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AECB Conference 2012, Goldsmiths University

Retrofit of Mayville Community Centre

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The Muse - first intuitive experiment in passivhaus design (2002)



AECB, London, 2012

The Muse - included ecological planting for biodiversity (2002)



AECB, London, 2012

1900

- Originally built in the early 1900's to house generators for the tram network, the massively constructed building became derelict in the late 1960s
- It became a community centre after local residents lobbied Islington Council for possession of the building in the 1970s



2006

- The community centre is transferred to Mildmay Community Partnership
- MCP objectives: “...to develop the capacity and skills of beneficiaries in such a way that they are better able to identify, and help meet their needs and to participate more fully in society”
- Energy bills of £10,000 per year
- Uncomfortably cold and draughty
- Poor internal layout and facilities



Mayville Community Centre

1. Holistic environmental design decisions
2. Designing for comfort
3. Designing for ease of construction
4. Techniques on site
5. Performance in-use
6. Investment and return

Short Film

Questions



1. Holistic environmental design decisions

Before refurbishment

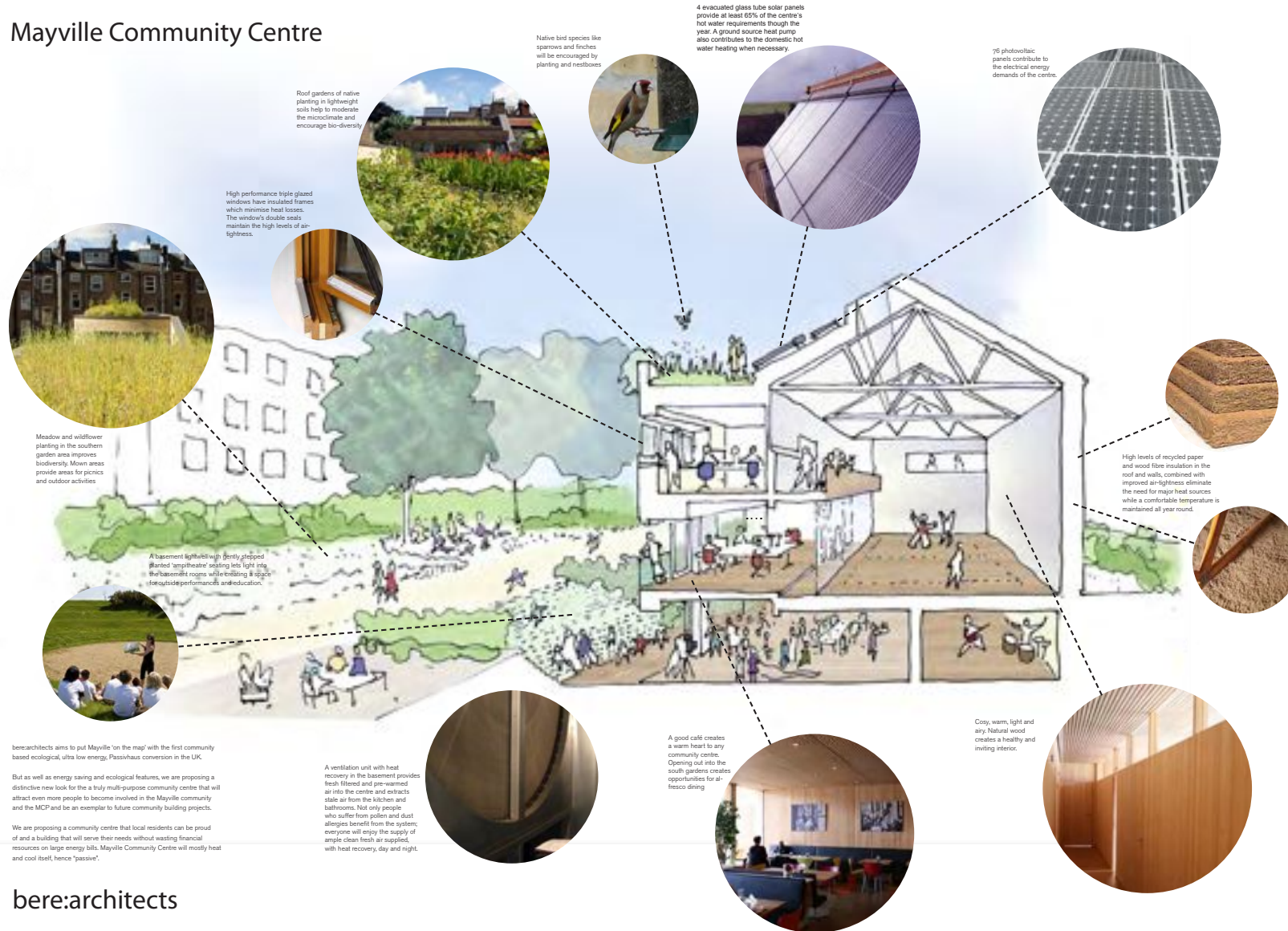
- Difficult to achieve comfortable conditions in winter. Office spaces were hot in winter, while main hall was often too cold for sedentary activities, particularly for the elderly
- Total energy demand 581 kWh/m²/yr (if 21°C winter temps maintained but 272 kWh/m²/yr in reality)
- Echo made hearing or engaging in conversation difficult - particularly for the elderly
- Bad layout and shortage of space



