

Pen y Cymoedd Wind Energy Project

Pen y Cymoedd Wind Energy Project – Keeping you informed.

July 2014



The Community Fund

Make this the summer for getting your ideas in for the Power in the Valleys Community Fund.

£1.8 million per annum for 20 years will become available in 2016 and now is your last chance to get involved and tell us how you think the money should be spent.

We have already been speaking with local people about what they would like to see the fund do and emerging priorities include, outdoor pursuits, energy efficiency projects, supporting local health care and introducing initiatives to promote health and well-being. Having listened to the feedback received, a new independent body will be set up to manage the fund.

The final theme 'improving the local economy, job prospects and connections' is open now until 31st August 2014!

Anyone can get involved and submitting your idea is easy. Tell us your ideas online at powerinthevalleys.vattenfall.co.uk or by simply filling in the form inside this newsletter and returning it to us at the freepost address.

Local Project Officer, Emily Faull and her colleague Rhys Lewis, Community Fund Engagement Officer, will be out and about enjoying some of your local summer events to speak with local residents, as well as meeting with local groups, organisations and businesses to tell them more about the fund.

Don't miss out on the first round of funding for 2016! Get involved now before it is too late!

Get involved before
31st August 2014

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Keeping you informed!



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The Community Fund

Rhys Lewis

Community Fund
Engagement Officer



Emily Faull

Vattenfall's Local Project
Officer for Pen y Cymoedd



Meet Rhys Lewis the Pen y Cymoedd Community Fund Engagement Officer. Rhys is born and bred of the Cynon Valley in the County Borough of Rhondda Cynon Taf, South Wales.

Rhys has been meeting with community organisations, groups and businesses in the upper Rhondda and Cynon valleys over the last few months to talk about the Community Fund. Rhys has been tasked with gathering the ideas and suggestions that the people of the communities in the upper Rhondda and Cynon valleys have about the Community Fund. Emily Faull, Local Project Officer is doing the same for the Neath and Afan Valleys.

“Community groups, organisations and businesses come in many shapes and sizes and my aim, alongside Emily is to meet with as many as I can before the 31st August deadline. We will also be speaking to local residents at summer events. My advice to those who have not registered an interest in the community fund is don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity!

To those who I have met with thus far, I look forward to meeting you again and to those community groups, organisations and businesses who have yet to submit their ideas, I will no doubt be meeting with you very soon!”

