

LAVCH Members Meeting
Saturday 27th September, 9.30am
Samlesbury War Memorial Hall, Cuerdale Lane
Samlesbury, Preston, PR5 0UY

Minutes

List of Attendees:

LAVCH Trustees: Eileen Murray, Sian Middlebrough (Grimsargh VH), Paul Hunt (Chipping VH), Anne Huson (Grindleton Pavilion), Simon Kirkman (Catterall VH), Bilal Bham (Catherine Beckett CC), Teresa Taylor (Non Affiliated)

Other Halls represented: Samlesbury War Memorial Hall (4 attendees), Mellor Brook CC (1 representative), Barton VH (2 representatives), Bryning with Warton VH (2 representatives)

Apologies received from Hoole VH, Knowle Green VH, Parbold VH, Trawden Forest CC, Whittle-le-Woods CH, Longridge Civic, Salesbury MH and Community Futures

- 1) Welcome from Sian
- 2) LAVCH Trustees present introduced themselves
- 3) Peter and Julie Maxwell from Maxigiene gave a presentation about Legionella Control (slides attached) which was of great interest to attendees. Julie said they are willing to give advice to Village Halls about best practice. They can do risk assessments and advise a control plan to minimise risks.
- 4) Paul Hunt from Chipping Village Hall gave a presentation about the Chipping Community Energy project (slides attached).
- 5) Julia Dixon from Sam-les-bury WM Hall gave a brief overview of the history of the hall
- 6) Julia Marsden from Samlesbury WM Hall gave a presentation and demonstration of the Hallmaster online booking system. They chose Hallmaster because it has the capability to link to a buildings management system to automatically control, heating, access, etc. A lively discussion took place regarding booking systems, taking deposits and payment regimes. Bilal explained that Catherine Beckett Community Centre have just changed from hallbookingonline to LemonBooking because it has better integrated accounting software.
- 7) Open Forum
 - a. Anne from Grindleton asked for recommendations for air conditioning systems
 - b. Teresa highlighted opportunities for funding through Crowd Fund Lancashire
 - c. Sue from Parbold emailed to ask if hirers use a hall kitchen to produce food for sale should they have public liability insurance – yes/probably. However, Eileen noted that Grimsargh state in their bookings terms state that any hirer is

- responsible for knowing and complying with any regulations pertaining to anything they are doing during their hire.
- d. Sue also asked how other halls dealt with cancellations, in general halls have a cancellation policy in their T&Cs and some work with a sliding scale of refunds depending on the notice given.
 - e. Discussions about liability for slips in icy conditions if halls apply salt to paths, etc. (It is thought that by using salt halls are in some way taking responsibility and would therefore be liable if someone slipped and injured themselves). Eileen explained that this is a grey area (even with HSE) but that spreading of salt is highly unlikely make the hall liable. A couple of halls have salt bins that users can access to distribute the salt themselves.
 - f. Brian & Anne, Barton VH asked about the various charitable structures, in particular the advantages or otherwise of becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). Eileen explained that although a CIO limits the liability on Trustees it does not stop them from being liable if they are negligent. This is not really any different from other charity structures although it is often helpful when recruiting Trustees if your hall is a CIO. This view was supported by Paul from Chipping. CIO status can also give greater clarity when entering into contracts, as the charity is a legal entity in its own right – so can “own” things, like the building/land and have legal agreements in its own name, rather than that of the trustees.

Attendees enjoyed a buffet lunch and a chance to talk amongst themselves.

- 8) In the afternoon a working session on social media saw the meeting split into small groups to address issues pertinent to them. Simon helped Bryning with Warton to set up a Facebook page, others discussed aspects of Facebook including the benefits of events vs posts, boosting posts, creating content with Canva and copilot, the use of AI, Google maps reviews, etc., with help from ‘experts’ Simon, Bilal, Julia and Eileen.
- 9) Topics for future meetings were suggested:
 - a. Charge my Streets (EV charging points) – may not be applicable to all VHs as they concentrate on areas where car owners do not have the space to charge EVs at their own property.
 - b. TJB grant assistance hints and tips.
 - c. Andy McLoughlin, Knowle Green VH’s path to net zero.
 - d. Accounts packages, Quik Books, free Agent etc.
- 10) Reminder that the Eco Town visit is on Wed 22nd October pm, there are still spaces available.
- 11) The next meeting (AGM) will be at Chipping Village Hall on 25th April 2026.

