

Final Project Report

Eco -Refurbishment of Carron Grove Scout Hall

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39th Fife Scout Group

CCF – 3345

www.39thfifescouts.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/39th-Fife-Scout-Group/50418528794?fref=ts>

Starting Point

The 39th Fife Scout Group was founded in 1934 and, although a multi denominational organisation, is affiliated with a local church, Queen Margaret's, Touch, Dunfermline. The Group initially used the church facilities for meetings until the 1970's when we were gifted our own hall by a local beneficiary.

The journey to receiving the CCF reward started a good 6 months before the application was submitted. As a group, we are incredibly fortunate in that we own our Scout Hall, however maintaining a 40-year old building can have its challenges!

The building was very inefficient, had damp and condensation problems, a lack of ventilation, and required an increasing amount of maintenance. We were speaking to a local architect around potential options (particularly around our roof which was problematic for us) and this is when we were first made aware of the CCF.

Our first contact from the CCF was fantastic in providing guidance. He visited the hall and gave lots of advice on what would and wouldn't qualify for a grant. He also made highlighted the very important community aspect of the CCF and this played key role in our application.

On the back of this, we engaged and paid for an architect to draw up plans, worked with Resource Efficient Scotland to understand the potential energy efficiencies we could gain, considered how we could positively impact the immediate and broader community, engaged local contractors to quote for the work, applied for building consent, and worked with Brad to develop a set of broad outcomes, and submitted the application. We invested well over £1000 (a not insignificant commitment) prior to submission of our application. To our delight we were successful.

The total award was for £55,403.88. We had 3 primary target outcomes:

1. Reduce lifetime emissions by 181 tCO₂e by making energy efficiency changes in the building.

2. Increase hall usage by other community Groups. In doing so increase awareness of the 39th Group sustainability strategy and potentially reduce lifetime emissions by 43.7 tCO₂e through use of our energy efficient building space.
3. Through increased engagement with our sustainability strategy, positively influence the behaviours of our immediate project community (Scout Group members and their families) and in doing reduce lifetime emissions by 40.97 tCO₂e.

Headline achievements

We have been successful in driving forward the commitments and goals outlined in our CCF application. Thanks to the grant of c£55k received from the CCF, over the course of the last 12 months we have successfully

- refurbished the Carron Grove Scout Hall, significantly increasing the energy efficiency of the hall through a new insulated roof, new doors, windows and energy efficient lighting
- engaged and educated our community around the importance of lowering CO₂ emissions and
- influenced the modes of transport taken by users of the hall

In doing so, we are well on our way to achieving the lifetime emissions target of c280 CO₂e tonnes set out in our original application.

Activities

The key activities we carried out under the project are broken down below:

Increasing the Efficiency of the Hall

In the first part of the project the primary focus was on the building works we needed to progress in order to improve the fabric of the building and meet the major goal we had set around improving the energy efficiency of the hall.

Between April and July of 2015 we:

- Engaged the parent community to help clear the hall, declutter, and remove all the stored items in the loft space in anticipation of the impending works
- Removed the old roof and installed a brand new fully insulated replacement
- Replaced all of the old metal and wooden windows in the hall with fully double glazed new pvc windows
- Installed new doors to replace the drafty old ones

- Installed new energy efficient lighting throughout the hall, together with sensor lighting controls
- Improved the vents and ventilation

This work made a massive and almost immediate difference to the quality of the hall. The lingering damp smell disappeared within weeks, the new windows (replacing old metal windows with exterior grills for added security) brought more light into the building, and it was noticeably warmer.



General Education and Engagement

To “launch” the newly refurbished hall we held a BBQ/fun night where almost 100 people attended (children from the group and their families, the district commissioner, leaders from other groups etc.). At the event we spent some time reiterating the objectives of the project and describing what was coming up.

