DAC Environmental Policy Webinar
24th March 2020
Agenda

- The need for a policy
  - National Level
  - Diocese Level
- Policy and Guidance Note Content
- Support and Further Information
- Electrical Heating in Practice
- Q&A

Please mute your microphones during presentation!
The Need for a Policy

- General Synod Motion passed in February 2020 calling for Church of England to be Net Zero by 2030.
- Diocese of Gloucester updated Environmental Policy (before General Synod) to have at least 80% reduction in GHGs by 2030 and to be carbon neutral by 2030.
Churches (and their halls) make up 40% of CofE’s emissions.
Background to Policy

- Based on 52 Energy Audits undertaken in the Diocese and hundreds of subsequent visits
- DAC only advises the Chancellor who is the final decision maker (but be mindful of recent 3rd Runway Court ruling)
- Policy is designed to offer advice and guidance as well as setting out clarity on what advice will be given to the Chancellor from the DAC.
Energy Tariffs and Billing

• General encouragement to all churches to be adopting a ‘green’ tariff.
• Parishes wishing to undertake modifications, replacements or upgrades to any gas or electrical systems will need to demonstrate that they are purchasing from a renewable or green electricity or gas supplier.
• Call to all parishes to check that they are paying only 5% VAT and not be charged CCL.
Heating

- Heat makes up by far the largest proportion of a church's energy use (often 85% +)
- The 2012 study showed over 70% of churches heated using fossil fuels (oil – 24% and gas 47%) which do not fit in a zero carbon future.
- Advice to check timings, temperatures and avoid background heating
- Replacement of oil boiler will no longer be allowed. Churches generally encouraged to consider electric heating options.
Lighting

- Advice on using motion sensors and reducing timing of external flood lighting
- All churches and halls encouraged to convert to low energy / LED lighting by 2025
- Proposals for additional flood lighting must demonstrate that they will not increase the churches energy consumption.
Insulation and Draught Proofing

• Advice to have pipework in boiler rooms insulated
• Advice to churches to consider draught proofing measures especially around doors
• Any proposals for re-roofing should include insulation within them or provide a compelling justification as to why this is not possible.

• Also consider underneath pew platforms!
Renewables

• Generally encouraging of renewable energy generation (examples of major PV, Biomass and Heat Pumps in Diocese dating back 10 years)

• Churches should show that they have address all energy efficiency measures BEFORE installing renewables (through a recent energy audit)
Churchyards and Outside Areas

- Promotes use of Diocese grants (£250) for wildlife gardens
- Any proposal to remove or significantly reduce size of trees must be accompanied by proposals to plant at least two new trees elsewhere on church land.
- Any car parking proposals must show that it will not generate surface run off and include an EV charging point and/or bike rack
Major Development and Reordering

- Advice on designing to avoid single use and purchase A+ or better rated appliances.
- Statements of Need must include details of how the proposals will have a positive impact on the environment.
- All timber used must be FSC certified.
Support and Further Information

• Support available through DAC dac@glosdioc.org.uk
• A Rocha UK https://arocha.org.uk has lots of advice and is also the key resource for EcoChurch.
• Church of England – Church Buildings Council - https://www.churchofengland.org/environment
Electrical Heating in Practice

St Andrews Chedworth converted from oil to electric heating in Autumn 2018.

- Underpew Heaters
- Overhead heaters to tower and choir vestry
- Panel Heaters to non-pew areas (font, chancel step etc.)

Only turn on around 30mins prior to a service and leave off at all other times.
Underpew Heaters

http://www.bnthermic.co.uk/products/convection-heaters/ph/
Overhead Heating

Herschel Pulsar -
https://www.herschel-infrared.co.uk/product/pulsar/
Overhead Heating

https://www.warm4less.com/p/2400-watts-alpha-bar-heater/
Panel Heaters

https://www.warm4less.com/p/700-watt-platinum-white/
Question and Answers