List of Attachments:

- Maxigiene Legionella presentation slides
- Maxigiene quote for providing services to LAVCH members – valid for 3 months
- Chipping Community Energy Project Slides
- Social media “Cheat Sheet”, produced by Bilal

Lancashire Association of Village and Community Halls

- Firstly, can we thank Anne and the members of LAVCH for inviting us here today.
- Maxigiene are a Legionella Control Company based in Cleveleys, we have been trading for nearly 26 years helping Councils, Schools, Colleges, Carehomes, Dentists, Doctors, Businesses of all sizes with Legionella Compliance
- We are aware you, as people running local village and community halls, have lots of compliance checks to carry out as well as keeping the local halls running, which is no mere feat.
- We would like to give you an insight and some guidance into Legionella control today and assist you in staying compliant.



Maxigiene

Legionella Control

How do I stay compliant

Contents

- Relevant Documentation
- A Brief Overview of Legionnaires Disease
- Risks
- Employers and Duty Holders
- How Do I Comply
- Precautionary Measures
- Summary
- Maxigiene
- The 7 deadly sins of Legionella Compliance

Relevant Documentation

The Approved Code of Practice
The Control of Legionella Bacteria
In
Water Systems
Fourth Edition 2013

Relevant Documentation

- **HSG 274 Part 1- The Control of Legionella Bacteria in Evaporative Cooling systems**

HSG 274 Part 2- The Control of Legionella Bacteria in Hot and Cold Water Systems

HSG 274 Part 3- The Control of Legionella Bacteria in Other Risk Systems

INDG458 – Legionnaires Disease – A brief guide for Duty Holders

A Brief View of Legionnaires Disease

What is Legionnaires Disease

Legionellosis is a collective term for diseases caused by legionella bacteria including the most serious Legionnaires' disease, as well as the similar but less serious conditions of Pontiac fever and Lochgoilhead fever.

Legionnaires' disease is a potentially fatal form of pneumonia, and everyone is susceptible to infection.

The risk increases with age and some people are at higher risk

If conditions are favourable, the bacteria may grow, increasing the risks of Legionnaires' disease. It is therefore important to control the risks by introducing appropriate measures.

Where it comes from

Legionella bacteria are widespread in natural water systems, such as rivers and ponds. However, the conditions are rarely right for people to catch the disease from these sources.

Outbreaks of the illness occur from exposure to legionella growing in purpose-built systems where water is maintained at a temperature high enough to encourage growth, for example cooling towers, evaporative condensers, hot and cold-water systems and spa pools used in all sorts of premises (work and domestic).

How people get it

People contract Legionnaires' disease by inhaling small droplets of water (aerosols), suspended in the air, containing the bacteria. Certain conditions increase the risk from legionella if:

- the water temperature in all or some parts of the system may be between 20-45 °C, which is suitable for growth
- it is possible for breathable water droplets to be created and dispersed
- water is stored and/or recirculated
- there are deposits that can support bacterial growth providing a source of nutrients for the organism, such as rust, sludge, scale, organic matter and biofilms

Cases of Legionnaires' disease are often the result of infections caught in the UK, but cases occur abroad.

Symptoms

The initial symptoms of Legionnaires' disease are like those of flu:

- high temperature, feverishness and chills
- cough
- muscle pains
- headache

It can also lead on to more serious symptoms such as:

- pneumonia
- diarrhoea
- signs of mental confusion

Treatment

Most cases are identified after a patient has been admitted to hospital.

The illness is treated with an antibiotic called erythromycin or a similar antibiotic.

Hot and Cold-Water Systems Risk Potential

There will always be a potential risk of Legionella from water supplies however where there are little or no opportunities for the creation of spray or droplets the risk will be small, however, the act of opening a tap and the water striking a surface (e.g. sink or wash hand basin) or any act that agitates water in an open environment has the potential to create breathable droplets.

When water supplies are permitted to create droplets or sprays the risk posed from the Legionella bacteria increases substantially.

