ESOS-ENERGY
Energy efficient solutions

Energy Efficiency and Zero Carbon Advice

St Andrews Church
PCC of St Andrews, Bebington

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

Author	Reviewer	Date	Version
David Legge	Matt Fulford	29th October 2022	1.0

Contents

1. Executive Summary

An energy survey of St Andrews Church was undertaken by ESOS Energy to provide advice to the church on how it can be more energy efficient and provide a sustainable and comfortable environment to support its continued use. This audit has been provided in conjunction with 2buy2, the Church of England's Parish Buying scheme provider and is subsidised from Total Gas & Power, the Parish Buying schemes principal energy suppliers.

St Andrews Church is a Grade I listed church with origins in the C12 and mainly built around 1300. There were later additions in the C14 and C16 as well as a major reordering in 1847. The church is built of local sandstone and has a pitched slate tiled roof that is exposed internally. Windows are single glazed stained glass in stone surrounds and the church has solid timber doors throughout. The church makes use of fixed wooden pews and installed LED lighting in 2021. There is both gas and electricity supplied to the site.

The church has a number of ways in which it can be more energy efficient. Our key recommendations have been summarised in the table below and are described in more detail later in this report. It is recommended that this table and the route to net zero carbon are used as the action plan for the church in implementing these recommendations over the coming years.

Energy saving recommendation	Estimated Annual Energy Saving (kWh)	Estimated Annual Cost Saving (£)	Estimated capital cost (£)	Payback (years)	Permission needed	CO2 saving (tonnes of CO2e/year)
Change existing lighting for low energy lamps/fittings	360	£108	£560	5.19	Faculty	0.09
Install PIR motion sensors on selected lighting circuits	7	£2	£60	29.14	List B	0.00
Replace heating system for electrical based heating solution	83,542	£2,861	£48,969	17.12	Faculty	13.53
Fit timed fused spurs to hot water heaters	162	£49	£90	1.85	List A (None)	0.04
Replace windows	16,651	£1,665	£8,500	5.10	Faculty	3.07
Install Draughtproofing to External Doors	3,330	£333	£2,400	7.21	List B	0.61

The church should check any faculty requirements with the DAC Secretary at the Diocese before commencing any works.

Based on current market prices of 30p/kWh and 10p/kWh for electricity and mains gas respectively.

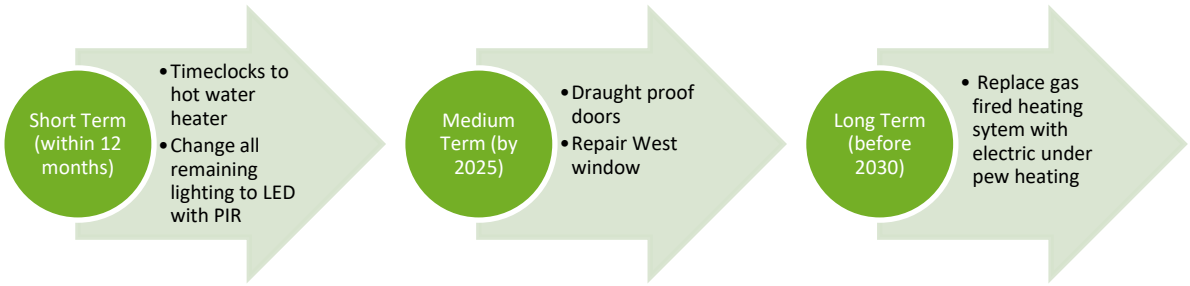
If all measures were implemented this would save the church £5,018 per year and reduce its carbon footprint by 17.35 tonnes (77%).

2. The Route to Net Zero Carbon

Our Government has committed to move towards Net Zero Carbon – the point at which we have reduced emissions as much as we can and then balanced any residual emissions through removal of carbon from the atmosphere. They have done this as part of a worldwide agreement which aims to limit global warming to well under 2 degrees Celsius, with an aim of keeping it below 1.5 degrees Celsius. This will help protect all of us from the impacts of climate change.

