



The Fintry Story

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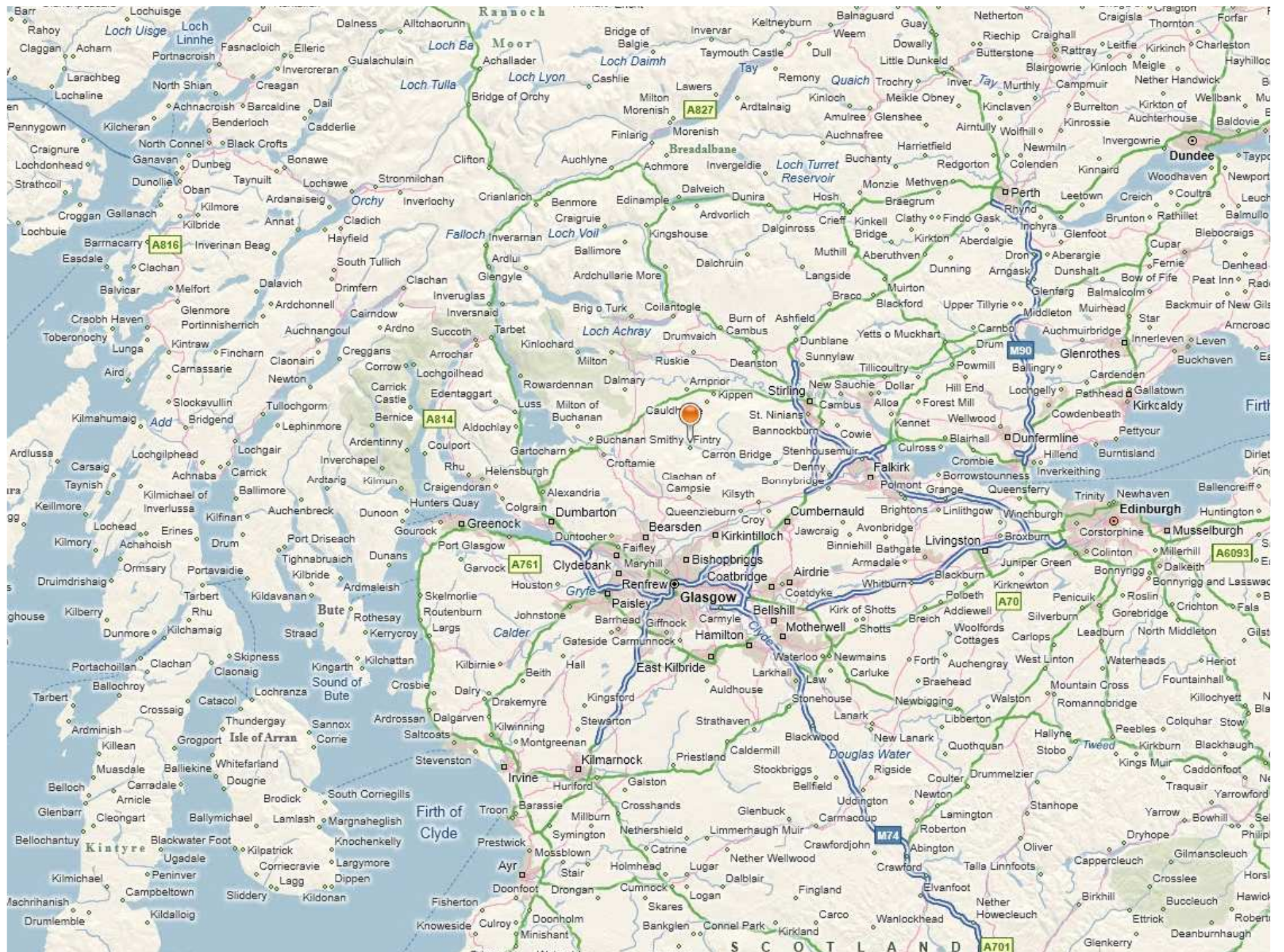
November 2011

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Our Story - About Fintry

- Approx 330 households
- Adult population around 550
- Primary school, village hall, sports club (incorporating shop)
- Most people commute to Glasgow, Edinburgh, Stirling
- Not on mains gas





The Story

- Two residents looking at community renewable possibilities in the local area – 8+ years ago
- Windfarm developer arrived on the scene
- Let's not re-invent the wheel
- Sums looked good
 - Feasibility study commissioned (EST grant)

The Story - Negotiation

- Developer made two offers –
 - ‘Community benefit’ payments
 - Co-operative investment
 - Both rejected
- ‘Locked room’ meeting
 - Agreement reached in principal
- Conclusion
 - Community apply for own turbine
 - Will be built along with the rest

The Story

- Planning permission obtained
- How are we going to find £2.5million
- Windfarm developer agreed to provide capital
 - Has to be paid back at agreed rate of interest
- Windfarm feeds into grid
 - We get 15th share of income minus capital repayments, running costs etc

