



GROUND-SOURCE UNDER-FLOOR HEATING



GROUP NAME:

Sandford Hydro CIC
St. Andrew's Church, Sandford on Thames

TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET:

£50,000+

LOW CARBON HUB GRANT:

£500

PARTNER FUNDERS:

Collections and donations from the congregation

Image: under construction and completed



“The ‘invisible’ heating now ensures a warm welcome to all visitors in all seasons”

Liz Shatford, Sandford Hydro CIC

The objective

To install ground-source underfloor heating in St. Andrew's Church, Sandford on Thames, to reduce their carbon emissions and help preserve the fabric of the building for future generations.

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The work

St Andrew's Church, Sandford on Thames, has replaced their old overhead electric radiant heaters with underfloor heating fuelled from 3 no. 110M deep bore holes. This project has provided the Church with a source of sustainable energy to heat this ancient listed building. The Sandford Hydro CIC worked closely with the Vicar of the Church and parishioners to arrange and manage the installation.

The Low Carbon Hub was really pleased to provide just a very small part of the overall funding needed for the project.

The results

- Planet

The new ground-source heating system has reduced the carbon emissions of the Church. The old electric heaters used considerably more electricity for little benefit; they tended to 'overheat the head while the feet froze' and the new underfloor heating system is not only more sustainably sourced but also better for the building by maintaining a constant temperature throughout the year.

- People

Many people supported the project, both from the Sandford Hydro CIC who were instrumental in installing the heating, to the wider community who helped fundraise for it. The project has also created much more awareness of sustainable energy in the wider community.

The improved church heating system will benefit many, both now and in the future, as the building is now much more comfortable. This has made the Church more attractive for other groups to use such as for meditation and prayer and enabled visitors to look around in greater comfort.

- Prosperity

The new heating will result in annual ongoing cost savings for the Church while improving the comfort of congregations. It has made the Church more attractive a venue for community and cultural events.

Learning

The team learnt that when undertaking major projects it is beneficial to have a project manager familiar with all aspects of the job; they need to understand the first estimated costings, how to gain all the necessary permissions and how to effectively coordinate the timings and sequence of work.

“We were so pleased to provide just a tiny part of the funding needed for this worthwhile project!”

Saskya Huggins, Low Carbon Hub

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