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Project:	Tirgwynt Wind Farm
Meeting Title:	Community Liaison Group Meeting (TIRGm113)
Date/Time:	31st August 2016; 19:00
Venue:	Welshpool Town Hall, SY21 7JQ

Present	Representing	Role
Mike Davis (MJD) - Chair	Wind Prospect Ltd (WPL)	Owner's Engineer and Project Manager
Sophy Fearnley-Whittingstall (SFW)	Awel Newydd Cyf	Community Relations Manager
Insp. Stuart Eckley (SE)	Dyfed Powys Police	
Cllr Gwyndaf Thomas (GT)	Carno Community Council	
Cllr Michael Connell (MC)	Carreghofa Community Council	
Cllr Primrose Jones (PJ)	Llandrinio & Arddleen Community Council	
Cllr Phil Davies (PD)	Dwyrw Community Council	
Cllr Frances Buckingham (FB)	Llandysilio Community Council	
Robert Robinson (RR)	Welshpool Town Council	
Cllr Steve Kaye (SK)	Welshpool Town Council	
Cllr Amy Bowen (AB)	Welshpool Town Council	
Cllr Graham Breeze (GB)	Welshpool Town Council	

1. Apologies were received from Emily Cheung (EC)(Awel Newydd), Cllr Alun Phillips (Carno) and Carol Davies (clerk to Llandrinio & Arddleen, Llandysilio). No other community councils responded to the invitation or reminder.
2. Introductions
 - 2.1 All community members introduced themselves.
3. Health and Safety
 - 3.1 RR gave a safety brief for the building.
4. Construction Progress - MD
 - 4.1 6 turbines now complete on South side of site; commissioning expected mid-September.
 - 4.2 Project remains on schedule for commercial operation in December.
5. Substation Progress – MD

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- 5.1 The civil works are being finished off with final connection of equipment inside the substation ongoing.
 - 5.2 Scottish Power are running behind on their commissioning programme (due to current strong demand for high voltage engineers) which is causing delay to energisation. Energising the cables now set to be 11th October (2 week delay).
 - 5.3 Re-ordering the wind turbine activities means this delay doesn't affect overall programme.
6. Turbine Deliveries Update – MD & SFW
- 6.1 After a slow start, the deliveries have picked up and are about 2/3 complete – should be completed by mid-September.
 - 6.2 Timings are difficult to predict, but project team has been updating stakeholders & members of public via the website, email & text alerts. MD apologised that information has been difficult to obtain from hauliers who were unable to provide live online tracker of delivery trucks. FB commented that the public seem to be reconciled to this now & the police live Twitter feed is very useful and local radio is also providing updates. There was general agreement that the text alerts are also useful.
 - 6.3 RR commented that local feedback should be listened to. SFW & MD explained that timing issues are not necessarily due to motorway traffic, & incidents had been relatively few, but logistics relating to availability of trucks, drivers & police escorts which changed from day to day.
 - 6.4 There may now be an overlap with the Garreg Lwyd deliveries of approximately one week (week commencing 12th September). RES and ANC have agreed to deliver on different days to minimise disruptions.
 - 6.5 PJ asked about impact on schools. SFW stated that local schools have been notified of deliveries during the first two weeks of the new school year so that parents & staff know where to check information & can adjust journey times if necessary. Schools will also be invited to participate in a 'Name the Turbine' competition, which has been very popular at other wind farms.
 - 6.6 RR commented that Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway is holding its Gala weekend 2-3 September & the delivery planned for Saturday 3rd September should have been avoided. SFW responded that so far deliveries had not caused many issues in Welshpool, a member of the team would speak to the Gala organisers & liaise with the police. **Action: EC to contact Light Railway.**
 - 6.7 PJ commented that she had counted 99 vehicles travelling behind a convoy 2 weeks ago. MD commented that is not unusual to see long lines of traffic stuck behind slow moving vehicles such as farm machinery. FB commented that delays are no longer

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than 10 minutes & no problems had been reported to council. MC commented that traffic sometime builds up on side roads. SFW stated that only a small number of complaints had been received by the project team, with as many people saying the drivers are doing a good job & wanting to know when they could view a convoy. MC agreed many people enjoy watching the convoys. RR stated there had been no difficulties getting through Welshpool.