The Story

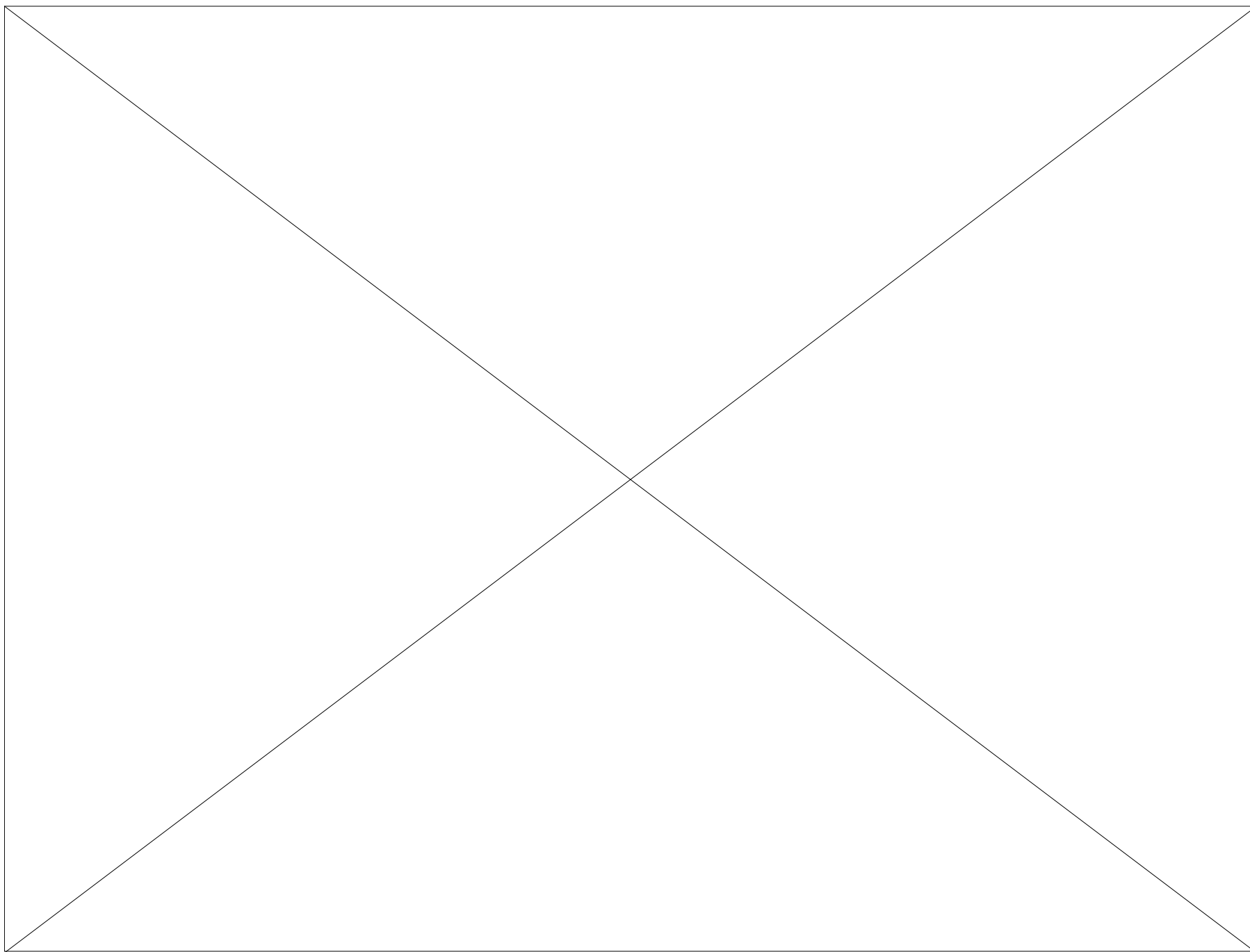
- Deal signed
 - Construction starts Spring 2006
 - Windfarm commissioned Dec 2007
 - First cheque May 2008 (£140k)
 - Anticipated income approx £50k - £100k pa
 - First project delivered to the village Autumn 2008





The Story

- Projects delivered –
 - Domestic energy survey and insulation
 - Sports club, village hall, school
 - Domestic renewables
 - Own energy advisor started in July 2010
 - FEET car club started June 2011
 - Future projects
 - Looking at a wide variety of other initiatives



Challenges

- Cost for whole village £4 million
 - Our income £50k - £100k each year
- Hard to insulate houses
 - At least 50% of the village
 - Can cost £10k or more per house
- Government changes
 - Grants, loans, RHI, FiT schemes change continuously
- Village dynamics
 - Development trust fatigue

Why?

- Climate change really matters
- Community-level engagement can make a difference
 - Govt tends to focus on individuals, business and government
 - Gives people a sense they can do something
- Helps to make living in our village sustainable