As preparation for this launch event we held a competition whereby the children who attend each section were invited to design posters and flags with an energy efficiency /environmental awareness theme (ideally incorporating the Scouts and CCF). This was a great success and great way of engaging the children in our goals. Some photos of



The winners were chosen at the event and the winning designs were made into banners (which are displayed outside and in the hall) and flags (which we take on camps to highlight the eco-friendly ambitions of the 39th Group).





Throughout the year there has been continual communication with our immediate community:

- our quarterly newsletters had a regular update on CCF progress
- any activities that we undertook were shared on the facebook page
- the various Group sections focused on environmental awareness activities and related award badges.

We also received some home energy monitors which we intended to use with a selection of families to track energy use. Although our request for volunteers didn't garner enough support to progress this particular initiative – it did serve to let us position the overall project goals again.

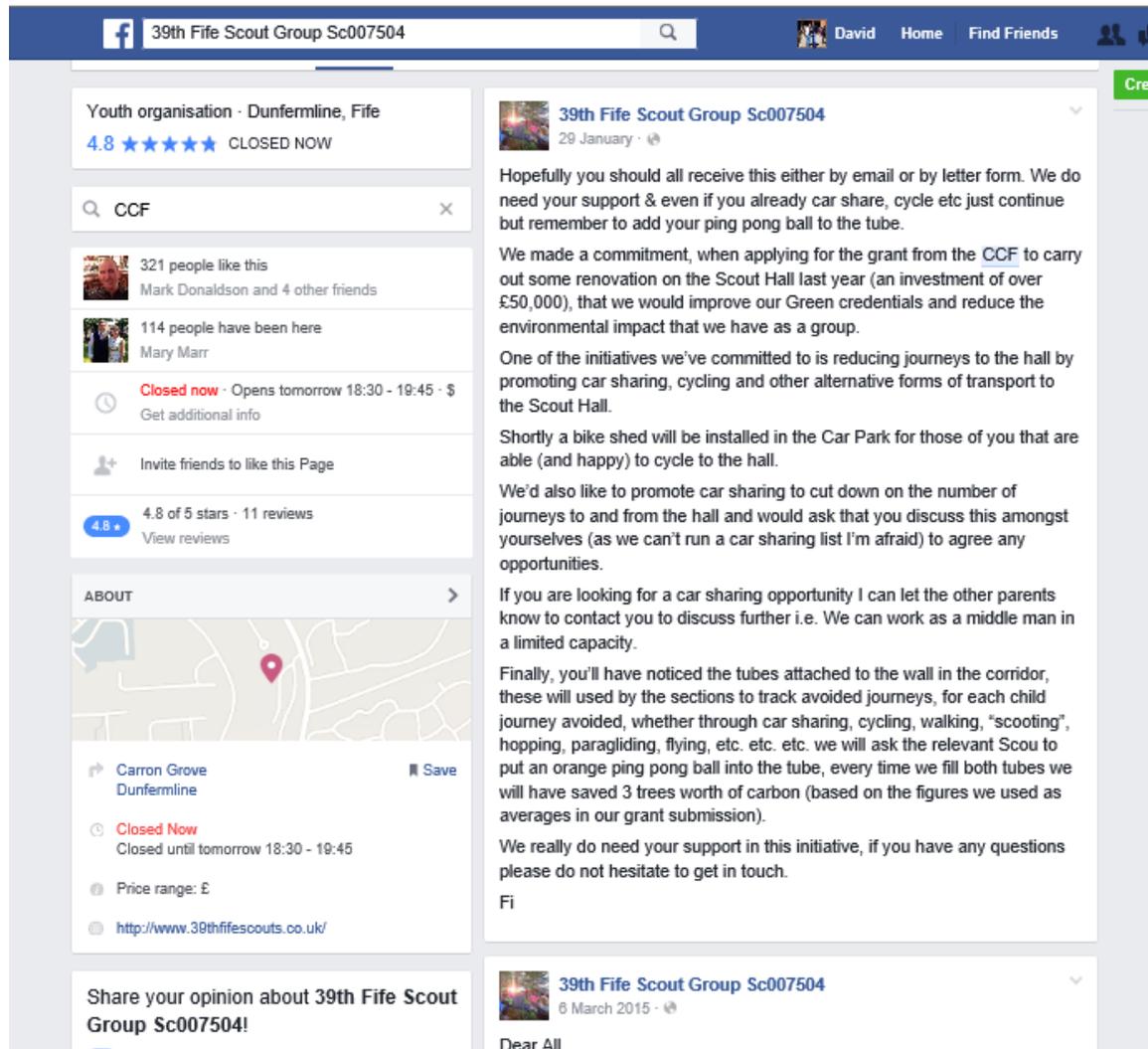
Throughout the year we have held a number of fundraising events and at each of these we make a pint of describing our journey and future ambitions.