- 6.8 MC, PJ, FB & GB expressed concern at the speed of the police outriders and the police vehicle at the front of the convoy. Also queried why there were no outriders at the back of convoys. SE said he would feed these concerns back to Inspector Gary Jones. RR commented that police motorcycles have responded to feedback & now slowed down travelling through Welshpool. FB commented that Collett's drivers were very good & slowing down when appropriate.

7. Community Benefit Fund Proposals - SFW

- 7.1 SFW outlined the community fund proposals: £2000 per MW per year, index-linked, for 25-year lifetime of wind farm, amounting to a total of £49,200 per year. 75% to be shared between host communities of Carno & Dwyriw, 25% to delivery route communities from site to Pant:

- £24,600 to Carno community (8 turbines)
- £12,300 to Dwyriw community (4 turbines)
- £12,300 to delivery route communities for 5 years, then opened out to wider community of Montgomeryshire

- 7.2 It is proposed that as Carno & Dwyriw both already manage existing wind farm community benefit funds, the Tirgwynt funds are added to their current funds.

- 7.3 For the delivery route fund (name TBC) Awel Newydd will set up a Trust with a similar structure to the Carno and Dwyriw Wind Farm Fund Trusts. Grant decisions would be made by a Board of Trustees drawn from the beneficiary Community Councils, except Welshpool who will be represented by member(s) of the public, plus a representative of the wind farm (landowner). The delivery route fund would be for the benefit of residents of the following communities: Castle Caereinion; Carreghofa; Llanymynech & Pant; Llandrinio & Arddleen; Llandysilio; Llanfair Caereinion; Welshpool for the first five years, & for residents of Montgomeryshire thereafter. A fund administrator would be appointed locally, paid from funds (c4 days' work a year estimated) – this is the sort of work likely to appeal to a community council clerk (as at the Carno & Dwyriw funds). Funds for the first five years would be paid as a discounted lump sum upfront, c£55,000 subject to confirmation by Awel Newydd's directors.

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- 7.4 Several local groups have already expressed interest in applying for grants from the delivery route fund: Pant Memorial Hall - renewable energy; Welshpool Community Transport; Montgomeryshire Volunteer Bureau; Welshpool Outreach Centre; Montgomeryshire Youth Theatre; Welshpool Food Bank; 1st Welshpool Brownies; 1st Welshpool Guides; Welshpool Young Fire Fighters; Guilsfield FC; Open Door Family Centre; Welshpool Town Junior FC; Welshpool Air Cadets; Arddleen Primary School.
- 7.5 RR queried whether Guilsfield should also be included in the delivery route fund. SFW responded that the fund would be open to them after 5 years anyway, but she would double check the community boundaries. **Action: SFW to verify whether turbine delivery route passes directly through Guilsfield.** GT commented that the funds need to report back annually to the Welsh Assembly on grant disbursements. FB commented that each individual community council would need to discuss the proposal, but as they are based on two existing proven local Trust-based schemes there shouldn't be a lot of argument. **Action: SFW to contact individual delivery route community councils with more detail on proposals.**
8. AOB
- 8.1 MC commented that road signs between Oswestry and Welshpool relating to the deliveries need to be changed to reflect that Garreg Lwyd Wind Farm turbine deliveries will continue to December. **Action: SFW to feed back to RES.**
- 8.2 MC asked why RES does not have a CLG for Garreg Lwyd. MD explained that both developers have slightly different approaches, and for Tirgwynt the CLG was part of the S106 whereas it was not for Garreg Lwyd, but that RES & Awel Newydd are cooperating closely and there would be a smooth handover when RES starts deliveries to maintain best practice.
- 8.3 RR asked when the Welshpool traffic islands would go back. MD responded this would be after deliveries were complete, mid-September.
- 8.4 FB asked if the chevron tool at Four Crosses Roundabout could be handed over to RES. MD said it would be.
9. Next Meeting Date, Time & Location
- 9.1 PJ asked if there could be a site visit for the CLG and it was agreed this would take place before the next meeting to take place in the first half of November 2016 (avoiding dates close to Remembrance Sunday) for all members. Site visit at 2 pm to be followed by meeting in Carno Community Centre. **Action: SFW to liaise with GT to confirm suitable date and time in Carno**

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