

Mayor's Climate Change Fund Case Study

Ravensden Village Hall

Ravensden Village Hall is 72 years old, erected in 1952, and lies at the heart of Ravensden Parish Council. The building provides various services to Ravensden Parish residents, who use the space for regular meetings, community events, social gatherings, exercise and fitness classes, arts & crafts activities, and WI. It regularly hosts the community café open to all ages and lies at the heart of the area's democracy, where the parish council meetings and the local elections take place.

The Village Hall has a floor area of 180 square meters and a current EPC showing an energy rating of D. The Parish members actively sought advice from experts to explore the possibility of replacing fluorescent lighting with LEDs, which is a safer and more cost-effective option when it comes to disposal and maintenance. They also researched the benefits of installing solar PV, reducing their carbon emissions while generating revenue expendable in community services.

Through the **Mayor's Climate Change Fund**, the Village Hall has been able to install **Solar PV, battery storage, LED lighting and dimmer switches**. The Secretary for the Village Hall Committee mentioned how ***"This will not only reduce our carbon emissions but be much more cost-effective in the long term, thus helping is to keep hirings fees down and better serve the community's needs."***



The measures implemented will save the venue **£1,610 off their bills and generate £701 per annum through solar export**, bolstering the site's financial sustainability, which will in turn allow the Village Hall to continue providing valuable services to the community. This will also contribute to the path to carbon neutrality outlined in the Ravensden Neighbourhood Development Plan 2030, saving a total of **1076 kg of CO₂e** per year, which in turn will offer a lasting contribution to sustainable futures and an indirect impact on the community's climate resilience by potentially reducing the risk of extreme events such as flooding.

These works were completed in **June 2024** with the Mayor's Climate Change Fund providing 50% match funding for the cost of fitting the improved light system and renewable energy source, in the sum of **£10,927**.