



Success Story

St Bene't's Church, Cambridge: Faith-led action for a lower- carbon future

Overview

For centuries, St Bene't's has been a place where history and community meet. With more than 1,000 years of heritage, the Cambridge church is demonstrating how faith-led action can support a lower-carbon future.

Guided by strong net zero ambitions, it is embedding sustainability across daily operations and its wider mission, showing how environmental responsibility can sit naturally alongside worship and community life.



Client Background

Location: Cambridge, UK
Industry: Religion / Faith-based organisation
Business Size: Small

The Opportunity

St Bene't's Church recognised a clear opportunity to align its spiritual values with practical climate action. By reducing carbon emissions through renewable energy and improving its environmental performance, the church aimed to lead by example. There was also a wider opportunity to inspire its congregation and community by sharing progress through Eco Church accreditation, reporting and social channels.



“In 2024, St Bene't's received the A Rocha Eco Church Bronze Award, and we are already striving for silver.”

The Solution

To support its goals, St Bene't's chose SmartestEnergy Business as its renewable electricity supplier, valuing competitive pricing and trusted green credentials.

Alongside this switch, the church installed solar panels, adopted green tariffs for other utilities and introduced environmentally responsible purchasing.

Sustainability was also integrated into teaching and worship, helping embed long-term cultural change within the congregation.

“Take the time to do it right and well, rather than just greenwashing.”

The Outcome

St Bene't's has reduced energy use and lowered its carbon footprint, while strengthening engagement and giving from members who support the church's environmental leadership.

Its efforts have been recognised with the A Rocha Eco Church Bronze Award, with progress already under way towards Silver.

With momentum growing, the church plans to expand its involvement in local and national initiatives, continuing to champion purposeful, faith-rooted climate action.



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