

The Year of Green Bricks: 2019

Baildon Methodist Church in Bradford is erecting the first community building on church premises in Britain constructed to a similar standard to a Passivhaus. It will consume virtually no electricity and give off virtually no carbon dioxide. We have called it "The Fold" because it will enFold many of our community of 950 users. The Green Bricks are metaphorical; the building is concrete.



THE PROPOSED 'FOLD' AT BAILDON METHODIST CHURCH, BRADFORD. 01.02.19

The ultra-thick walls are now nearly complete; the mechanical heating and ventilating, together with photovoltaic panels covering the whole roof, will soon go on. The two floors of our building will cater in particular for the Baildon Preschool and our soon-to-be-started Scout group; both of these at present we cannot accommodate in our buildings.

We are not just talking in hushed and horrified tones about global warming; we are acting.

Baildon Methodist Church has become since 2006 a triple-certificated Eco-congregation. For 10 years we have been raising funds to remove an energy- guzzling asbestos roofed hut and replace it with a building showing that the church faces the future and does not wallow in the past.

We have raised £700,000 of the £900,000 needed. This has been done by the prayer and generosity of our members, our eco-theological spirituality and by application to over 30 Trusts.

We have talked to, and with, all our 37 user groups; we have visited all the 50 shops and offices, pubs and clubs near the church in our 16,000 strong community. The most common comment is "Ah



yes, Baildon Methodist Church, the hub of the community." One person who does not come to church, said he was going to leave us £5000 in his will, but decided to give it now.

The Year of Green Bricks appeal is based on an urgent request for all to measure their carbon footprint and pay the cost of it by donating. Climate Stewards' [Footprintr.me](https://www.footprintr.me/) is the website we recommend for working out the cost of the damage we do. The Holy Spirit crackles and burns as we explain that we are acting for the future of all humanity, not just raising money for a building.

We raised £52,000 in January and February 2019. Find our more [here](#). If you would like to help to show how the Christians and church face the future, please donate [here](#).

The past is finished; the future is possible.

John D Anderson. Trustee of Baildon Methodist Church