Conditions Required

Water temperatures in the range of 20 to 45°C favour growth.

It is uncommon to find proliferation below 20°C, and it does not survive above 60°C.

The optimum laboratory temperature for growth of bacterium is 37°C.

Organisms may, however, remain dormant in cool water and multiply only when the temperature reaches a suitable level.

The presence of sediment, sludge, scale and organic material can act as a source of nutrients for Legionella.

Conditions Required

Dormant	Active	Optimum	Active	Possible Activity	Inactive and non-survival after a length of time	Cannot Survive
0°C to 20°C	20°C to 37°C	37°C	37°C to 45°C	45°C to 50°C	50°C to 60°C	60°C and above

Employers and Duty Holders

Why do I need a risk assessment

- The approved Code of Practice (ACOP), “Legionnaires’ Disease: The Control of *Legionella* Bacteria in Water Systems” L8 Revision 4 (2013) requires that where there is a foreseeable risk from Legionnaires’ Disease, a suitable and sufficient risk assessment should be carried out.
- This is enforced by the Health and Safety at work etc. Act 1974, sections 2, 3, 4 & 6, Regulations 6, 7, 8, 9 & 12 of the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (as amended 2002) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work regulations (1999). It applies to any undertaking involving a work activity and to premises controlled in connection with a trade, business, or any other undertaking where water is used or stored and where there is a means of creating and transmitting water droplets, which may be inhaled.

Employers and Duty Holders

The appointed RESPONSIBLE PERSON, must have sufficient authority competence and knowledge to ensure that all operational procedures are carried out efficiently and in a timely manner.

They may sub nominate responsible deputies to look after certain aspects of a water system, however they may not take full responsibility for the control of Legionella

Employers and Duty Holders

Any precautions regarding to the control of Legionnaires disease should begin with a full Risk Assessment of all water systems located on site.

The Risk Assessment should investigate the management, design and construction and any risk to identifiable persons who may come into contact with the water droplets which may be produced and give recommendations to control the risk.

Employers and Duty Holders should:

1. Identify and assess the source of risk
2. Prepare a scheme for preventing or controlling the risk.
3. Implement, manage and monitor precautions including making sure any recommended remedial actions are carried out.
4. Keep records of the precautions.
5. Appoint a person to be managerially responsible.

Employers and Duty Holders should:

- ensure that the release of water spray is properly controlled.
- avoid water temperatures and conditions that favour the growth of legionella and other micro-organisms.
- ensure water cannot stagnate anywhere in the system by keeping pipe lengths as short as possible or by removing redundant pipework.
- avoid materials that encourage the growth of legionella
- keep the system and the water in it clean; and
- treat water to either kill legionella (and other micro-organisms) or limit their ability to grow.

How Do I Comply

Legionella Risk Assessment – Identify the risk.

Prepare a written scheme – to prevent and control the risk.

Management - Implementation and monitoring of the precautionary measures, make sure any identified non conformance is actioned

Logbook- to record all measures of monitoring and management readily available for inspection (records must be kept for a minimum of 5 years)

Regular reviews – a review should take place every 2 years or after any changes/modifications to the systems, management, building use.

Appoint a managerially responsible person.

To help site meet ALARP (as low as reasonably practicable) with regards to Legionella control.

Carry out a Legionella Risk Assessment

There are certain recommendations for controlling Legionella with a temperature-based monitoring program for domestic hot and cold-water systems listed in the Approved Code of Practice L8 and Guidance document HSG274

These are:

Temperature Control

Frequency	Check	Cold Water	Hot Water
Monthly	Sentinel Taps	Max 20°C after 2 minutes	Minimum 50°C after 1 minute
	Input to sentinel mixer valves on a sentinel basis	Max 20°C after 2 minutes	Minimum 50°C after 1 minute
	Water from and returning to calorifiers		Outgoing 60°C Return 50°C Minimum
Six Monthly	Incoming cold water inlet	Max 20°C after 2 minutes	
Annually	All outlets on a rotational basis	Max 20°C after 2 minutes	Minimum 50°C after 1 minute

Other measures to be included in a basic monitoring regime

Frequency	Check	Cold Water	Hot Water
Weekly	Flush little used outlets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Quarterly	Showerhead/Sprayhead descale and disinfection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Six Monthly	Check tank and supply water temperature Expansion Vessel Flushing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Annually	Inspect water tanks and calorifiers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

There are other requirements for monitoring, including ensuring any recommended remedial actions are carried out in a timely manner.

