

# Banchory Christian Fellowship Church Biomass

## Introduction

Banchory Christian Fellowship Church (BCFC) was inaugurated on 21 June 2003 and is registered as a Scottish Charity.

Two acres of land were purchased by BCFC alongside a new housing development. Full planning permission was granted in December 2008 to erect a church with a games hall and nursery facilities. The project provides facilities that are used daily by the local community. There is extensive community benefit as a result of this building, beyond the role of the church:



- Senior citizens – regular lunches and associated support.
- The new building includes a 260 seat sanctuary with audio visual facilities; games hall; cafe/ breakout place; fully equipped kitchen; two staff rooms; a lounge and; three classrooms.
- More than 70 members of the local community have completed enhanced disclosures as volunteers to facilitate the children/young people's work in the community.
- Classes for community needs, such as parenting and drug awareness, are available.
- AWANA - A Friday club for pre- school and primary children. Attendance figures range from 35 – 50, who are supported by 15 helpers.
- Costa Faith Youth – catering for teenagers where the old facilities were not able to cope with more than 25 attendees.

## Equipment

### Model KWB multifire USV D 80kW

BCFC approached their local Community Energy Scotland Development Officer, and discussed the options available to them. After deciding on a biomass heating system, the group contacted three accredited installers for advice and costings.

The selection of contactor was based on quality, cost, maintenance options and the locality of the installers in the Banchory area.

## Cost and Grant Funding

Total project cost	£ 53,556	The remaining funding was obtained through: BCFC own funds
CARES grant	£ 22,493	
CARES grant percentage	42%	

## Fuel Bill Savings

This was a new build project. A wood pellet biomass system was identified as being most appropriate and flexible for this multi purpose building. Pellet heating is cost effective in comparison to heating oil.

## Emission Savings

Estimated kWh savings p.a.	23,3600
Annual Co2 savings (tonnes)	58.4
Lifetime Co2 savings (tonnes)	876

## Project Monitoring

The installers work to a maintenance plan to ensure that the heating system operates at its optimum efficiency. This keeps fuel costs down, and maximises the lifetime of the boiler. They also have remote access to the installed monitoring package.

BCFC staff record all deliveries of pellet.



## Local Impact

Banchory Christian Fellowship has a significant community presence in the town and, with the new building being in close proximity to the mixed housing development, it provides a much needed community facility in the area.

Reduced running costs allow much needed additional funds to be used to subsidise ongoing community activities.

## Lessons Learned:

The church was built with specific attention to installation and the use of renewable materials. The building is clad with local timber and the installation of a biomass heating system fitted well with the ethos of sustainability. This approach has been appreciated by the local community who use and visit the building.

## For further information, contact:

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