South elevation before refurbishment

Holistic environmental design decisions

Mayville Community Centre



bere:architects

Fundraising

- Fundraising was secured in 2010 for this pioneering, ultra low-energy passivhaus certified retrofit, costing £2 million including fees
- Funders:
 - Big Lottery;
 - London Borough of Islington;
 - Community Builders Fund;
 - City Bridge Trust;
 - Dept. of Energy and Climate Change via EST and Carbon Trust.



Design Team

Bere:architects: Architects

E-Griffin: Cost consultant

Alan Clarke: Services engineer

Conisbee: Structures

Contractor:

Buxtons



Detail of south elevation, air inhale and exhaust ducts

Holistic environmental design decisions



AECB, London, 2012

After refurbishment

- Designed for comfort at all times for active or sedentary activities (summer & winter).
- Designed to use 90% less energy than before refurbishment.
- Building re-orientated with new offices facing south to enjoy winter sunshine.
- New windows in basement, adding 35% more usable floor space, as well as helping to heat the building in winter.



Holistic environmental design decisions

The UK's first fully certified non-domestic passivhaus refurbishment



The refurbished Mayville Community Centre South Facade

AECB, London, 2012

2. Designing for comfort

Technical Design Strategy

- External insulation, 300mm EPS above ground & 200mm XPS below ground.
- New zinc covered roof with 400mm mineral fibre insulation.
- Passivhaus triple glazed, insulated wood-framed windows.
- Heat recovery ventilation, constant pressure system, de-coupled from heat supply & running only when occupied.
- CO₂ sensors in main hall and dining room open supply-air dampers at 1100ppm and close them again at 900ppm. Fixed ventilation rates to offices.
- Summer/winter ventilation switch to extract-only in summer months in combination with natural ventilation.
- 8.4kW ground Source Heat Pump supplying low temp radiators.



South garden and south elevation of the renovated centre

Technical Design Strategy

Floor area:

- Gross internal area: 800m²
- Treated floor area: 665m²

Air test result:

- 0.42ach@50pa

Fabric performance:

- Wall U-value below ground 0.15
- Wall U-value above ground 0.12
- Pitched roof U-value 0.11
- Flat roof U-value 0.13
- Passivhaus triple glazed windows

Ventilation:

- 2000m²/hr max, 1.86W/l.s at max flow

Design Energy Demand:

- 116kWh/m²/yr primary energy demand
- 11kWh/m²/yr specific heat demand

Renewables:

- PV 18kWp
- Solar thermal 2kWh/m²/yr



Air Leakage Certificate

In accordance with BS EN 13829
& ATTMA TSL2 (2010)

Dwelling tested: Mayville Community Centre, Stoke Newington, London N18 8NA
 Test Date: 30th June 2011
 Test Engineer: Paul Jennings
 Site Contact & Company: David Ironside, Buxton Group
 Certificate No: ALD10-05-0221

This is to certify that the above named structure has been tested for air tightness in accordance with the BS EN 13829:2001 methodology.

The average Leakage Characteristics of the building were recorded as follows:

Airflow @ 50 Pa:	1212 m ³ /hr
Air Change Rate @ 50 Pa:	0.42 ACH*
Air Permeability Rate @ 50 Pa:	0.83 m ³ /(hr.m ²)
Correlation of results, R ² :	0.996
Slope, n:	0.64
Intercept, C _L :	99.4 m ³ /(hr.Pa ⁿ)
Test Parameters:	
Envelope Area, A _E :	1455 m ²
Volume, V:	2895 m ³
Env. Calc Prepared by:	Rachel Witherick, Bere Architects
Env. Calc Verified by:	Paul Jennings, ALDAS Limited

