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|  <b>Scottish &amp; Southern</b><br>Electricity Networks<br>TRANSMISSION | Document reference | 26/10/2023 |
|  | Revision           | FINAL      |
|  | Function           | CLG        |

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Meeting</b> | <b>Kintore Substation - Community Liaison Group (9)</b> |
| <b>Date</b>    | 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2023                           |
| <b>Time</b>    | 6-8pm   |

**SSEN Transmission attendees:**

| Attendees              | Position   |
|------------------------|--|
| Kevin Hutton (KH)      | SSEN Transmission Project Manager (Kintore 400kV Substation)           |
| Sara Sutherland (SS)   | SSEN Transmission Assistant Project Manager (Kintore 400kV Substation) |
| Cris MacDonald (CM)    | SSEN Transmission Project Manager (Kintore 132kV Substation)           |
| Dav Lynch (DL)         | SSEN Transmission Lead Community Liaison Manager                       |
| Rob Whytock (RW)       | SSEN Transmission Community Liaison Manager                            |
| Rhiannon Merritt (RM)  | SSEN Transmission Community Liaison Manager                            |
| Cllr Trevor Mason (TM) | Aberdeenshire Council ( <i>East Garioch</i> )                          |
| Moira Moran (MM)       | Kintore & District Community Council                                   |
| Heather Watt (HW)      | Inverurie Community Council  |
| Mike Shearer (MS)      | Local Resident   |
| Theresa Shearer (TS)   | Local Resident   |
| Debbie Korver (DK)     | Local Resident   |
| June Morrison (JM)     | Local Resident   |
| <b>Apologies</b>       | <b>Position</b>  |
| Alexander Burnett      | MSP for Aberdeenshire West   |
| Janine Cracknell       | Kintore District Community Council                                     |
| Ann Overton            | Garioch Area Manager   |
| Cllr Jim Gifford       | Aberdeenshire Council (East Garioch)                                   |
| Cllr Dominic Lonchay   | Aberdeenshire Council (East Garioch)                                   |
| Cllr Glen Reid         | Aberdeenshire Council (East Garioch)                                   |

**Minutes**

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| <b>1.0</b> | <b>Introductions and apologies</b>   |
| 1.1        | <p>RW introduced the group and explained that he will be taking over as CLM for Kintore from John McKellar. An Introductory email was sent to everyone invited to the Kintore CLG last week by RW.</p> <p>Apologies received from Alexander Burnett, Janine Cracknell, Ann Overton, Cllr Jim Gifford, Cllr Dominic Lonchay, Cllr Glen Reid.</p>  |
| <b>2.0</b> | <b>Safety Moment</b>   |
| 2.1        | <p>SS introduced a Safety Moment on Winter Driving and how it is important to have an emergency kit in your vehicle all year round as well as carrying out the 5 point check on your vehicle before every journey.</p> <p>RW rounded this off by mentioning that on some vehicles during the daytime, having your lights on auto only turns the front lights on and can prevent vehicles behind you from seeing you clearly if visibility drops.</p> |
| <b>3.0</b> | <b>Project Overview / Update – East Coast 400kV Phases 1 &amp; 2</b>   |
| 3.1        | <p>KH talked through the slides</p> <p>It's the hub between the north east and the east coast 400kV connections to Dundee</p> <p>Talked through the Civils on the site</p> <p>Without the civil engineering nothing would be able to be installed</p>  |

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|            | <p>Talked about the earth mat which is made of copper</p> <p>MS asked in connection to Kevin saying the Landscaping is complete – does this including the ‘BING’ spoilheap (coalmining terminology) to the westside<br/>KH we haven’t finished reshaping the bund yet but can talk though it.</p> <p>XR2 Overhead Line is energised to 400kV<br/>Stage 1 commissioning – when we install the plant we commission it up to a point – stage 1 is done by the contractor up to a point where it can be energised.<br/>Stage 2 SSE do the final checks with national grid, our control room in Perth and the commissioning and switching programme.</p> <p>SGT is the heart of the substation it is a step up transformer and converts the electricity between the 2 voltages</p> <p>SGT4 in October<br/>SGT 5 in Dec 23 energised</p>  |
| <b>4.0</b> | <b>Project update - Kintore 132kV - Asset Replacement Project</b>   |
| 4.1        | <p>CM – recapped the slides and the refresh of what phase 3 of the project means.<br/>A lot of the equipment from the 60s is still in use today. It has come to the end of it’s operational life and this project is to replace this equipment.</p> <p>CM talked though the equipment currently there which needs to be replaced.</p>   |
| <b>5.0</b> | <b>Community Queries</b>  |
| 5.1        | <p>DK asked is the height of the new steel construction as seen in the picture on slide 15 the maximum height or is it to be higher. CM &amp; KH indicated the picture showing the steel frame is the finished height of the roof (as viewed from the road) and this is the taller of the split level building. DK went on to mention the view currently from the road is not matching the 3D visualisation. CM mentioned we will be planting more trees between now and 2026</p> <p>MS asked about the visualisation on slide 15 and mentioned there is another battery storage site to go in and believes it would be in the current image. CM showed from the additional overhead photos where the battery storage is going to be located.<br/>CM also went on to state that once the works are concluded in 2026, the welfare cabins will be removed and there will be screening planted and the battery storage should be screened from the road by this.<br/>CM clarified that these projects are not linked to SSEN.</p> <p>MM asked about the bunding and the height of this. KH mentioned this hasn’t been finished just yet and is in the range of 3-5m which is the permissible range. We have also committed to reshaping the Bund. This work hasn’t been as done as fast as we all would like due to a number of factors. The biodiversity net gain commitment has limited what we can plant on the Bund and we’ve had to change from native broadleaf to meadow grassland. It doesn’t suit tree planting. Our commitment we made to MS &amp; DK is to reshape the Bund. The weather conditions and the rainfall has caused the Bund to be unsafe to unsafe due to mechanical excavators.</p> <p>MM - asked given the amount of concrete on site, the run off was horrendous during the red weather warning. How is that water controlled going into the watercourse? KH mentioned we have 2 drainage systems – a filter drainage system</p> |

