restrictions for corporate staff eased with options to return to office
  - Goldwind team will invest in relevant IT equipment to support any ongoing need for future CCC meetings to be via a mix of in person and teleconference.
- Key Project Activities
  - Ben Williams is the new development manager for the project, replacing Nam Quach. Ben has been working on Clarke Creek for over 2 years, preparing the project for construction.
  - Goldwind seeking equity for Stage 1 of Project
  - Goldwind will continue to be involved through Stage 1 and manage Stage 2  
*Lynise and Cr Coleman requested clarification of status of current community commitments following sale of project. Clare advised that Goldwind would still be involved and expectation is that sale of the project would have no bearing on these commitments. Clare will follow up once sale has progressed to seek further comfort for the community that commitments will be honoured.*
- Ongoing preparation for construction
  - Balance of Plant (BOP) Preferred Status  
Clarke Creek have nominated preferred BOP tenderers for the project. Catcon are the preferred tenderer for the civil works, and Yurika are the preferred tenderer for the electrical works.

Preferred tenderer status means that they have not been awarded the contract, however they will continue more detailed investigations and contract negotiations in preparation for being awarded the contract. This means that Yurika and Catcon personnel will start more detailed engagement with local suppliers and undertake visits to the site and surrounding area.

Yurika is a division of Energy Queensland alongside Ergon and Energex, and have delivered a large number of electrical infrastructure and renewable projects across the country, with the majority of work performed in Queensland.

Catcon have constructed the civil works for close to half of all wind farms in Australia and have been in the renewables business since it began in the country. Catcon are based in Adelaide, however they have constructed projects across the country, including recently completing two large wind farms in Queensland.

*Cr Coleman raised questions regarding COVID recovery plan during construction phase. Cr Coleman to have further discussions with Goldwind and report back to next meeting.*

- Ongoing compliance and managing potential impacts
  - Minor change application to project layout approved with no change to total number of turbines (195)
  - Ongoing work on management plans, ecological and heritage surveys and collection of wind data.
- Ongoing community and industry engagement
  - Continuing phone and email enquiries
  - Information Centre re-opened
  - Sponsorship of RACQ Capricorn Helicopter Rescue Service Community Open Day
  - ICN Gateway continues for local business to register interest.
- Site activity
  - Site maintenance visits including weed spraying
  - Upgrade of wind monitoring communications equipment from 3G to 4G.

#### **Review EOI for Fund Admin and consider alternative 'Smarty' software:**

Clare summarised SmartyGrants grant application software.

- Currently used on two other Goldwind projects.
- Experience is that it's user friendly, provides structure throughout the process and gives audit trail
- Training will be provided for admin and committee members
- Subscription cost to be covered by the project

Consensus agreement to trial SmartyGrants and reassess after 12 months.

*Lynise raised concern whether criteria for scholarship applications could be catered for within SmartyGrants. Clare reiterated that SmartyGrants allows for specific assessment criteria to be set by committee members for different grant categories.*

*Consensus that scholarship criteria need to be closely considered to encourage applications from all in the community who could benefit.*

*Cr Coleman to provide bursary application criteria from Isaac Regional Council. Other members to source bursary or scholarship criteria from various schools. Clare will use these as basis for draft criteria for discussion at next meeting, with flexibility to ensure each application is considered on its own merits.*

### **Spreadsheet for Community Fund**

Use of SmartyGrants negates need for spreadsheet.

Clare to continue discussions with person who expressed interest in administration of fund regarding assisting with administration of SmartyGrants software.

### **Revisit 'Role of the Committee'**

Discussion on formalisation of meetings vs being a 'consultative' committee.

*Lynise spoke on importance of recording decisions and action via formal motions.*

*Cr Coleman spoke on documentation and substantiation to aid community transparency.*

Agreement that most decisions continue to be made by consensus, with formal motions being available for things like setting up of criteria or as specifically requested by any member.

### **Role of committee regarding community feedback:**

- Committee members should be a conduit to direct people to website/newsletters as appropriate or put people in contact with appropriate Goldwind person to answer their enquiry, not act as middleman.
- Any issue requiring a formal response should be brought to a meeting.
- Community meetings will be held as project progresses so people can raise issues and ask questions for themselves.
- For a specific complaint, take name and details and direct immediately to Clare.
- Advisable to keep notes of interactions.

Consensus that the role of committee is to allocate funding and act as a conduit between Goldwind and the community.

*Lynise suggested topics brought up frequently be included in newsletter.*

*Suggested a project update could be provided in School Newsletter. Noel F to follow up.*

### **Committee Charter:**

Document provided by Cr Coleman as an example was distributed for review. To be discussed at next meeting with aim of creating a formal committee charter.

## **8. COMMUNITY FEEDBACK**

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1. Commonly asked question: When is it going to start?
2. Common belief to be addressed: 'more energy used in creating turbines than they will supply'. Clare to add lifecycle analysis to next newsletter.
3. Plan for decommissioning.

*Impact of decommissioning on community just as great as impact of construction. Important for long-term locals and next generation.*

*Clare to provide details direct to committee members.*

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

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20 May 2021 at Clarke Creek School library (Noel F to clarify suitability re COVID)  
(November meeting changed to 4 November)

## **10. CLOSE**

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Meeting closed 11:55am