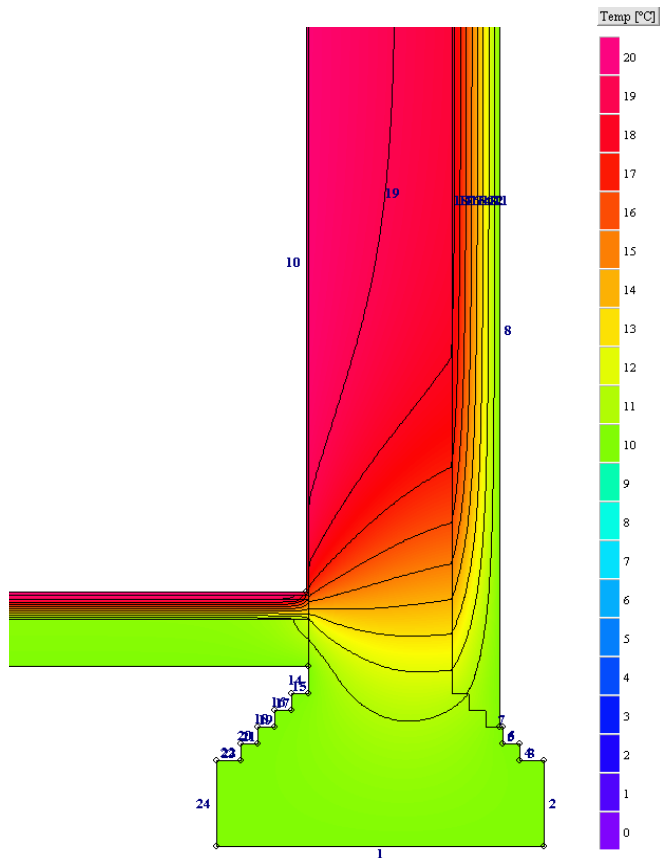
Initial Offset Pressure:	- 0.1 Pa	Final Offset Pressure:	- 0.1 Pa
Initial Inside Temperature:	20 °C	Final Inside Temperature:	20 °C
Average Outside Temperature:	18 °C	Barometric Pressure:	101,300 Pa

This certificate should be read in conjunction with the report ALD10-05-0221 and associated test method statement.

Paul Jennings

Thermal bridge analysis

- External basement insulation: 200mm XPS insulation
- External above ground insulation: 300mm EPS insulation