Other which are generally site specific and would be identified and recommended during the initial risk assessment.

This would specify if the site owner/occupier or the service provider would be best suited to carry out the monitoring regime.

Precautionary Measures

Areas of low flow and use can create conditions which may encourage the growth of the bacteria or give it a safe harbour

If an outlet is not used for a period of one week then it is classed as an intermittently used outlet and therefore could contain stagnant water

Precautionary Measures

- One easy way of reducing the risk from such outlets is to regularly flush the offending outlet so that the supply pipework is charged with fresh water. However, if offending item is on a hot water circulation system it should be removed, and the pipework cut back to the recirculation system.
- It is not sufficient to say that because it is not being used then the risk is minimal, because any unsuspecting person could use the outlet and could therefore be put at risk of contracting Legionella

Precautionary Measures

- Weekly Flushing is usually carried out by site staff even if they have a Legionella control company carrying out a monthly program
- When outlets are not in regular use, weekly flushing of these devices for several minutes can significantly reduce the risk of legionella proliferation in the system. Once started, this procedure must be sustained and logged, as lapses can result in a critical increase in legionella at the outlet.

Precautionary Measures

Chlorination or disinfection of water systems and associated appliances can also reduce the risk of Legionella proliferation.

This course of treatment is especially important in the following situations:

Here are some examples

Precautionary Measures

1. Showerheads/Spray heads.
2. Water systems incorporating showers.
3. Water storage tanks supplying potable water.
4. Water storage tanks supplying primary aerosol generators.
5. New water system installations.
6. Significant changes to existing water systems.

Precautionary Measures

The frequency which chlorination or disinfection work should be carried out varies depending on the system or appliance.

New or modified systems – Prior to use.

Showerheads – Quarterly or as necessary/indicated by the Risk Assessment.

Water storage tanks supplying potable water – Annually

Potable Cold Water Storage Tanks should also have 6 monthly sampling carried out for drinking water quality

Summary

As we have seen in this presentation Legionella can be present in all water systems, however the correct conditions need to occur to allow it to proliferate.

If risk assessments are carried out and monitoring regimes are put in place, then the risk can be significantly reduced

Maxigiene

Maxigiene is a family run company situated in Lancashire. We have a team of highly experienced and trained personnel to carry out Legionella control tasks to ensure client compliance with relevant guidelines.

Maxigiene personnel have extensive experience and knowledge of legionella control and current legislation to allow us to give detailed assessments of risk of legionella posed by different types of water systems.

As well as qualified Legionella risk assessors and water hygiene technicians we have a fully qualified plumbing team who also hold, Water Regulations qualifications and have also undertaken courses on Legionella awareness and Health and Safety.

Maxigiene

We provide independent and impartial consultation advice on all matters relating to the control, management and prevention of Legionella and its associated risks in accordance with ACoP L8 and guidance document HSG274.

Maxigiene Environmental Services Ltd are members of the Legionella Control Association and Safecontractor.

Our Services

All commercial and rented residential properties require a Legionella risk assessment and control scheme in place

The services we provide are built to give our clients full compliance within industry regulations, these services include:

Legionella Risk Assessments and Reviews.

In line with BS 8580-1 2019 ACoP. L8 and guidance HSG274

Water Temperature Monitoring.

Water Temperature Recording Shower Descale and Disinfection and Inspection of Equipment as per ACoP L8. And HSG 274

Our Services

Specialist Disinfections.

In line with PD855468:2015 ACoP. L8 and guidance HSG274

Installation/Upgrade/Decommission of Water Systems.

Water sampling.

In line with BS 7592:2022 sampling for Legionella Bacteria in water systems

Remedial works.

Servicing and installation of thermostatic mixing valves.

Our Services

Maxigiene have created a bespoke electronic log system for all records collated during Legionella control and other works.

This enables the client to access all recorded data from multiple sites from a central location reducing the amount of time needed to ensure that their sites are compliant.