In February 2020, the Church of England's General Synod set its own Net Zero Carbon target. The first stage of this target covers energy used by churches, cathedrals, schools, vicarages, other church buildings, as well as emissions caused by reimbursed transport. The target date is 2030.

This church has a clear route to become net zero by 2030 by undertaking the following steps:



3. Introduction

This report is provided to the PCC of St Andrews Church to give them advice and guidance as to how the church can be improved to be more energy efficient. In doing so the church will also become more cost effective to run and seek to improve the levels of comfort. Where future church development and reordering plans are known, the recommendations in this report have been aligned with them.

An energy survey of the St Andrews Church, Church Road, Bebington CH63 3EX was completed on the 5th July 2022 by David Legge. David is an experienced energy auditor with over 10 years' experience in sustainability and energy matters in the built environment. David is a fully qualified ESOS lead assessor with CIBSE and a CIBSE Low Carbon Consultant and a fully qualified ISO50001 lead auditor.

St Andrews Church	
Church Code	609153
Gross Internal Floor Area	663 m^2
Listed Status	Grade I

The church typically used for 7 hours per week for the following activities

Type of Use	**Hours Per Week (Typical)**	**Average Number of Attendees**
Services	5 hours per week	120
Meetings and Church Groups	2 hours per week	Varies
Community Use	Ad hoc use only	Varies

There is additional usage over and above these times for festivals, weddings, funerals and the like

4. Energy Usage Details

St Andrews Church uses 7,909 kWh/year of electricity, costing in the region of £2,373 per year, and 111,008 kWh/year of gas, costing £11,100. The total carbon emissions associated with this energy use are 22.49 CO_2e tonnes/year.

This data has been taken from the annual energy invoices provided by the suppliers of the site. St Andrews Church has one main electricity meter, serial number E12Z007476. There is one gas meter serving the site.

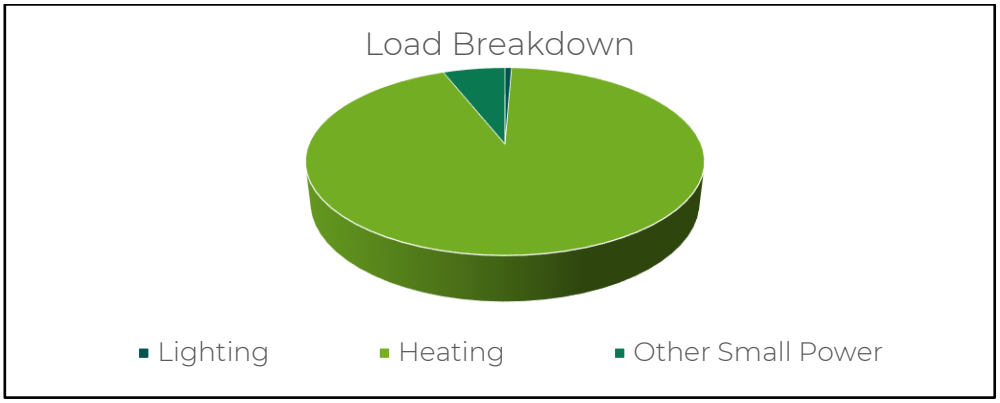
Utility	Meter Serial	Type	Pulsed output	Location
Electricity – Church	K07A56231	3 phase 100A	Yes, but not fully AMR connected	SE corner cupboard

It is recommended that the church consider asking their suppliers to install smart meters so that the usage can be monitored more closely, and the patterns of usage reviewed against the times the building is used.

4.1 Energy Profiling

The main energy consuming plant can be summarised as follows:

Service	Description	Estimated Proportion of Usage
Lighting	Exclusively LED lighting with the exception of 2D bulkheads in the WCs and kitchenette	1%
Heating	2no. Beeston gas fired boilers to perimeter fan convectors and pipework in trenches	93%
Other Small Power	Organ, hot water boiler, alarms and security, other plug loads	6%



As can been seen from this data, the heating makes up by far the largest proportion of the energy usage on site. The other significant load is small power use.