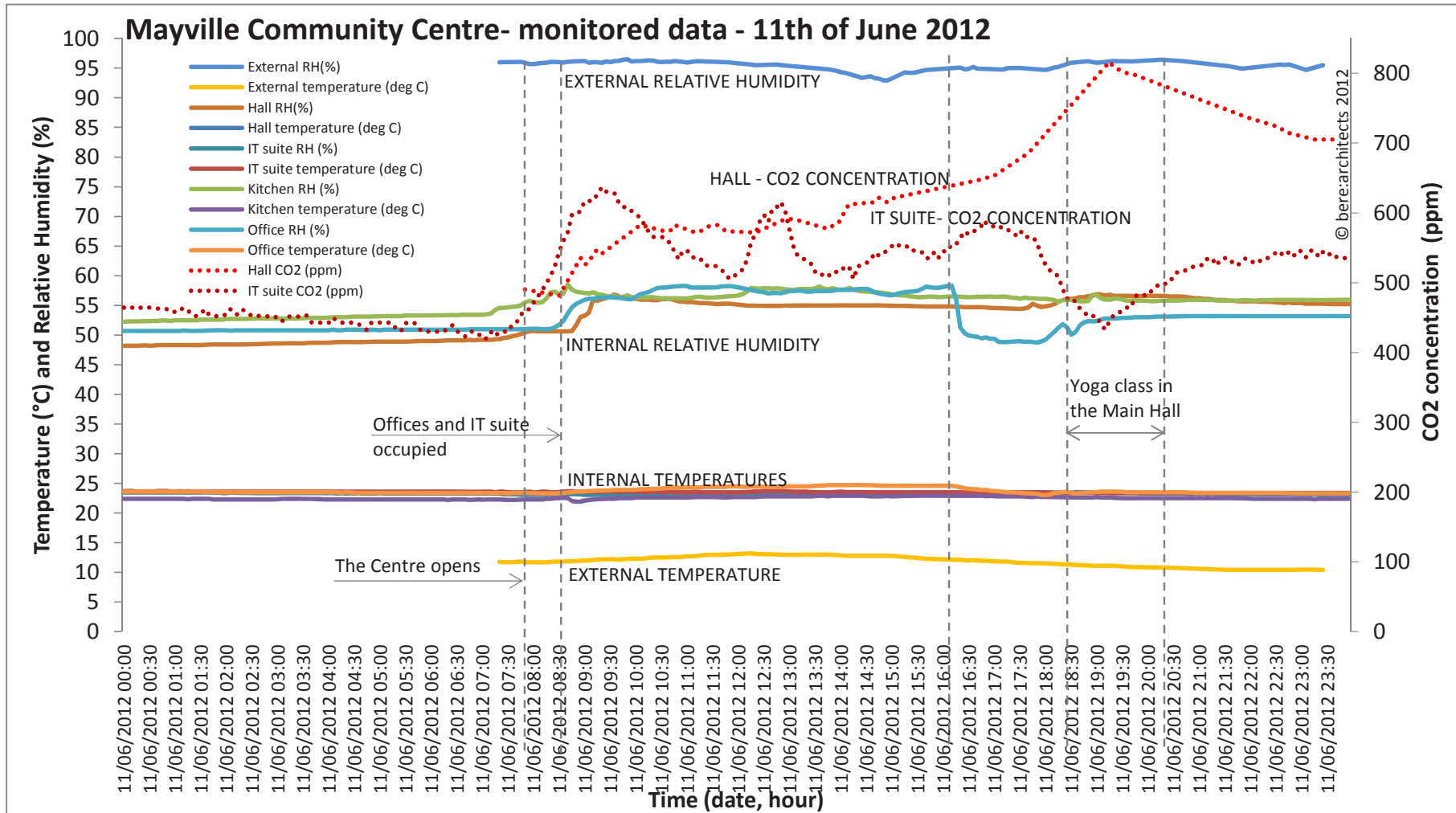
Comfort in-use

- Has exceeded user expectations
- Comfort conditions are significantly better than users' own homes
- "Never too cold and never too warm"
- Affordable comfort



The refurbished Mayville Community Centre Main Hall

Comfort in-use



Usability and softlandings!

User Guide

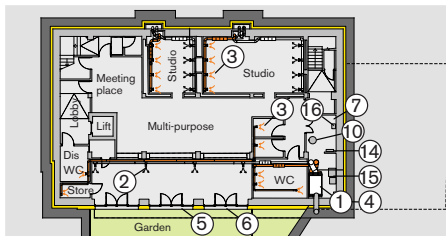
Mayville Community Centre

This building is a Retro-fit Passivhaus.

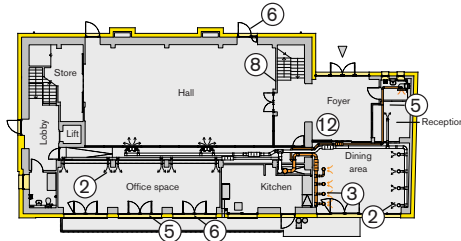
The term passivhaus refers to an advanced low energy construction standard for buildings, which have excellent comfort conditions in both winter and summer. They typically achieve a heating saving of 90% compared to existing housing. Passivhaus buildings are easy to live in and require little maintenance, but they do have some important

features, which are explained in this guide. The features are simple to operate, but a full understanding will help you get the lowest energy consumption and best comfort. This guide has been design by Alan Clarke and bere:architects for you (the user) to understand how a passivhaus works and how to operate the controls in this house.

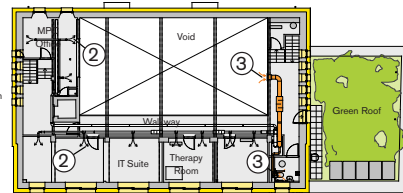
Each feature is labelled on the drawings below, highlighting their locations and briefly explaining how to operate them in the corresponding text. Please take the time to read this guide and familiarise yourself with the controls.



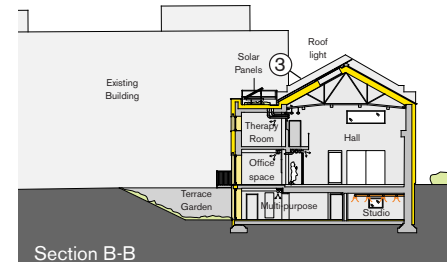
Lower Ground floor plan



Ground floor plan



First floor plan



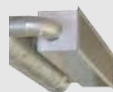
Section B-B

1 Heat recovery ventilation unit



Provides continuous fresh air to the community centre, and saves heat from WCs and kitchens to warm fresh air for the office, main hall, dining room IT suite etc. The system saves about 10 times more energy than it uses! It is located in the plant room. The filter needs changing every 3 months in London air.

2 Fresh air vents



The heat recovery ventilation unit keeps the air fresh and pre-warmed in winter, using these fresh air vents.

