Home Energy & Sustainable Buildings – Ben

TOP wish

* How do we best improve our homes? People want to know what measures are best. How do you get bang for your buck? Where do people get information from? How do we facilitate people to improve their homes?

TOP 3 INITIATIVES

* Surveys for villagers – to identify which measures might be best for individual houses. Either through BANES, CSE or by village volunteers. Run workshops in people’s houses.
* Community forum to share knowledge and experience. A list of trusted tradesmen.
* Group buying circle, to reduce prices.

TOP 3 QUICK NEXT STEPS

* Check with BANES or Bath University to see what support they can offer homeowners.
* Address B&NES planning policy on double glazing and solar in conservation areas.
* All members of the group seemed to want to carry out energy efficiency improvement measures to their homes but felt they were held back by a lack of knowledge about ;
* - What measures would be best for them to do.
* - What measures they might do themselves and how.
* - Where to find the right contractors they could trust to do the work.
* - What grants are available
* Suggestions / ideas;
* - Ask Banes to fund a surveyor to carry out surveys of homes and report what measures each homeowner should consider.
* - Open houses for people to see what others have done, for example see how renewables that have been installed work, and hear first-hand experience.
* - Open house / workshops for knowledgeable members of the community to show and inform people what measures they might be best consider in their house. From simple DIY draft proofing, to if house is heated by an old oil boiler top of the list of measures to consider will be replacing it.
* - Set up a community forum for members to share, experience, knowledge, trusted tradesmen etc on.
* - Set up group buying initiatives for measures such as, new boilers, insulation, renewables etc. The benefit being sharing of workload in finding contractors etc, and better deal for group order.
* - Try to source support from Bath University as they have a wealth of knowledge and expertise.
* - Lobby Banes on amending planning policy to enable double glazing to be installed in listed buildings and conservation areas. Perhaps an approved list of Double Glazing styles could be provided.
* We have many beautiful buildings in our community whose roofs are very visible. Although solar PV is generally a good idea, we need to consider the aesthetic impact as well as energy benefit. There is still scope to look at the discreet use of land around the village and to 'hide' the panels as we did on the Galleries Field.

## INFORMATION

* Transition Bath & Energy Efficient Widcombe both have thermal imaging cameras (Philip Haile).So does Climate Friendly BOA (Ros Edwards)
* B&NES information on energy saving measures and funding <https://www.energyathome.org.uk/>
* Historic homes energy advice <https://www.cse.org.uk/downloads/reports-and-publications/energy-advice/insulation-and-heating/warmer_bath_june2011.pdf>
* B&NES advice on energy efficiency at home <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/webinar/green-homes-how-make-your-home-more-energy-efficient> includes interviews with 3 home owners
* Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) https://www.cat.org.uk/info-resources/free-information-service/

offers free advice on renewable energy. They might also be able to recommend a renewable energy surveyor.

* B&NES <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/webinar/local-plan-update-policy-focus-climate-emergency-zero-carbonrenewable-energy>