Changing the mode of transport to/from the hall

One of our specific outcomes was to try and influence a change to the mode of transport to and from the hall.

We have procured a bicycle stand and hi visibility vests though the CCF funding and are encouraging people to be aware of the impact they have on carbon emissions through the choice of transport.

The section leaders have also engaged with the parents to promote and facilitate car sharing. This has worked really well. This face book post is one of the ways we have promoted car sharing etc:



In doing so we have tried to keep the education relevant and engaging for the children. We have found that the educational activities we have progressed are much better targeted at the children than parents.

For example, we worked out the average emission saved from every journey where an alternative to the car was used, and converted this to "trees". So we were able to tell the children that for every 30 "environment friendly journeys saved (i.e. walked, cycled or car share) that we would save 1 tree.

We know that if we save 25 trees, we will have hit our target emissions savings submitted in the application. We have a mechanism (blue peter style!) for capturing every journey saved (an old pipe which is filled with ping pong balls by the children!) and a poster tracking trees saved.

Reducing our carbon footprint How many Trees can the 39th Fife Scout Group save?

As part of our CCF project we committed to trying to reduce our carbon emissions by 8 tonnes over a year!
This equates to approximately 400 trees saved per annum.

The bulk of this will be driven by the energy efficiency improvements we have made (new insulated roof, new doors, windows etc.). However we have also targeted saving 25 trees by encouraging different modes of transport to the hall - for example walking, cycling, or car sharing.

So how do we measure this?

For every 30 journeys where we change the mode of transport will save the equivalent of 1 tree.

For 25 trees, this means our target is 750 journeys over the course of 12 months!



Reducing our carbon footprint Changing the mode of transport to the hall

For every journey saved place a ping pong ball in the tubes below

For every 30 ping pong balls we will colour in a tree!

Remember – only claim a journey “saved” where you would otherwise have driven and have now walked, car shared or cycled to the hall





Making the hall available to other Groups

We have slowly started promoting the hall for use by other groups. From a situation where we had no-one else using the hall we now have

- A fitness class using the hall twice a week
- Another Scout group asking to use the hall at weekends
- Other community / charity groups looking to run events (including charity who work

This has only been possible because of the investment we have been able to make and the improved quality of experience it has brought. In doing so, we are encouraging use of a more energy efficient building rather than other alternatives.

Outcomes

1. Reduce lifetime emissions by 181 tCO₂e by making energy efficiency changes in the building. **Outcome Partially Met .**

- In order to deliver the lifetime emissions savings, we targeted an annual saving of 46% in electricity use and 25% in gas usage
- Using Q1 2106 as an indicator of improvements in efficiency we have used
 - 30% less electricity
 - 24% less gas
- Both are significant reductions in the headline usage levels and do not take into account the fact that the hall is used more frequently than the equivalent period of Q1 2015.
- The gas usage figures are close enough to be put down to natural variance.
- Extrapolating these % reductions would lead to Lifetime emissions savings of 163.5 tCO₂e against the target of 181 tCO₂e.
- This is approximately 90% of target.