3 Extract air vents



These vents remove possible stale and damp air from the kitchen, main hall and WC's. The ventilation runs 7am - 7pm. The extract air vent filter in the kitchen needs to be vacuumed about every 3 months depending on how much cooking is done.

4 Heat recovery ventilation control panel



To control air flow, this should not be altered under any circumstance

5 External blinds control (for summer cooling)



In summer the outside blinds minimise solar gains from the sun. These are manually controlled by the centre manager from reception.

6 Night cooling



To keep cool in the summer take advantage of colder night time temperatures outside by leaving the windows open in the "tilt" position overnight (subject to site security). If it's hotter outside in the day you can shut the windows and external blinds.

7 Timer for ventilation



Currently set to run ventilation from 7am - 7pm, 7 days a week

8 CO2 Sensor for main hall ventilation



Due to the large air volume in the main hall, it is only necessary to add fresh air when larger groups of people raise the CO2 level to around 1000ppm

9 Radiators and thermostatic valves

Simple, easily understood thermostatic radiator valves give individuals control of their space temperatures

10 Hot water storage



Hot water is always ready in the tank this is due to the tank being very well insulated so that the water will not cool down overnight.



A smaller Tank for radiator use

11 Hot water from the sun



A solar thermal vacuum tube panel supplies 60-80% of the annual hot water usage. In winter the panel can heat the bottom half of the tank and the boiler is used to top up the temperature. This means there is always hot water available in the tank even on a cloudy day.

12 Fire alarm control



This is the central fire alarm control, located in the entrance hall.

13 Lighting control



These dimmer switches provide a choice of light levels in some rooms. However dimmable lighting was removed from some spaces to save capital costs.

14 Heat pump



To provide heat for domestic hot water tank and heating tank.

15 Rain water (grey water)



Pump to recycle rainwater for WCs. 6500 litres of water is saved under the south garden for WCs. An additional 5000 litres of water is saved for the garden.

16 Electrical sub metering

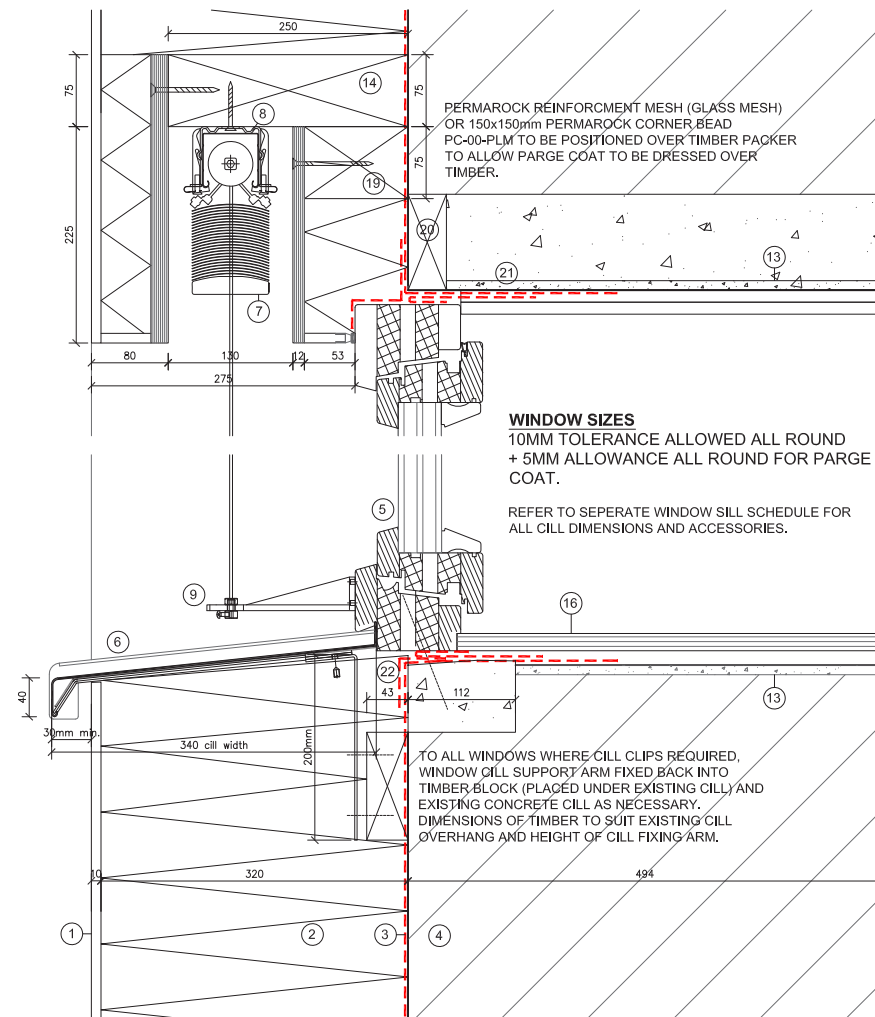


These submeters can be illuminated by pressing a button on the face. We are measuring data every monday for research purposes.