We work with our clients to give the best advice and work out control schemes to suit the clients requirements and budget.

What can Maxigiene offer LAVCH

- Initial risk assessment
- Monitoring program – or assistance to allow site to carry out their own, we have various options which would be discussed after the risk assessment.
- Remedial actions and TMV fitting or servicing

THE **SEVEN** DEADLY SINS OF LEGIONELLA COMPLIANCE?!



What's
in the
Sample!

SLOTH

Reactive instead of proactive
and only addressing issues after
they arise which leads to bigger
problems.



GREED

Cutting corners to save costs like skipping essential maintenance or using cheaper solutions can and WILL backfire.

Buy cheap
pay twice

LUST

Chasing quick fixes and prioritising short-term solutions over sustainable, long-term water safety strategies.

FLUSH ALL YOU
WANT. WE'LL
BE BACK.

PRIDE

Overconfidence in compliance activities without regular reviewing and hoping "It won't happen to us" is a dangerous mindset.



GLUTTONY

Overloading your control regime with flushing, flushing and more flushing for the sake of it. Wasting water and scarce resources in the process.



WRATH

Moving your responsibility to the wrong person and blaming them for poor results.



ENVY

"If they can get away with it, so can we" is a dangerous game when playing with life organisms.



Thank You for Listening to our
Presentation

Any Questions



LCA01c2

Legionella Risk Assessment Quotation

In accordance with BS 8580-1 ACoP L8 and HSG274 following procedure LCA02c2.

Client

Lancashire Association of Village and Community Halls

Site and Address where assessment is taking place (if different to address above)

N/A

Quote Ref PM7243

Following on from our recent communication please find below cost for a Legionella Risk Assessment at the properties as discussed. We will discuss with you on the day if any immediate concerns are highlighted. Please read the attached obligations - LCA01b Obligations under the Approved Code of Practice L8 and Guidance HSG274. If you would like any further information or clarification with regards to Legionella control, please feel free to contact us.

Purpose

To assist site to achieve compliance with the guidelines below and to ensure the risk of legionella bacteria growth is kept as low as reasonably practicable.

The purpose of an assessment is to assess the risk of legionella bacterial growth resulting from the operation of the water systems at these premises, as required by the approved Code of Practice (ACoP), "Legionnaires' Disease: The Control of *Legionella* Bacteria in Water Systems" L8 Revision 4 (2013) requires that where there is a foreseeable risk from Legionnaires' Disease, a suitable and sufficient risk assessment should be carried out. This assessment in principle follows the guidelines set out in British Standard BS8580-1:2019. This is enforced by the Health and Safety at work etc. Act 1974, sections 2, 3, 4 & 6, Regulations 6, 7, 8, 9 & 12 of the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (as amended 2002) and the Management of Health and Safety at Work regulations (1999). It applies to any undertaking involving a work activity and to premises controlled in connection with a trade, business, or any other undertaking where water is used or stored and where there is a means of creating and transmitting water droplets, which may be inhaled. The ACoP requires that the legionella risk assessment should be reviewed regularly or following any major changes which might make the original assessment invalid. The risk assessment provides prioritised remedial actions (where appropriate) together with guidance for the safe operation of water systems to achieve compliance with the ACoP L8 and relevant technical guidance contained within HSG 274 parts 1-3. The responsibility for managing the risk falls to the Statutory Duty Holder or nominated Responsible Person.

Scope

If previous risk assessments have been made available to us, we will use these on the day along with information from site to assist with the new risk assessment.

In the report will be new schematic drawings, asset register and control scheme.

The risk assessment is to be carried out at the site above and includes all identified buildings.

The risk assessment will be carried out on water systems identified on site at the time of the survey.

Maxigiene Environmental Services Limited
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Members of the Legionella Control Association for all required service categories

The assessment is non-intrusive, whilst every endeavour is made to ascertain the correct information regarding the site layout and system plant information, the consultant must rely on site staff knowledge and any available system drawings. Lack of such knowledge or information may lead to assumptions, on the part of the risk assessor, the assessor is a qualified risk assessor who has carried out Legionella risk assessments for many years. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the content of this document, Maxigiene Environmental Services Limited cannot accept responsibility for any omissions.