GAS	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
2014				4413	2348	382	333	626	877	3645	4578	4132	21334
2015	7765	5586	5011	3500	4676	923	314	155	1163	3642	4365	4828	41928
2016	5227	4434	4000										13661
Var	2538	1152	1011										
% Var	33%	21%	20%	Avg.	24%								
ELEC	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
2014				505			443			538			1486
2015	588			527			453			507			2075
2016	411												411

Totsl Saved (9 mnth)	198	KWH	
Total Pro Rata (12m)	264	KWH	13%

TOTAL SAVED Q1 2016	177	KWH	30%
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2. Increase hall usage by other community Groups. In doing so increase awareness of the 39th Group sustainability strategy and potentially reduce lifetime emissions by 43.7 tCO₂e through use of our energy efficient building space. **Outcome Partially Met (50% of target).**

- In some respects, this is a subjective measure in that it assumes that we would “let” the hall out for 6 extra hours per week, for 35 weeks of the year and that 50% of these 6 hours would have otherwise utilised a less energy efficient hall.
- As it stands the hall is used for approx. 3 hours extra per week. On this basis we have achieved 50% of target.

- However, we have significant interest in further utilisation of the hall by other groups (including another scout group) on a Saturday and this will further increase the use to a point where we meet target.

3. Through increased engagement with our sustainability strategy, positively influence the behaviours of our immediate project community (Scout Group members and their families) and in doing reduce lifetime emissions by 40.97 tCO₂e. **Outcome Partially Met (25% of target, 3 month into year - on Target).**

- There were two elements to this outcome centred on education
 - reducing tCO₂e through changing the mode of transport to the hall
 - reducing tCO₂e through changing behaviours of families at home
- In some respects, the qualitative outcomes are less important than the engagement of the children around the outcomes we were trying to achieve. We have found it difficult to engage parents but the children embraced the activities put on by the section leaders.
- We are well on our way to meeting the target for changing the mode of transport to the hall, and this has largely been achieved by engaging the children in the challenge and presenting the challenge in different & visual ways.
- Since launching the initiative in January of 2016, we have tracked a total of over 170 journeys saved. Our aim to hit the CO₂ emissions target is 750 journeys over the course of a 12-month period (see posters earlier)
- On this basis we are approx. 23% on target after a quarter of the year – so largely on track
- In addition, the leaders have been focusing on badge work and activities that support the environmental impact culture that we have been trying to build.

Learning & Reflection

There were a number of learning points across the course of the project:

The building work was the biggest single activity, however was probably the “easiest” to deliver in terms of achieving the outcomes. We had undertaken a large amount of preparatory work (as recommended by CCF contact) so were really able to hit the ground running when confirmation that we have been successful in the grant application came through. This activity was the primary focus of the effort for the first 2 or 3 months of the year.

Engaging our community around this was also relatively straightforward as we had a focal point – physical building changes, launch event, poster competition etc. We found that we were able to use the building work as a generator of excitement and engagement around our goals.

From the off, the children and section leaders really embraced the whole challenge and bought into the concepts and cultural changes being promoted.

However, we did struggle with engaging the adult community - for example our goal of getting a selection of families to use the home energy monitors did not work due to lack of volunteers.

Parent engagement and commitment is an ongoing challenge for volunteer groups like the Scouts. We have a “core” group of parents who regularly volunteer to run the committee, manage the maintenance of the hall, lead fundraising.

So the learning point was to focus the educational activities on on the Children and use their energy to get adults engaged. This has worked well with the changing the mode of transport initiative – the use of posters and “tress saved” was a concept that the children could comprehend. This was then followed up with offer by scout leaders to coordinate a car sharing initiative. We are also thinking of having a “eco friendly travel week” - trying to encourage as many families as possible to walk, cycle, etc. for 1 week only (recognising that this isn’t always practical for some families).

In terms of the outcomes related to education and awareness, the key learn is that the pace of change is probably a lot slower than anticipated. The small group of committee members who actively championed and drove the CCF related work forward have been committed and “emotionally” engaged in the project for much longer than the wider community. We perhaps should have recognised this and factored it into our plans. That said, we are still very confident of hitting the lifetime emission targets originally set out in the grant submission.

