



#NetZero
#VillageHallsWeek

Back in July 2021, CFO put on a training session entitled **'Solar Panels and Other Energy Solutions for Halls'**, we invited James Ochiltree and Alison Grunewald from the Low Carbon Hub and Energy Solutions Oxfordshire to inform halls about how they support community buildings to provide alternative power solutions, 'power down', and use less energy. CFO wanted to know how many community halls have been able to improve their carbon footprint with their help since then. They have sent us this report for village halls week.

Energy savings for village halls across Oxfordshire

In the last financial year, the collaborative team at the Environmental Information Exchange EiE, at Oxford Brookes University and Low Carbon Hub have helped ten halls to assess what they can do to make their buildings energy efficient and low carbon.

The team of assessors at Oxford Brookes, who have over 15 years of expertise, have carried out site visits to halls in Fyfield*, Spelsbury*, Milton-u-Wychwood*, Hook Norton*, Shilton, Russells Water, Begbroke, Great Rollright, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell and Duns Tew and made recommendations of which low carbon technologies to install.

Their reports provide an estimate of the cost, carbon and energy saving that would result. Two of the halls have applied for a follow-on grant to implement the measures recommended.

Begbroke installed loft insulation with a £675 grant before Christmas and Russell Water will use a £5,172 grant to install LED lighting, solar PV panels and programmable modern electric heaters this spring. This support has been possible through Westmill Solar Coop (*) and ERDF / OxFutures funding.

A significant amount of new funded support is now available to help organisations in Oxfordshire reduce energy bills, cut carbon emissions, and make buildings more

comfortable for visitors. Through Energy Solutions Oxfordshire, organisations of any type and size can register to receive one-to-one support to help assess upgrades and improve energy efficiency. If you would like to find out more, or register for support, contact Richard Dorey, on richard.dorey@energysolutionoxfordshire.org.



Tessa Hall Community Halls Adviser CFO 27/01/22