

Community Renewable Energy – 08 March 2021

1. BWCE

After last month's PC meeting, we met with BWCE and went through options.

Attached with this report is an amended quote from BWCE.

This amended approach, whilst c.£500 higher, should better meet needs.

The initial proposal assumes that the potential 2 sites that have been identified as potential locations are the 2 to have a detailed Scoping Study.

The approach of the current quote is to review the whole area, including the 2 potential sites, identify the site to focus on and undertake a Scoping Study solely on that site.

The cost of this would be ££6,712.

BWCE will fund 50%. There is the possibility of FLiSCA supporting with up to £1,500. A response from BANES is being waited on – but it should be noted that BANES finances are under pressure.

The next stage after completing the Scoping Study is a Feasibility Study. There will be a decision for the PC to make at that point as to which approach should be taken with setting up the facility. Whichever route is taken, the indications are that funding will be available for the Feasibility Stage.

The PC is being requested to agree to cover the funding of the shortfall required to complete the Scoping Study stage, which is £1,856 assuming that FLiSCA are prepared to fund £1,500 of the amount.

FLiSCA provide funds on Approved projects, and the application to FLiSCA will be made on PC agreement.

It should be noted that this project is a key initiative identified by the Community Climate Emergency forum, and is also supported by Neighbourhood Plan objectives.

It is also reasonable to consider this initiative as an infrastructure project that falls within the definition of what is acceptable for CIL money to be used for (with reference to Selina's note).