3. Designing for ease of construction

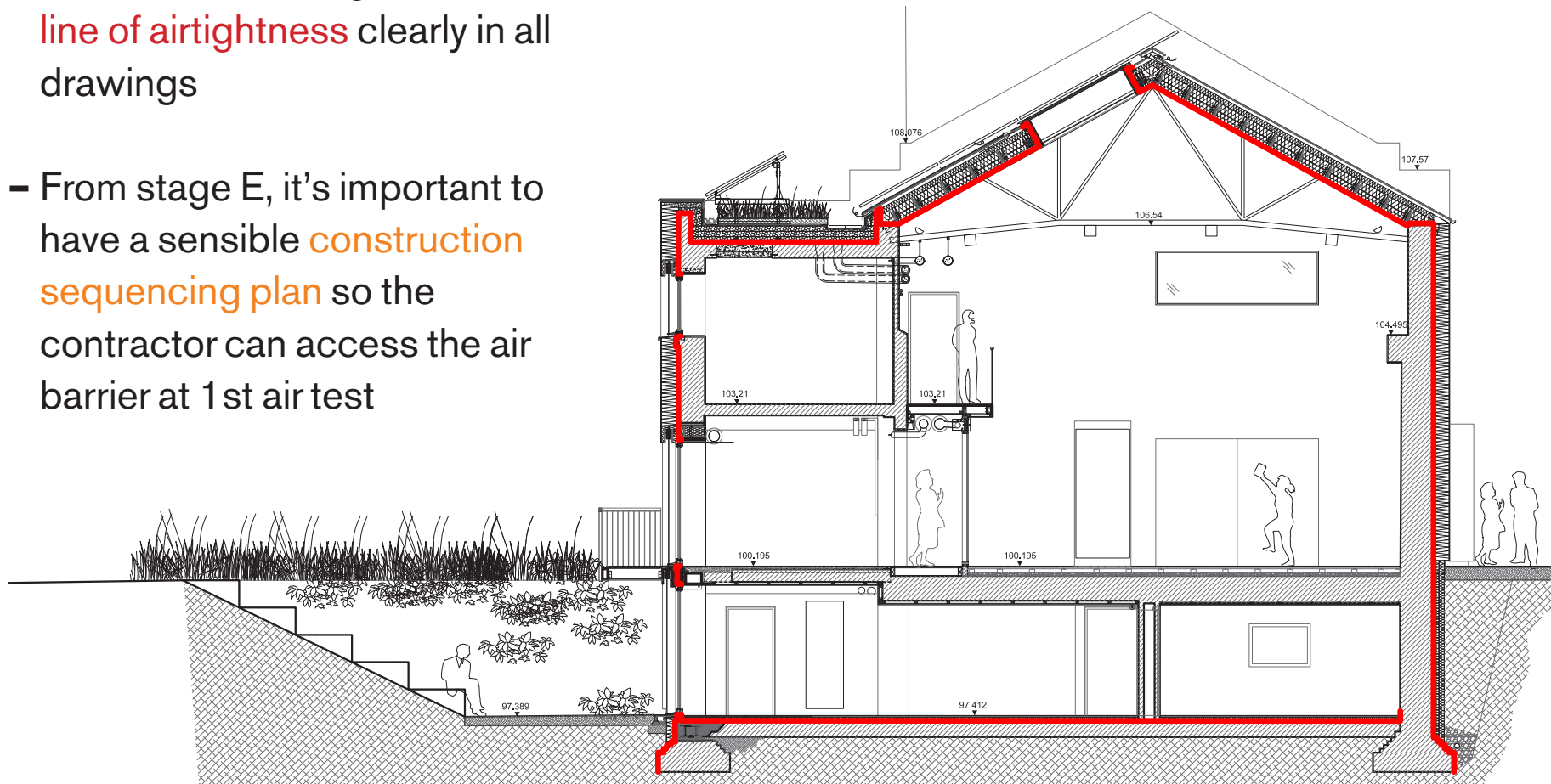
Passivhaus Techniques on the drawing board

- bere:architects produced **detailed design and production information** drawings to help convince fundraisers that the project was real, **working for a year without fees** since at this stage there were promises for only a small amount of 'matched funding' and nothing available to draw down until all the funding was in place!



