

**Garn Fach Wind Farm Community Liaison Group**  
**6pm, Wednesday 3 March 2021**  
**Via Microsoft Teams**  
**MINUTES**

**Attendees - members**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Angharad Davies (chair)	Cadno Communications Ltd
Catherine Fairclough	Farming families
Cllr David Evans	Nantmel ward
Cllr David Lowde	St. Harmon Community Council
Cllr Ivor Jones	Kerry Community Council
Cllr James Powell	Llanbadarn Fynydd Community Council
Cllr Karl Lewis	Llandinam ward
Cllr Rachel Powell	Beguildy ward
Nick Venti	PAVO
Simon Morgan	EDF R
Harvey George	Montgomery YFC

**Attendees - others**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
Sarah Jones (minutes)	Cadno Communications Ltd
Declan Turner	Wavehill Ltd

**1. Welcome**

The chair welcomed members to the meeting. The chair welcomed Harvey George representing Montgomery YFC at their first meeting.

**2. Introductions and apologies**

Apologies were received from Gemma Owen at Montgomery YFC and Cllr Robin Lewis.

**3. Guest speakers**

Declan Turner from Wavehill provided a presentation. Wavehill is working with EDF to model the potential socio-economic impact of Garn Fach Wind Farm. The research will form part of the supporting documentation when the planning application is submitted.

Wavehill is modelling the potential financial impact, such as expenditure retained in local economy, supply chains, local spend from employees, investment in local infrastructure, community funds, local ownership, GVA and employment. The potential impact on recreation, training opportunities, community fund/local ownership and habitat will also be modelled.

Declan thanked members of the CLG for completing the survey to date and asked that all members complete the survey.

**Q. How is EDF intending to use Wavehill's information?**

The research will form part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). It will help EDF determine how to utilise the investment and the local supply chain, and demonstrate the case for Garn Fach.

**Q. Can you talk more about habitat management?**

There will be benefits from investing in habitat restoration. Of the three parcels of land in the

development the southern parcel has no infrastructure, and EDF is looking to use that land for habitat management. SM is keen to have Statement of Common Ground with NRW prior to submission of the planning application.

Q. What about access and the right to roam on that land?

EDF has listened to feedback about recreation on the site and is looking at ways to incorporate that in the design. Internal tracks to be used for cyclists and a car park in the south of the site are being explored with the landowners. EDF has taken on board comments from the last consultation about potential impact on the Prince Llywelyn bridleway and is looking at providing alternative routes so horses are not encircled by turbines. Also looking at getting a permissive footpath to the Fowlers' Armchair scheduled monument.

**Action:** Cadno to share the presentation with the group members, with the caveat the figures may change when the wind farm design is finalised as the figures quoted are based on 22 turbines.

**4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting and matters arising**

4.1. There were no matters arising.

4.2. NV proposed that the minutes be approved by the group, seconded by DL. The minutes will be translated and published on the Garn Fach website.

**5. Project update: Simon Morgan**

5.1. Additional peat probing is underway. EDF is seeking landowner approval for the final turbine layout. Once approved, EDF's Environmental Team will write the full environmental statement which forms the basis of the pre-application consultation. EDF will make the CLG aware of the turbine layout before the pre-application consultation.

5.2. The pre-application consultation is expected to be held around May 2021. Due to the pandemic the consultation will be virtual, as the last consultation. The consultation will last for a minimum of six weeks. EDF plans to submit the planning application in the summer.

5.3. NV stated PAVO are happy to work with EDF on the MOU. SM would like to submit a draft, unsigned MOU with the planning application to demonstrate to the Minister EDF's commitment to an MOU. SM is keen for the approval of the MOU to be a whole group to decision.

Q. I notice some of the Distribution Network Operators are consulting on infrastructure upgrades. Is there any update on the grid for the wind farm?

The solution for Garn Fach is via the transmission network. The distribution network is full, which is a huge pan-Wales problem. There are a lot of conversations taking place across the industry and government about this. Wales' grid can't deliver net zero at present.

Q. Are things in general progressing satisfactorily?

EDF would have liked to submit the planning application early this year. It has been slower due to Covid-19 but overall they are happy with the rate of progress. The team of consultants is local which means they have been able to visit the site and continue with assessments, despite restrictions as a result of Covid.

**6. AOB**

There was no other business.

**7. Date of next meeting**

The group will not meet on 14 April as stated on the agenda. The date of the next meeting will be near to the launch of the pre-application consultation, to be confirmed.