4.2 Energy Benchmarking

In comparison to national benchmarks for church energy use St Andrews Church uses 40% less electricity and 12% less heating energy than would be expected for a church of this size.

	Size (m^2 GIA)	Annual Energy Usage (kWh)	Actual kWh/m^2	Benchmark kWh/m^2	Variance from Benchmark
St Andrews Church (elec)	663	7,909	11.93	20.00	-40%
St Andrews Church (gas)	663	111,008	167.43	150.00	12%
TOTAL	663	118,917	179.36	170.00	6%

5. Efficient / Low Carbon Heating Strategy

The energy used for heating a church typically makes up around 80% to 90% of the overall energy consumption. Putting in place a heating strategy that is energy efficient and low carbon is, therefore, of the highest priority

The Church of England is in the process of reviewing its heating guidelines. The process has already established some principles for heating that can help churches as they seek an acceptable combination of comfort, conservation, affordability, and environmental care. The principles can be found at https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/CBC%20Heating%20guidance%20principles%20FINAL%20issued.pdf

As the principles make clear, every church's strategy will be unique to it, informed by many factors, including the nature of its usage, the system it's starting from, the conservation needs of the building, and the resources available. The strategies in this audit are designed specifically for your church.

Our recommendations on heating generally fall within three major areas. Firstly, for all churches we make recommendations that will help to reduce energy wastage and, as a starting point, to optimise the system that you already have

Secondly, we recommend options for many churches that focus on heating people rather than the full volume of the church. Some of the changes that can help with this will be 'soft' changes – others will relate to the heating system itself.

Finally, we make recommendations about moving away from fossil fuels. Moves away from fossil fuels are key to cutting emissions. For most churches, this will involve moving from gas, oil or LPG to electricity. Electricity currently creates carbon emissions around the same level as mains gas, but the carbon emissions associated with it are reducing rapidly as the UK builds more renewable energy and decommissions its remaining oil and coal fired power stations. Mains gas does have some potential to reduce its carbon content through the use of bio gas and hydrogen but these are less developed solutions and will be unable to deliver 'zero carbon mains gas'. Some local areas may also be considering the option of district heating networks.

While moving away from fossil fuels may not always be possible, as the principles state, "churches should be expected to have at least carefully considered the option of moving away from fossil-fuel based heating (gas and oil boilers) towards electric-based heating." And if such options are not viable now, the churches "can try to be ready for a future retro-fit when technology and the grid has progressed."

The church is currently heated by two gas fired boilers which were installed around 2000 and appear to have reached the end of their serviceable life and therefore require replacement. The boilers provide heating to two separate zones: one to fan convectors around the perimeter of the church, and one to pipework within the trenches. In addition, the lady chapel makes use of electric under pew heating.

The church makes use of fixed wooden pews in the main, with some flexible seating to the chancel and to the rear of the nave.

The church is used once per week on a Sunday for two services and the typical congregation size is 120 for the main eucharist. The heating is set to come on several hours earlier in the winter to ensure the church is warm for this service. The church is also used on a Tuesday and Friday on alternate weeks, with around 10 people in attendance.

The various options for a decarbonised heating solution have been reviewed in the table below.

Decarbonisation Heating Solution	Viable
Air to Water Source Heat Pump	No – unsuited to current heating pipework and heat emitters
Air to Air Source Heat Pump	No – does not suit use of building
Water Source Heat Pump	No – no water source locally
Ground Source Heat Pump	No – significant archaeology
Under Pew Electric Heating Panels	Yes – preferred heating solution and already installed in lady chapel
Electric Panel Heaters	Yes - to provide supplemental heating only
Over Door Air Heater (to provide a supplemental warm welcome at the door only)	No – architecture around door would not permit unit to be fixed
Overhead Infra-Red Heaters	No – visual intrusion to the church would do harm, least preferred heating source due to comfort
Heated Chair Cushions	No – other solutions preferred

5.1 Install Electric Under Pew Heaters

Electric under pew heaters provide a high level of thermal comfort to people sat in the pews. They are not installed to try and heat the entire air volume of the church, instead thermal comfort is achieved through a flow of warm air rising past the person in the pew. This means that the heaters should be installed under the entire length of all the pews that are likely to be used.

