

Udny Community Wind Turbine

Garth Entwistle

Brian McDougall

Udny Community Council

Community wind turbine

- Concept - to Community Council 2006
- *“Community Wind Turbine Group”* formed:
- Investigate opportunity
- Group stabilised with (5) committed members
- Advice sought – various bodies
- Community Energy Scotland (HICEC)

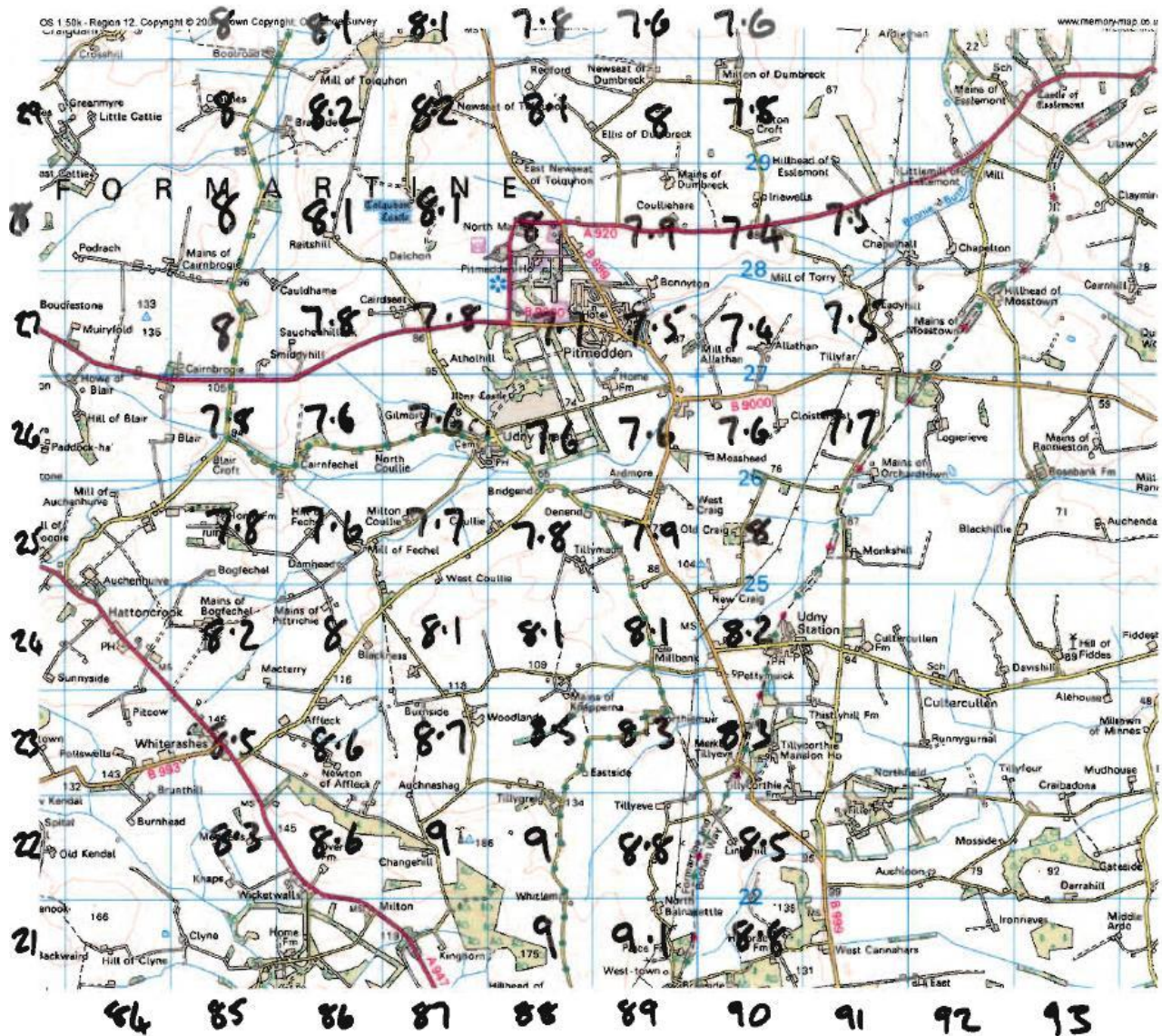
Community Turbine - 2007

- Some progress – some dead-ends
- Progress dependent on time available
- Financial projections – encouraging
- Site selection – good
- Consultation with statutory consultees