and carrier drainage system. These drain into a 9m deep manhole and it goes through a hydrobrake which releases the water from the site at a set flow rate. We also have large pipes from 750mm to 900mm in diameter which are storage pipes to store captured water whilst it going through the hydrobrake and then into the Dewford Burn at a permissible flow rate. The carrier pipes carry the water from site to the same holding manhole and is then diverted into the hydrobrake. This is spec'd for a 1 in 200 year weather event so coped admirably with the recent events of Storm Babet.

MM – asked a question about outages that had been mentioned in the presentation. CM clarified these are transmission outages which are separate to distribution ones so won't effect residents power.

MS – commented on the bunding. It's been in it's current state for 2 years and repeated promises. Forgive us if we say we'll believe it when we see it. It is also 10x more volume of spoil in the original planning consent. Sometimes you are not going to meet all the requirements and need to make a decision at screening vs planting. Could you look outside laylodge to make you net gain commitments. I don't want people to making decisions on the bund to meet a KPI. KH reassured that this has been all agreed and will not be changed to meet a KPI. Mike drove down to where the burn goes under the B997 the burn was full and backing up but still flowing and not flooded. Our environment consents manager are all over this and were on site to ensure the burn wasn't being overwhelmed.

Lastly, Debbie did her research on the mobile signal boosters .

CM - added that he was really impressed at the measures the Kintore public took in response to the floods and Storm Babet. MM added there were tankers taking away 120,000 litres at a time of pumped water. There were so many volunteers and it was great to see the community in action. MM mentioned they were not successful in securing funding from the SSEN resilience fund.

**Action** – KH mentioned he would be in touch with MM about the SSEN resilience fund.

DK – asked about the updates on the mobile phone reception and signal boosters – Looking for more timely updates and mentioned her frustration at the delay.

KH responded to apologise about the delay and this is due to the complexities of a large organisation such as SSEN's procurement process. A delivery date has been set for 4<sup>th</sup> November and RW will be in touch to arrange getting these to DK & MS. *These have now been delivered on 10/11.*

JM – mentioned she had lived in leylodge for 35years and didn't know these meetings were taking place and has spoken to quite a few and there will be a number of new pylons

CM – asked June if there are other local groups we could contact.

MM – has asked if she can get a copy of the slides and share them on Kintore & Kintore Folk facebook

DL mentioned that a f2f CLG or even information – we could hold a f2f CLG event and we can arrange a maildrop or a newsletter. We can give people the opportunity to come to these events.

MM mentioned that Scotia housing development and town park held an event in the church hall which had a large turnout. Could SSE look into this.

MS mentioned that there is no local paper for leylodge and for IT luddites not on social media is difficult to keep up to date.

MS mentioned that there are 5 developments inc battery storage and hydrogen plants, and hasn't the time to go to 5 separate CLGs could there be a joined up Forum for all projects. MM mentioned she has all the contacts and is happy to organise.

CM confirmed our commitment to this CLG to continue for the duration of the project.

KH – mentioned about the noise monitoring device. RW mentioned we have solved the riddle of the noise monitoring device and this is from the Hydrogen development. MM is to speak to them.

**6.0 AOB**

6.1 RW stated Tower lights will be on when it is dark at points between 0700 – 1900 to enable work to continue – the lights will be positioned so that they are not interfering with residents but please let RW know if they are and need adjusting.

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|            | <p>MM wanted to thank CM for his help along with colleagues for contributing to the Bothy.</p> <p>DK mentioned about a Deer seen inside the site boundary – RW passed this on to the project team and it had managed to escape by the time they went to the area last seen.</p> <p>KH mentioned there is the palisade fence which is 5m high and electrified which surrounds the actual substation itself and there is external perimeter fencing, of which some is deer fencing but in the area around Dewsford burn this is not stockproof. KH confirms stockproof fencing will be in place once the tree planting is underway.</p> <p>RW thanked everyone for their time and participation and the volume and range of questions being asked which prompted a healthy discussion.</p> |
| <b>7.0</b> | <b>Date of next CLG</b>  |
| 7.1        | RW will be in touch in the New Year to arrange next CLG in February  |

Actions.

| Number | Action / Update   | Owner        | Open/Closed |
|--------|---|--------------|-------------|
| 1.     | <i>KH to speak to MM about SSEN resilience fund (RW and MM caught up in person)</i> | Kevin Hutton | Closed      |
| 2.     |   |              |             |
| 3.     |   |              |             |
| 4.     |   |              |             |
| 5.     |   |              |             |