All our engineers hold DBS enhanced certificates, they carry a works mobile phone to enable them to take photographs to assist with the risk assessment, at any point if asked the engineer will hand over their phone to show site staff the photographs taken and answer any questions regarding the use of them.

Specification

Legionella Risk Assessment

In accordance with BS 8580-1 A.C.o.P. L8 and HSG274 following procedure LCAMES02c (2).

1. Carry out a Legionella risk assessment investigating design, construction, condition, operation, and management of all identified water systems.
2. Site executive summary
3. Photographic reference, asset register and system I.D.
4. Line schematic diagrams of risk systems.
5. Recommendations for further actions.
6. Recommended control scheme.
7. Supply a full electronic copy of the report.

Total Cost: - between £240.00 and £360.00 invoiced on completion

Dependent on size and equipment in building for guidance we have put a brief description of lowest and highest price units.

- **hall with mains cold water and 1 or 2 water heaters for hot water, with a ladies' gents and accessible toilets and a domestic type kitchen would be £240**
- **hall with tank fed cold water and multiple water heaters for hot water, with more sets of ladies' gents and accessible toilets including showers and large commercial type kitchen would be £360**

It is the responsibility of the duty holder/responsible person to:

- Ensure there is a Legionella risk assessment record that includes all systems where water is stored/used in any premises controlled by the duty holder, and that it is reviewed regularly to ensure it is valid and reassessed when required.
- Clearly define the scope of any required Legionella risk assessment.
- Make reasonable enquiries of proof of competence of the Legionella risk assessor.
- Ensure any schematic diagrams and asset registers are available to inform and help the risk assessor.
- Ensure the findings of the legionella risk assessment including the required corrective actions and control measures are implemented, or if not implemented recorded as to why they were not.
- Ensure a written scheme of control is produced and maintained and the output from the scheme of control is recorded and used in any subsequent review of risk.
- Ensure regular reviews of the effectiveness of Legionella control activities are carried out to verify the written scheme of control remains adequate and if they are not to carry out a review of the legionella risk assessment.
- Have change management procedures and or regular review procedures to determine if the existing risk assessment is still valid, suitable, and sufficient. If it is not, then a reassessment of the risk is required.

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All prices are subject to the appropriate rate of VAT.

All prices are open for a period of 3 months.

I trust this meets with your approval and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01253 825987.

Signed on behalf of Maxigiene



Print Julie Maxwell

Date 10th October 2025

Maxigiene are members of the Legionella Control Association for all required service categories.

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Chipping Community Energy

Paul Hunt – LAVCH Meeting 27/9/25

Chipping Community Energy

- Chipping – population approx. 1000, about 300 properties. 5 miles from Longridge, 9 miles from Clitheroe, 9 miles from Garstang
- Off the gas grid, National Landscape (AONB), many listed buildings, conservation area
- Approached by LCC (Kate Gilmartin NW Energy Hub) and Ribble Valley Borough Council in August 2020 to apply for Rural Community Energy Fund feasibility grant to look at how we could transition homes and businesses away from using fossil fuels for heating and transition to renewable heating sources.
- Government consultation on phasing out installation of new oil boilers from 2026.
- Looking at schemes that can be replicated in other rural off-gas grid villages.
- Track record: Village Hall, Multi-Use Games Area, Football pitches, B4RN fibre internet, etc. Steam Fair, Agricultural Show, Community Land Trust, etc.

Chipping Community Energy

- Successfully applied for RCEF grant £40k
- Tender process to find consultants to carry out work
- Chose Avieco
- Considered a high temp heat network from a central energy centre – easiest for homeowners
- Looked at air source heat pumps, ground source heat pumps using boreholes, biomass boilers and combinations
- Expecting that project would be eligible for Green Heat Network Funding; 50% of capital costs

Chipping Community Energy

- None of the solutions feasible
 - Land required for central energy plant and very industrial
 - Cost of building high temp network, large insulated pipes
 - Would have to pipe to every property even if not interested
 - GSHP lowest running cost due to higher Seasonal Coefficient of Performance (SCOP) than ASHP, 3.5 – 4.5 vs 3.0 – 3.5. 1kW of electrical energy produces 3 – 4 kW of thermal energy
 - 25 acres of land required for a borehole array
 - Swaffham Prior in Cambridgeshire
- Not impressed with Avieco!

