

GAG MEETING 14 DECEMBER - SUMMARY

1. Minutes of last meeting:

Accepted

2. GAG Treasurer and vice-Chairman.

After discussion it was agreed that a treasurer need not be appointed meantime, but a vice-chairman would be helpful. Andrew Middleton was nominated, and accepted.

3. Updates - website and newsletter

Members present were happy with the current content and appearance of the web pages. The Newsletter has been distributed apart from to some of Mandally and one or two other houses. Distribution will be completed by midweek.

4. Letters

The Community Council had discussed our request for a member seconded by the CC to GAG, and Jon Fleming had been appointed on their behalf.

A reply had been received from Simon Hodge, who has replaced Dr Insley. While this was commendably prompt it did not fully cover the points GAG had raised with FCS on the particular issue of community involvement and communication. GAG will send a response.

A letter has been sent to each of the three local councilors, describing the Public Meeting, simply for their information. The website address was included.

5. Potential water contamination

This related to possible direct and run-off contamination of the river Garry, and was being investigated.

6. Discussions with SNH

SNH do have a position on biomass (their website), based around the same concerns as in the report on renewable energy by a government Steering Group, 2008. They now are aware that there are sizeable bat populations in the vicinity of the proposed plant, and possibly even on the site itself. The further issue of ultrasonic noise emissions has not been investigated to our knowledge, and SNH are aware of this gap in information.

7. Chipping locations

Since these will be a matter for subcontractors, it is possible that chipping for supplying this proposed plant could be concentrated in one location. This is being investigated.

8. Glengarry and Renewables

How much do we do now? The Glengarry mass concrete dam hydro system is rated at 19.5 MW, and the windfarm is as already noted producing 13-14 MW with more to come. Other proposed new schemes are in the early stages, including pumped hydro. The planned outputs of these other schemes will also be assessed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

MONDAY 11TH JANUARY CRAIGARD 7PM