The other learning point (related to the parent engagement point earlier) was that we struggled to maintain momentum over the course of October to end January. These are the business times for our Scout Group traditionally as the major fundraising activities are undertaken – Halloween, Scout Xmas Post, Burns Supper. All people involved in the project were volunteers, who were also the primary leaders of these activities.

In hindsight, we probably should have tried to share the workload more and separated the activity from BAU Scout committee work.

Finance & Administration

Administration of the project and associated finances were relatively straight forward for those of us involved in the managing the CCF project. The bulk of expenses were incurred during the building phase and consequently were well planned and executed.

The 39th Fife Scout Group is a registered charity those of us involved in the CCF project have responsibilities in this respect that meant that that managing the finances were not unusual. We used our existing administration and governance forums (39th Fife Scouts Executive committee) to track the management of accounts and expenses.

We underspend slightly on the original budget of £55000, largely due to the fact that costs came in either on track or slightly under original expectations.

Legacy

The CCF grant and the activity it has driven has been great for 39th Fife Scout Group.

The work has provided a real focus for the group in relation to the specific outcomes originally identified, but is also helped to change behaviours across other activities of the group.

For example, we are trying to move to a position where we “go paperless” as a Scout Group – using the web and electronic means for most of our communications. We’ve invested in a new website (www.39thfifescouts.co.uk) and are increasingly using this in conjunction with Facebook for photos etc.

The amount of interest in the work of the group has been huge – particularly from other Scout Groups who are very impressed with what we have achieved and keen to understand not only what we have done, but also how they can replicate it.

The biggest legacy is the fact that the environmental impact and awareness culture is now embedded in the Group and will continue to evolve and develop over the coming years.

Name of report authors and date it was finalised:

David Marr (with contributions from Fiona McCredie, and various Scout section leaders).

Finalised 5th June 2016.

Activities Grid – Please fill in only those activities which relate to your project. More information about all of these activities can be provided in other sections of the report – these figures will enable us to collate some overall impacts of the CCF.	
How many advice/information centres – regular drop-in centre, advice surgery etc. - is your project running?	n/a
How many training sessions where skills and/or information were passed on – e.g. composting training, cooking workshops, etc. – has your project has held.	n/a
How many events did your project hold, e.g. information fairs, open days, etc.? Do not include events held by other organisations which you have attended.	1
How many staff, volunteers or community members have achieved qualifications through the project – e.g. City & Guilds Energy Awareness, Trail Cycle Leader, etc.	n/a
How many people were directly employed by your project. Tell us the full-time equivalent (FTE) number of employees (e.g. 3 days per week = 0.6 FTE).	n/a
Is the project is supporting the development of any long-term jobs which are not dependent of CCF Funding? How many?	n/a
How many people are actively involved in your project – attending groups & workshops, using the project facilities etc.?	130+
<p>How many people volunteer their time and energy to keeping the project going – don't forget the members of your management committee or board.</p> <p>This is both the core team (chair, secretary treasurer) running the project, plus the scout leadership group</p>	c. 8
How many schools are involved in your project?	n/a
How many community-owned buildings have been refurbished?	1
How many Home Energy Checks or similar energy efficiency reports have been carried out by your project?	2 (pre submission of app)

How many households have been referred on to other agencies or providers (e.g. HES, Green Deal assessor) for further action?	n/a
How many households installed energy efficiency measures – loft, wall or floor insulation, draft-proofing, double glazing etc. – as a result of your project?	n/a
How many households installed green energy generation measures – photovoltaic panels, solar thermal panels, air or ground source heat pumps, wood fuelled heating systems etc – as a result of your project?	n/a
How many miles of car journeys have been reduced through the activities of your project?	255 miles (so far)
How many square metres (m²) of community growing space (allotments, poly-tunnels, raised beds, community gardens) has your project brought into use?	n/a
How many tonnes of waste have been diverted from landfill because of the activities of your project?	n/a
How many kWh of energy has been reduced because of the activities of your project?	c.4750 (so far)