These heaters warm up almost instantly and a flow of warm air over the pew area is created within around 15 minutes of their being turned on. This significantly reduces the amount of preheating required before each use of the building and can make electric heating cost competitive with gas. It is important that this reduced 'on time' is properly reflected in any comparisons with other types of heating.

We would therefore suggest that the following works could be considered:

Area	Type/ Size	Length (mm)	Watts	Number (or m) Required
All pews	Electric Under Pew 650W	948	650	115
Moveable seating at rear of nave	Electric Under Pew 650W	948	650	10
organ heater	Electric Under Pew 650W	948	650	1

Cable runs to the pew heaters should run along the along the existing routes (all cabling should be in armoured cable or FP200 Gold when above ground) to both rows of pews. Each pew heater to be switched with a neon indicated fused spur located underneath the pew seat.

A case study of a church which has adopted this solution is available at https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/st-andrews-chedworth-electric-heating

Photos of installations are shown below. In addition, several churches in Oxford Diocese have recently installed such systems. If you would like to find out about churches whom you could ask about their experiences, please contact the diocese.

Brown BN Thermic 650W under pew heaters fixed to underside of pew seats for pews which have no solid backs.

5.2 Install Electric Panel Heaters

Electric panel heaters can provide additional heating to areas where there are no pews. Suitable electric panel heaters would be far-infrared panels. These heaters have a strong radiative effect (where heat is reflected to people from the surface) as well as a light convective effect (where air is warmed and moves around to heat the general space). For this reason, these heaters tend to provide a relatively instant sense of heat and comfort within a specific space and only need to be on for short periods of time. The heating effect spreads out from the panel by up to 3 meters, although this is reduced by people and furniture. This means that these heaters provide a useful source of supplementary heating or primary heating for some well-defined areas but are not very well suited to providing a complete heating solution for a church without other forms of heating (such as under pew). As these heaters warm up almost instantly, this reduces the amount of preheating required before each use of the building and can make electric heating cost competitive with gas. It also means that areas using this form of heating can rapidly and economically be brought into used for short or unplanned meetings if needed.

It is recommended that the PCC consider installing supplementary electrical panel heaters in the following areas on a time delay switch and remove the existing radiators.

Area	Type/ Size	Length (mm)	Watts	Number (or m) Required
Kitchen and WCs	Electric Far IR Wall Panel 350W	600	350	4
Chancel	Electric Far IR Wall Panel 1200W	1200	1200	6
Vestry	Electric Far IR Wall Panel 1200W	1200	1200	1

These can be purchased widely and fitted by any competent electrician. It is recommended that they are fitted with a time delay switch so they cannot be left on accidently after use.

If you would like to discuss panel heaters with a church in the diocese that already makes use of them, please contact the diocese.

Electric panel heater installed behind an altar

6. Energy Saving Recommendations

In addition to having a revise heating strategy there are also a number of other measures that can be taken to reduce the amount of energy used within the church.

6.1 New LED Lighting

The lighting makes up a relatively small overall energy proportion of the electricity used within the church. Most areas have had efficient LED lights installed but there still remains inefficient 2D fluorescent bulkhead fittings within the kitchenette and WCs.

