

Windfarm Energy Forum Group

A very positive and waffle-free meeting.

A community-owned wind farm for the Banks Peninsula is a good idea. The Baywind community farm in the UK (<http://www.baywind.co.uk>) provides a solid blueprint for how this might happen. See info document on Baywind.

Probable initial goal: A wind farm utilizing between one and five 500 kw turbines located on the Banks Peninsula and owned by the local community.

With permission of PL this will be called the Project Lyttelton Wind Initiative.

All those who attended wanted to be kept informed of the progress. A smaller “working party” agreed to meet again – and help make this a reality.

There are a number of thorny issues that need to be addressed to make this happen (in brackets: the person who agreed to follow up with appropriate research).

Who will buy the electricity? How much will they pay? (Jasper)

Are there grants available to help with initial costs? (Paul)

Can the EECA provide a grant? (Lindsay)

The Lyttelton Wind Co-op structure; is it a company? Trust? Charity? What is the best legal and financial structure? (Sam)

Is the non-dividend paying model viable for New Zealand? (Jasper)

What are the resource consent issues? (Antony)

Collect, collate and analyse all available windspeed data to determine the best places on the Banks Peninsula for the wind farm (Ryan).

Talk with farmers about using their land (Helen, Jasper, everyone).

Act as facilitator, first point of contact and information conduit (Sam).

Working Group: Jasper, Helen, Ryan, Antony, Lindsay, Sam, Paul.

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