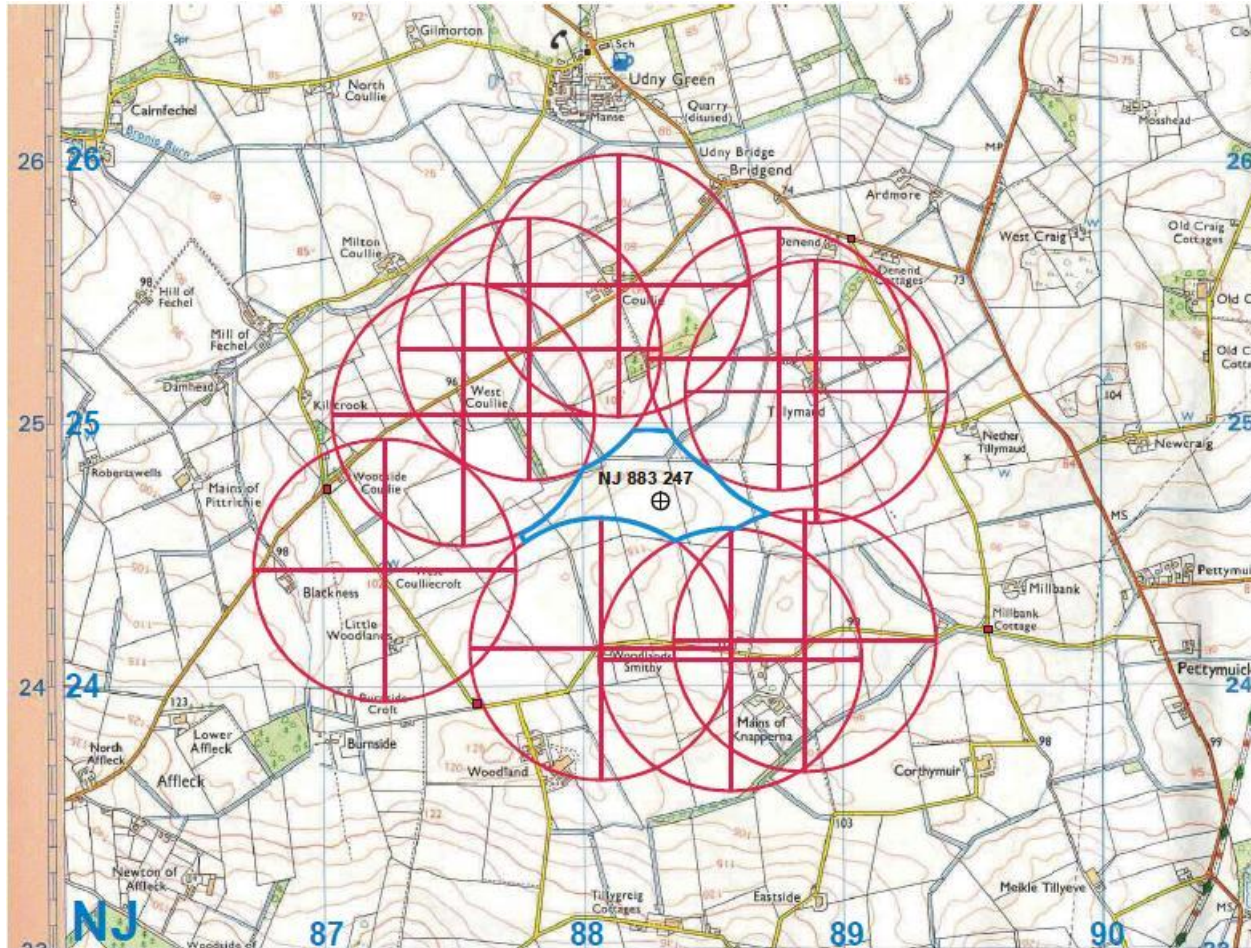
Site selection

- Wind speed map of the parish
- Grid connection costs – consultation with SSE
- Identification of sites with 500m separation
- Initial discussions with land owners

Udny wind speeds



Udny Site selection



Location map (1:25,000 scale, OS) showing the 500m radius circles centred on nearest dwellings that define the location area (blue) of the wind turbine (Udny Community Wind Turbine Group, January 2008)

Community Turbine 2008

- Community consultations
- Initial application to the **Big Lottery Fund**
- Planning application
 - Pre-planning application – Ab'shire Council
 - Tender wind planning consultants
 - Grant applications to finance planning consultants to prepare planning application
- Grid Connection

Community Consultations

- Feb 2008 – “Near Neighbours”
- May 2008 – “Planning for Real”
- Nov 2008 – “Community Ballot”

Planning application

- Specification of planning requirements – pre-planning application / meetings with Ab'shire Council
- Specification of tender & tender list
- Tender – use of tender to win grant aid
 - **LEADER** **£15,562.00**
 - **SCHRI** **£ 6,593.75**
 - **Lottery** **£ 6,594.00**
- Commissioning of planning application

Grid Connection

- Huge adventure!
- Offer required an initial payment of £52,000 by March 2009 – where to get this
- Individual liabilities!
- Company formation
- Secure grant aid / bridging loan

Wind Turbine 2009

- Company formation
 - Udney Community Wind Turbine Ltd
 - Udney Community Trust Ltd (charitable)
- Planning submission – April/May
- Fund raising - £1.25m!
- Community involvement – ramp it up!

Benefits

- £50k – £150k / year to the community
- **Proposals :-**
- Community Action (50%)
- Community Organisations (25%)
- Charitable support (10%)
- Youth Scholarship (5%)
- Environmental Action (10%)

Lessons from Udney

- **Persevere** – many hurdles / barriers / disappointments
- **Team work** – essential to share the load, encourage each other & take responsibility
- **Community support** – essential to justify activity
- **Seek good advice** – essential

Good Luck