It is recommended that the fittings scheduled in Appendix 1 are all changed for LED. There are a vast number of specifications of LED lights on the market, but it is recommended that any LED light should come with branded chips and drivers and offer a 5 year warranty. An example of such a range of fittings is available from http://www.qvisled.com/

If all the lights were changed on a simple "like for like" the total capital cost (supplied and fitted) would be £560. The annual cost saving would be £108 resulting in a payback of around 5.2 years. This estimate includes for the supply of the lights, the labour to install them and the access required. It does not include for any upgrade to the wiring or a new lighting design both of which the church may wish to consider. Guidance on lighting, produced by Historic England for churches, can be found at https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/caring-for-heritage/places-of-worship/making-changes-to-your-place-of-worship/advice-by-topic/lighting/

6.2 Lighting Controls (Internal)

There are several lights which currently remain on all the time in areas such as kitchenette, toilet areas and the like. Some of these areas are only used occasionally and for a short amount of time so that, in actuality, the light does not need to remain on constantly. There are also spaces which benefit from a good amount of natural daylight coming in through the windows, such that artificial lighting is not required for much use during the year.

It is recommended that a motion sensor is installed on these specific lighting circuits so that the lights come on only when movement is detected in the space and turn off approximately two to five minutes after the last movement has been detected (note that the duration of the time lag after which the light goes off needs to be considered alongside the type of light that is fitted. LED lights are much more suited to being switched off after only a short duration than some fluorescent lights). These movement sensors, commonly called PIRs, also have light sensors integrated into them so they can be used to make sure that the light does not come on if there is already sufficient daylight in the space.

6.3 Timers on Fuse Spurs to Water Heaters

There is an electric point of use water heater in the WC to provide hot water for hand washing. This only needs to heat the water to the required temperature when the building is in occupation but at the moment this heater is directly wired in without any form of time control and therefore maintains it set temperature 24/7.

It is recommended that the heaters are fitted with a 24 hour/7 day timeclock to replace the fused spur switch. An example of such a unit would be a TimeGuard FST77. They should be set up with times to match the times that the building is occupied. This will prevent the standing losses from the unit wasting energy during periods when the building is not occupied.

6.4 Draught Proof External Doors

There are a number of external doors in the church. The historic timber doors do not close tightly against the stone surround and hence a large amount of cold air is coming into the church around the side and base of these doors.

It is recommended that the draughtproofing around the door is improved and draught strips are added. This could be achieved in a number of ways:

For timber doors that close onto a timber frame a product called QuattroSeal (see link below) is often used in heritage environments to provide appropriate draught proofing.

http://www.theenergysavers.co.uk/application/files/1714/7197/4194/National_Trust_Case_Study.pdf

For timber doors that close onto a stone surround more traditional solutions such as brush draught strips rebated into the edge of the door by a skilled joiner. Other traditional methods such as using hessian or felt pads tacked to the door could be used.Keeping the door maintained in a good condition is also important.

Simple measures such as having a 'sausage dog' style draught excluder laid along the base of a door (it needs to be sufficiently heavy to stay in place), using plasticine of the right colour to fill gaps where daylight can be seen, and putting painted fridge magnets over large keyholes can all be simple DIY measures which are effective.

6.5 Repair Windows

The windows within the church are single glazed panes in lead within stone surrounds. These will have been the original windows and make up an important feature within the heritage façade. The west window is, however, in a poor state of repair in some instances and are allowing draughts into the building. The existing windows should be repaired which will not only reduce heat loss but also make the internal environment much nicer for all.

7. Renewable Energy Potential

The potential for the generation of renewable energy on site has been reviewed and the viability noted.

Renewable Energy Type	Viable
Solar PV	No – not sufficient demand, visible roof
Wind	No – no suitable land away from buildings
Battery Storage	No – no viable PV
Micro-Hydro	No – no water course
Solar Thermal	No – insufficient hot water need
Biomass	No – not enough heating load as well as air quality issues
Air Source Heat Pump	No – not the preferred heating solution for the church
Ground Source Heat Pump	No – archaeology in ground and radiator system

Now that the Feed in Tariff scheme has come to an end the installation of solar PV panels in situations where there is not almost full usage of the electricity generated on site is not really viable.

