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| *Dr Spence Memorial Hall**Udny Green* |
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**Udny Energy Efficiency Project**

**Climate Change**

**How will it affect farming practices in the NE of Scotland ?**

**How will it affect gardening activities ?**

**How resilient will communities like Udny be in the face of extra-ordinary weather ?**

**Friday 5th June – 7.00 pm – Udny Green Hall (AB41 7RS)**

Udny has been awarded a £150,000 grant by Scotland’s Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) to:

* Refurbish the Udny Green Hall, making an energy efficient space with a much-reduced carbon footprint.
* Encourage the Udny Community to reduce its carbon footprints, either as individual households or collectively by community-wide action

To launch the **“Udny Energy Efficiency Project”,** the Udny Green Hall in partnership with PUT – the local composting co-operative, invites you to an evening’s discussion of Climate Change, featuring:

**Evan Williams, environmental economist, Climate Change authority, Al Gore Foundation Climate change “Presenter”, Director: Environmental and Resource Economics Ltd.** previously head of Economics and Sustainable Development, SEPA – Scottish Environmental Protection Agency

Evan Williams will discuss with our audience:

Climate Change, where we are now and where it is going – the facts and the uncertainties

Climate Change and its likely effect on communities like Udny in the NE of Scotland

The expected resilience of NE communities in the face of extra-ordinary weather

**Refurbishment Steering Group**

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Editor’s Notes:

* The **Udny Energy Efficiency Project** was created by a Steering Group within the Udny Green Hall’s Management Committee as part of its refurbishment and re-development of the Udny Green Hall as an attractive, flexible, energy efficient centre of community activity.
* The Udny Energy Efficiency Project is supported by a grant of £150,000 from the Climate Challenge Fund and by the Udny Community Trust.
* The **Climate Challenge Fund** is a Scottsih Government programme, managed and administered by Keep Scotland Beautiful, which provides fnding for community groups that are tackling climate change through local community-led projects.

**www.keepscotlandbeautiful.org/sustainability-climate-change-/climate-challange-fund**

* The **Udny Community Trust Company Ltd**. (UCTC) was formed in 2011 to help the community of Udny to develop. UCTC, initially supported by the BIG Lottery, now raises finance for community projects from the profits generated by the community-owned Udny Community Wind Turbine Co. Ltd.
* **PUT** – the OSCR registered, Pitmedden, Udny & Tarves community co-operative, - actively supports environmental actions within its area, recently (2015) supporting the establishment of community orchards and the like.

**www.tarves.org.uk/happy-start-for-tarves-orchard**

* **Udny** is a small rural parish approximately 15 miles north of Aberdeen within the Formartine Area of Aberdeenshire. In 2015, Udny will have a population of around 2,500 located in and around its two villages – Udny Green and Pitmedden.

[**www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk/formartine**](http://www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk/formartine)

* Evan Williams is a recognised authority on Climate Change, trained by the Al Gore Foundation, regularly invited to speak on Climate Change and its effects. As an Environmental Economist he formed the consultancy Environmental & Resource Economics Ltd. after working with SEPA (Scottish Environmental Protection Agency) as Head of Economics and Sustainable Development. Evan will describe the current understanding of Climate Change and, using Climate Change climate models, its likely affects on communities like Udny in the North East of Scotland

[www.presenters.climaterealityproject.org/presenters/evan-williams\_2707](http://www.presenters.climaterealityproject.org/presenters/evan-williams_2707)

* The **refurbishment and redevelopment of Udny Green Hall** is being undertaken in two separate stages.

**Stage (I**), to be completed October 2015, involves the complete refurbishment of the Hall’s interior creating a clean, energy-efficient space. New, double-glazed windows,

 low-energy lighting, energy-efficient panelling and air-source heat pumps will all significantly reduce the Hall’s carbon footprint with the hall sensitively finished to reflect its prominent position within the Udny Conservation Area. This CCF Project will involve at-least 100 local households in reducing their own carbon footprint and raise awareness of Climate Change.

**Stage (II)** the Hall’s re-development – will re-organise the hall’s layout giving safer, more convenient and useful facilities. Side extensions will give a kitchen directly adjacent to the main hall and provide chair and table storage. Below the re-developed stage a new lounge will enable the creation of such services as a drop-in centre for local residents, a community café and an attractive meeting space. The re-developed small-hall behind the stage will allow for a youth café and various other activities completely separate to the main hall. New stairs and wheel chair access will provide a safe and easy linkage between all these areas. The re-developed stage area will allow various theatrical and musical events including the Udny School’s annual Christmas Show.

* All of this is happening as the Hall’s ownership structure is changing so that it becomes more clearly owned and managed by the local community as a SCIO registered as a Charity with OSCR. Currently, the hall is owned by the current representatives of the (4) Trustees appointed way back in the 1930’s to represent the Udny community. It is managed by a Hall Committee appointed by local residents and hall users alike – the “Hall Community”. With the full support of the (4) Trustees, ownership is being transferred to a newly formed SCIO – the Dr Spence Memorial Hall SCIO – with this charity managed by a Board appointed by its members. At least (100) members of the “Hall Community” are being recruited to support hall activities.
* The redeveloped hall, while continuing to provide an attractive, warm and welcoming space for community activities, will be able to offer a wide range of services which aim to overcome the Social Isolation – felt by many of the older Udny residents, the Rural Isolation – felt by many secondary school children in particularly, and the Poor Community Connectivity felt by many communities throughout Scotland in the 21st Century.