Passivhaus Techniques on the drawing board

- Final preparations of tender package
- Architects' drawings show the **line of airtightness** clearly in all drawings
- From stage E, it's important to have a sensible **construction sequencing plan** so the contractor can access the air barrier at 1st air test



Programming

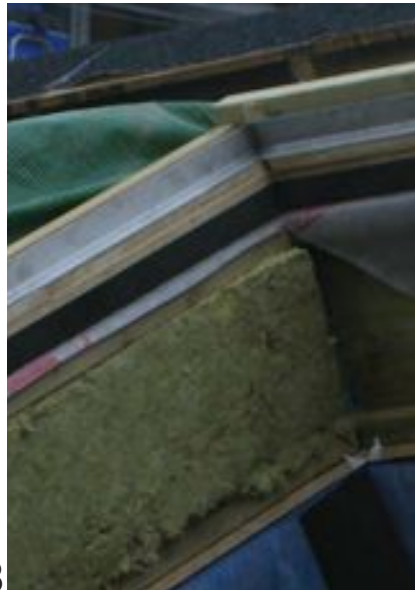
- The contractor demonstrates, in their proposed programme of works, that they understand **sequencing** the work to facilitate two mid-construction air tests; **(1)** after window installation **(2)** after M&E installation
- Buxtons were **contractually required** to achieve the first air test target of 0.6h-1 at 50pa before continuing. A visible air barrier at this stage ensures they can address any problems which the air tester finds
- **Air test result: 0.42 h-1 @50pa**

49	Superstructure
50	Erect perimeter scaffold/ temporary roof over
51	Clean off external walls (vegetation/ M&E equipment etc)
52	Erect single storey steelwork
53	Prepare walls/ wrap steelbeams etc for insulation
54	Brick up upstand walls etc
55	Fit windows/ doors/ louvres
56	Install external membrane
57	Install insulation system
58	Strengthen roof trusses
59	Roof carcassing (single storey roof)
60	Roof Caracassing (pitched)
61	Roof fall arrest system
62	Lightning Protection
63	Ashphalt (inc insulation)
64	Roof Insulation & metal sheet Coverings (inc copings etc)
65	Air pressure test - NO1
66	Weather tight
67	Remove temporary roof covering
68	Velux roof lights !!
69	Kitchen extract
70	Water tight
71	Paving
72	Solar panel (inc pipe connections)
73	Photovoltaic panels (Inc cabling)
74	Rain Water Goods
75	External venetian blind louvre system
76	Install green roof
77	Strike Scaffold (progressive to suit works)
78	Entrance canopy/ vertical (Cedar) timber lining
79	Fit Out & Finishes
80	Excavate/ install pump station
81	Builders work/ chases etc
82	Flexible tanking
83	Install glazed screen tracks
84	Install floor insulation - basement
85	Make good screeds/ Screed floors (50mm, 70mm and unbonded screed)
86	Mechanical First Fix (inc plantroom)
87	Electrical First Fix
88	Carpenter First Fix
89	Fire Stopping/ air tight sealing penetrations (Passivhaus spec)
90	Air pressure test no 2
91	Dry lining to walls
92	Ceiling Boarding

4. Techniques on site

Passivhaus Techniques on site

1. Basement wall insulation
2. Ground floor wall insulation
3. Thermal bridge free installation
4. Roof membrane detailing
5. Window tape training
6. Windows in line of insulation



Ground wall insulation

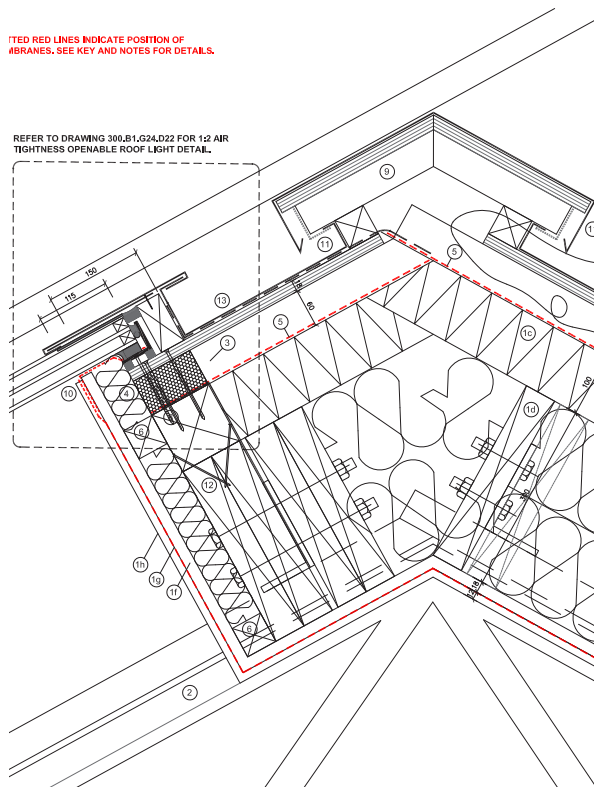
- External basement insulation:
 - 300mm expanded polystyrene insulation glued and mechanically fixed over airtight parge coat



