

# Udny Community Wind Turbine



Matt Kaye

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Garth Entwistle/Brian McDougall



Runner up 2011



# Udny Community Wind Project

- **Owned by the entire Udny community**
  - Udny Community Trust Co Ltd.
  - Udny Community Wind Turbine Co Ltd.
- **- initiated by the Community Council (2006)**
  - Taken forward by “5” members of the community
  - Supported by: **Community Energy Scotland**

# The Project

- **Enercon E48**
- 800 KVA - 80m tip height - wind turbine
- Wind Resource: 7.6m/s
- p50 = 34.6% capacity
- p95 = 29.2%
- Earnings @ 28% capacity

# Costs

- **CapEx**                    **£1.40m + VAT**
  - + huge amount of time from the “5” drivers
- **Original Finance Plan**
  - **Grant aid: £500,000 + (Big Lottery, CARES/EST, LEADER)**
  - **Loan of £0.9M from TRIODOS repaid over 10yrs**
- **New Finance Plan**
  - **100% Loan from TRIODOS Bank (Overdraft facility for VAT)**
  - **Repay all Capital Grant**
  - **Loan repaid over 4/10/15 years**

# Returns

- Yr (1 & 2) – uncertain (front end loading)
- Yr (3 – 10)                      £100,000 pa. + to Trust  
With Feed in Tariff
- Yr (11 – 20)                      £250,000 pa. + to Trust  
With Feed in Tariff
- **Total – cumulative - £4-5m over 20 yrs**

# Financial support

–to make it happen

- Community Council £3-4,000
- SIS – unsecured loan (Grid) £54,000
- Planning application + other things:
  - LEADER – 50% £15,000
  - Big Lottery £ 6,000
  - EST £ 6,000
  - Aberdeenshire Council £ 3,000

# Near Neighbours

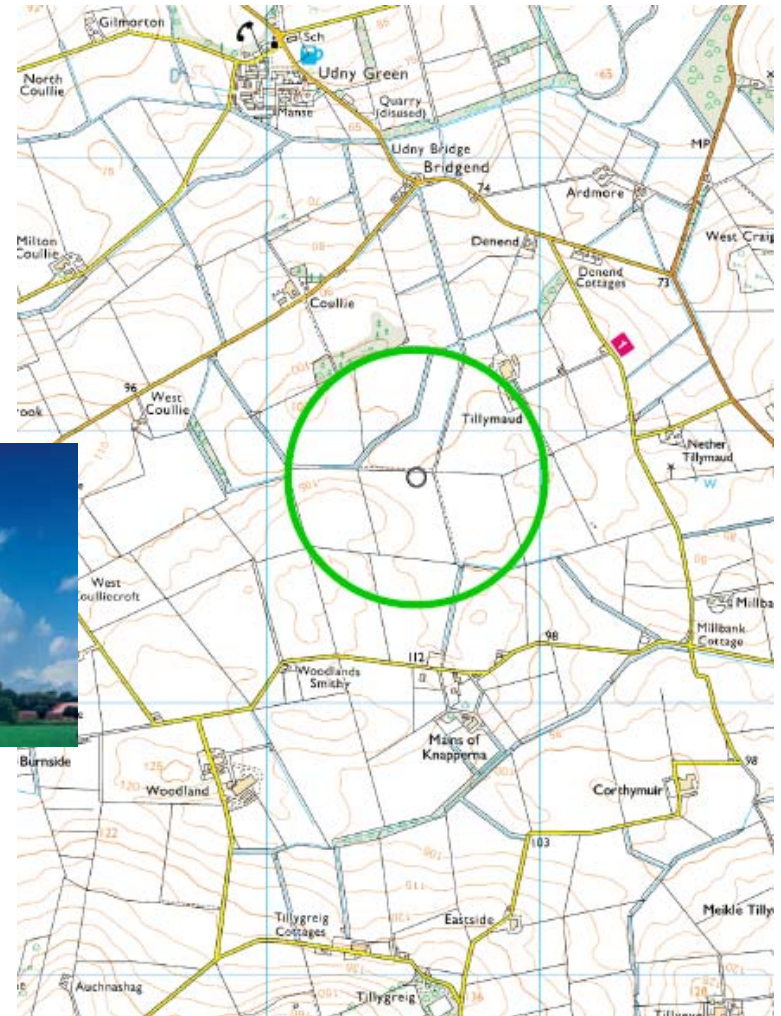
Friends, neighbours -  
most sensitive

Early presentation of  
plans

Regular up-dates

Responded to  
concerns

-micro-sitting –  
moved turbine to  
reduce impact



# Planning for Real: May 2008

- Well attended – 2 Day event
- Diverse views
- Environmental issues incl:
  - Support for wind turbine
  - Energy audits suggested
  - Micro Hydro schemes



February 2011

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# Wider Community

- Community Ballot
  - 853 households balloted
  - 460 responses = 54% response
  - 91% in support
- Use of the press to inform
- Open displays to update community
  - Making it Real events May 2008 & March 2011
- Open and honest

# Trust – use of funds

- **Priority proposals** – as included in grant applications
- **Community Action – 50%**
- Community Organisations – 25%
- **Good cause out-with the parish – 10%**
- Youth scholarships – 5%
- **Environmental action – 10%**
- Community Health & Wellbeing

**Aim is to improve the quality of life within parish**

# Final Stages

- Planning Approval – December 2009
- Project engineer – Green Cat Renewables
- Options appraisal completed
  - Turbine selection
  - Support package – ROC or FIT
- Bank finance secured
- Contracts awarded



May 2011

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May 2011



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May 2011

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# Current Position

- Unforeseen Problems/Costs
  - Water Pipes
  - Road Widening
  - Wind!
- VAT accounting periods
- Feed in Tariff (FIT) registration
- Turbine is turning and is in final stages of commissioning
- Fixed price for 3years with smartestenergy
- Trust AGM held and Directors appointed

# Next Steps

- Draw down Big Lottery Funds
- Employ a Development Officer
- Validate/Authorise Projects
- Get some early wins
- Continue working with Schools
- Keep the community informed



# Conclusions

- Other Community Groups should do this
- 100% or in joint ventures with other parties
- Communities can pro-actively take ownership of their wind resource
- Ownership makes a considerable difference to attitude

# Further Information

- **Contact information**

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