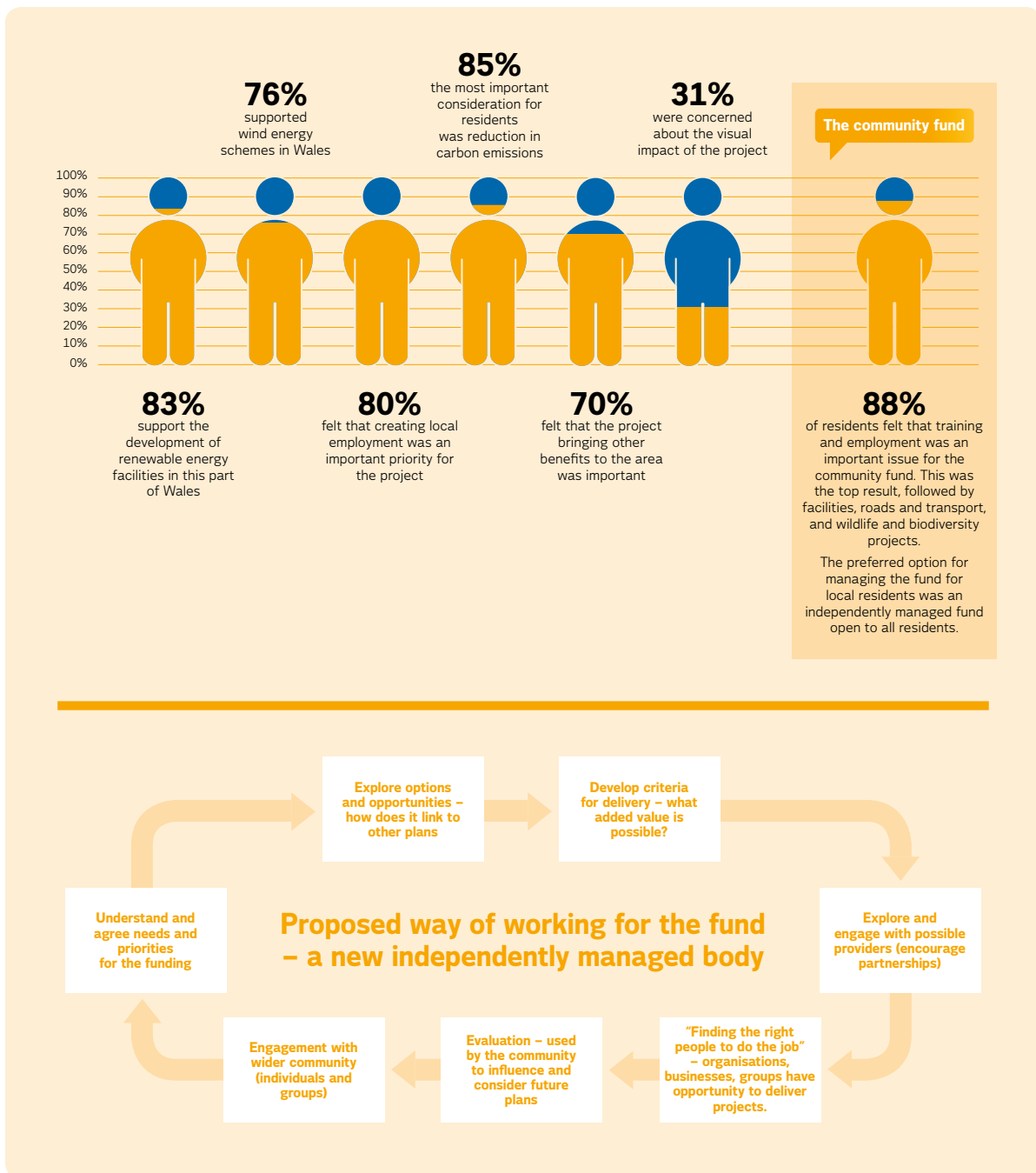
My advice to those who have not registered an interest in the community fund is don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity!

Register now at www.powerinthevalleys.vattenfall.co.uk or fill in the form at the back of the newsletter and return it to us at the freepost address.

Hard to reach surveys... what did they say?

As part of the local engagement, a door to door survey was undertaken to ask local residents across all ages about the project.

These were the results...



The latest from site

Eryl Roberts

Project Manager civils and electrical engineering work



Adrian Williams, Jon Downs and Mick Walls

ABB



Eryl Roberts, project manager for the Jones Bros and Balfour Beatty joint venture, gives us an update on how the construction of the wind farm's turbine bases is progressing.

"Work is progressing well on site. We're very happy with how everything is going, and the recent hot weather has made a world of difference.

There are about 60 members of the team on site at the moment, working across the various projects that we're making progress on.

We've opened work on 20 of the 76 turbine locations, where crane pads have been constructed and peat from the ground stripped away.

18 of those sites have been excavated, ready for the turbine base construction to begin.

Steel reinforcements are also in place at nine locations, and the batching plant is now up and running, with the main concrete pour completed on three of the bases.

Within the next couple of weeks we should also have the first full base completed, which will be great to see.

Elsewhere, we're also starting work on a new access junction for the eastern region of the project. The work will take around three weeks, and will open up access to that side of the project for our plant machinery.

Over the coming weeks, we'll keep developing the different turbine locations, and work to lay electrical cables at each of the turbine bases is also due to begin in August."