Having reviewed the site it is not considered that there is good viability for any renewables and instead a good clear focus on reducing the energy demand of the building should continue with a targeted approach on reducing the heating energy.

Wind turbines require highly exposed sites and should be located 250m way from buildings as such this site is not suitable for a wind turbine to be installed.

Hydro electricity is a highly efficient source of renewable energy but requires a body of flowing water with a differential height which is not present on this site.

Solar thermal installations are best suited to heat water for use in washing up, hand washing and bathing. There is minimal hot water demand at this church so such an installation would not be viable.

Heat Pumps are a low carbon method of creating heat, there use and suitability for this church have been review in the section earlier on in this report on Efficient and Low Carbon Heating Strategies.

Biomass is an alternative boiler and fuel to oil or gas. It requires wood chips or pellets to be delivered on site, stored and then fed into a large boiler for burning. While the fuel is not a fossil fuel there are emissions from the burning of wood and these can be detrimental to local air quality particularly in more built up areas for all these reasons it is not considered a viable recommendation for this site.

8. Funding Sources

There are a variety of charitable grants for churches undertaking works and a comprehensive list of available grants is available at https://www.parishresources.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Charitable-Grants-for-Churches-Jan-2019.pdf .

9. Faculty Requirements

It must be noted that all works intended to be undertaken should be discussed with the DAC at the Diocese.

Throughout this report we have indicated our view on what category of permission may be needed to undertake the work. This is for guidance only and must be checked prior to proceeding as views of different DACs can differ.

Under the new faculty rules;

List A is for more minor work which can be undertaken without the need for consultation and would include changing of light bulbs within existing fittings, repair and maintenance works to heating and electrical systems and repairs to the building which do not affect the historic fabric.

List B is for works which can be undertaken without a faculty but must be consulted on with permission sought from the Archdeacon through the DAC. This includes works of adaptation (but not substantial addition or replacement) of heating and electrical systems and also the replacement of existing boilers so long at the same pipe work, fuel source and flues are used. It can also be used to replace heating controls.

All other works will be subject to a full faculty.

Works which affect the external appearance of the church will also require planning permission (but not listed building consent) from the local authority and this will be required for items such as PV installations.

10. Offsetting

As you take action to reduce your emissions, you may also wish to offset those that you cannot yet reduce. If you would like to engage in offsetting, it is important to use a reputable scheme. The Church of England recommends Climate Stewards, which has a simple calculator that can help you to work out how much you would need to offset. https://www.climatestewards.org/

Climate Stewards encourages people to 'reduce what you can and offset the rest' as part of your journey to Net Zero carbon emissions. They provide training and resources to help you understand climate change and its impacts, and to calculate the carbon footprint from your activities including travel, energy, expenditure, and food. Their online carbon calculators for individuals and smaller organisations are free to use, and they provide bespoke carbon footprint audits for larger organisations.

Having reduced as much of your organisation's carbon footprint as you can, there will always be unavoidable emissions from your work and travel. Carbon offsetting allows you to compensate for the negative impact of your carbon emissions by funding projects which take an equivalent amount of CO_2 out of the atmosphere. These either involve locking up ('sequestrating') CO_2 as trees grow or reducing emissions by using low-carbon technology such as fuel-efficient cookstoves or water filters.

Climate Stewards has a close relationship with all their project partners in Ghana, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Nepal and Peru. They work closely with them to design, develop, implement and monitor projects which will not only mitigate carbon, but also bring tangible benefits to the local community - including improved health, savings in time and money previously spent on buying or collecting fuel, and improvements in local biodiversity. Each project is assessed using their Seal of Approval protocol which enables us to assess and monitor carbon mitigation and ensure robust, sustainable and transparent partnerships.

Appendix 1 – Schedule of Lighting to be Replaced or Upgraded

Room/Location	Number of Fittings	Recommended Upgrade	Annual Saving (£)	Total Cost (£)	Payback
Toilets / kitchenette	5	2D LED 11W	£13	£294	22.52