Chipping Community Energy

- Persuaded by Kate to apply for a second RCEF grant to explore borehole based ambient loop GSHP proposal
- Tender process for consultants
- Chose Prospus Group Ltd
 - Built website <https://www.chippingcommunityenergy.co.uk/>
 - Surveyed village – 100+ responses, 60+ interested in moving to renewable energy for heating [Map](#)

Chipping Community Energy

- Ambient loop GSHP
 - Boreholes drilled up to 200m deep
 - Brine solution passed through a loop into the borehole and is heated by surrounding soil and rock, constant 6 – 10°C
 - Pipework from borehole to house and GSHP used to increase temperature of the water to about 40°C with good SCOP
 - Water circulated around radiators/underfloor but as lower temp than from an oil boiler (70°C) need to increase the radiator sizes to get required heat output. Also slower to react.
 - Boreholes and pipework to the properties has 70+ lifespan so can be owned by the community. Boreholes can be shared between properties.
 - Householders pay a standing charge to use the system around £1/day
 - Allows capital to be raised by share scheme, commercial loans, etc.
 - Heat the Streets – Kensa. Stithians, Cornwall.

Chipping Community Energy

- Heat surveys carried out in 20+ properties of varying age and size to determine archetypes for village housing stock
- Test borehole drilled at the village hall and heat performance tested. 200m borehole able to supply 10kW heat energy, enough for a 3-bed house ([Pics](#))
- Detailed techno-economic model developed
- BUT not eligible for GHNF as not every house connected to the same network – major problem!
- Electricity prices increased dramatically
- Pilot project aimed at those using electricity to heat their homes

Chipping Community Energy

- More detailed surveys done for 12 pilot properties including airtightness testing to determine depth of boreholes and size of GSHP required [Survey](#)
- Planning Applications including Listed Building consent, boreholes in highway and outside curtilage all approved with conditions
- However, costs too high to make it financially feasible without additional grant funding. Boiler Upgrade Scheme £7,500 for both ASHP and GSHP
- Oil prices reduced, electricity still high. Marginal improvement in running costs but capital outlay for radiators mods etc
- ECO4 scheme available for households with low incomes, poor EPC rating, health issues, etc.
- Several interested properties have had ASHPs installed diluting the pool of houses that would join a community scheme.
- Grants available for feasibility but not build

Chipping Community Energy

- Working Group still meets monthly
- Looking at ways to utilise the borehole – possibly in the village hall, hybrid with existing oil boiler
- Village Hall installed a 44 panel 20kWp rooftop PV array and 32kW of batteries in Nov last year, savings over £3000 so far. £30k installation cost fully grant funded by Rural England Prosperity Fund and Lottery
- Successfully applied for change to permitted development rights for 39 property development in Chipping to allow installation of solar panels without having to apply for approval

Community Halls Social Media Cheat Sheet

Why use it?

- Free local noticeboard
- Reach more people → more bookings & buzz
- Shows your hall is alive and welcoming

Best Platforms

- Facebook → main hub, where locals are
- Instagram → same photos, younger audience
- Twitter/X → ignore

What to Post

- Events → “Bingo this Friday at 7pm”
- People → volunteers, groups, classes (ask before posting kids)
- History → old photos, “Remember when...”
- Community → share posts from local schools, churches, groups

How to Post (Facebook)

1. Open your hall’s page
2. Click “What’s on your mind?”
3. Add a photo + short text
👉 Example: “☕ Coffee Morning this Saturday, 10am – all welcome!”
4. Hit Post

Golden Rules

- ✅ Post once a week (better little & often)
- ✅ Keep it short and friendly
- ✅ Use photos — real people > stock images
- ✅ Reply to comments and messages
- ❌ Don’t overshare personal info
- ❌ Don’t panic if you make a mistake (edit/delete)
- ❌ Don’t feed the trolls (ignore/block)

Bonus Tips

- Pin posts (keep your timetable visible)
- Schedule posts (set them up in advance)
- Canva (free app to make posters look smart)

👉 Social media is just the hall's noticeboard, but online.
If you can put up a poster, you can post on Facebook.