Safety is the key as ABB mobilizes

ABB, the main contractor for the grid connection for the Pen y Cymoedd Wind Energy Project, is now mobilized on the programme to build the two substations. "Safe working in everything we do is the key to effective progress on this project" says Mick Walls, ABB Site Manager, substation and grid connection. "Right from the very start, everyone in our team – including ABB, Balfour Beatty and all our suppliers and contractors has bought-in to the idea that the site must set the very highest standards for safety. This covers many different aspects such as the total use of complete PPE (personal protective equipment) and thorough induction briefings for everyone on site, establishment of plant segregation and barriers, right through to effective planning, coordination and reporting.

The main highlight of the mobilization to date is the routing of the high voltage underground cable that will connect the two substations. This has seen around 950 metres of ducting installed on the A4061 route with a further 850 metres installed on the Hirwaun industrial estate. These works will be ongoing until October 2015 and traffic management in the form of two-way traffic lights will be in place.

In addition, up on the hillside three kilometres of cable ducting has been installed in the Forestry region by our contractor ATP.



Staying safe as a site user

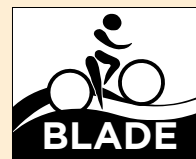
"... The safety of site users is a priority for us and we work closely with the Vattenfall Communications Team to ensure that site users are well informed of our works."



With construction activity currently ongoing onsite safety for site users is a priority to us and our contractors.

We must ask that all site users stick to the designated trails and tracks. We are doing a number of things to communicate the activity onsite including:

- Health and safety signage in and around our working areas
- A 'Wave hello, wave goodbye' scheme that encourages site users and workers to look out for each other
- Noticeboards showing our working areas are regularly updated so please look out for them
- A monthly site users fact sheet and map giving advice and showing our working areas is now being distributed to known frequent site users. If you would like to receive this information please get in touch
- An interactive map of our working areas is also available at penycymoedd.vattenfall.co.uk



Blade – the latest Afan trail

Tourism and mountain biking is an important part of the local economy. Through the project, Vattenfall has funded the build and maintenance of the Blade mountain bike trail which was officially launched on 11th April this year. The Blade has seen a busy year so far with over 1500 having ridden the trail in the first six weeks of its life. Local businesses are currently seeing a record number of visitors and many experienced riders have suggested that the Blade is the best trail in the valley.

Community see work underway on the first foundations



We recently held an event inviting local people along to see the work underway on the first turbine foundations onsite at Pen y Cymoedd. We were delighted to welcome around 150 community members, contractors and internal stakeholders along to the event.

Those who came along learned about the work that has gone into the project from the very start and also took part in a site visit to see the turbine foundation excavations and steel reinforcement which will soon be filled with concrete.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who made the event a success.

Community Fund workshops



Over 100 participants have come together to discuss the viability of the ideas put forward so far by local residents, groups and organisations for the Community Fund. We will hold the final workshop after the summer once we have received all ideas for the first round of funding. Want to find out more? The reports for both workshops are available on the project blog penycymoedd.vattenfall.co.uk or please get in touch for a paper copy.



Pen y Cymoedd

Power in the Valleys – Your idea could become a reality



Have you got ideas for the Pen y Cymoedd Wind Farm Community Fund?

Did you know that from 2016 the Pen y Cymoedd Community Fund will bring £1.8m to the area every year for over 20 years. Do you have ideas about what the fund could do to make the most of our environment, culture and heritage? Now's your chance to make your idea a reality.

Just fill in this form, put it in an envelope and return to the freepost address on the back.

What do you think needs to be done?

Why would you do this, and do you have any ideas about how it could be done?

CUT ALONG HERE 

Where do you live or work in the area?

How can we best keep you informed on the project?

<input type="checkbox"/>	eNewsletters	<input type="checkbox"/>	Local events
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fact sheets in local shops/facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	Website / Twitter
<input type="checkbox"/>	Newsletters	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify)
<input type="checkbox"/>	News in the local papers	<input type="checkbox"/>	

What local events do you think we could attend that would be useful to you?

Contact Details

Name	
Address	
Postcode	
Email	

To submit your idea, please return this completed form in an envelope to:

Freepost RTGG-RLSS-AXGB
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