Thermal bridge free installation

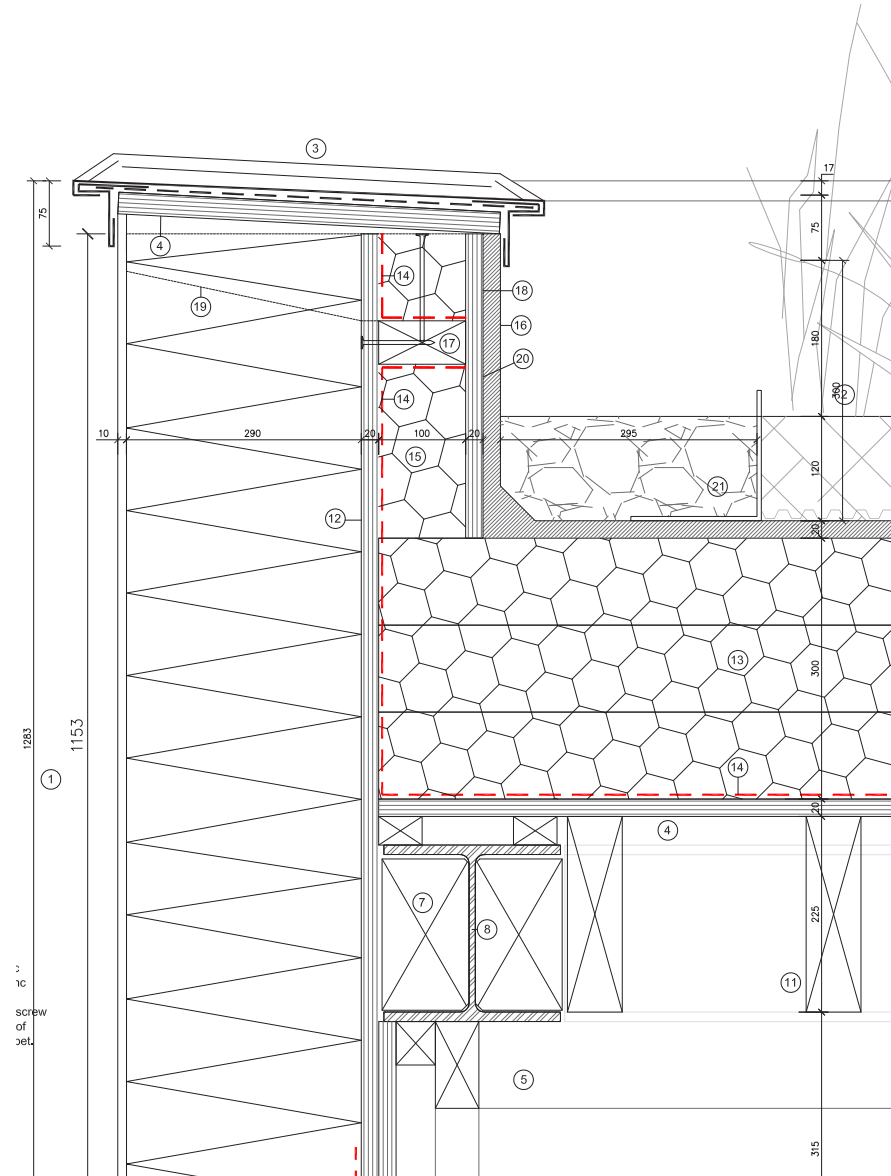
- Installing rooflights without cold bridging:

- (1) Velux windows with insulation kits
- (2) Fixed rooflights on Foamglas



Thermal bridge free installation

- Foamglas for parapet walls without cold bridging



Thermal bridge free installation

- Schock thermal isolators against cold bridging, located in line of floor insulation
- Avoiding cold bridging
- Avoiding condensation
- Avoiding mould growth
- Protecting healthy air quality



Roof membrane detailing

- Preparing the existing roof trusses for new roof covering - Buxtons site manager attending to air tightness details before fixing purlins



Windows 1-2-3

- Training the site carpenters in the passivhaus method of fitting of windows
- Making 'rabbit ears'



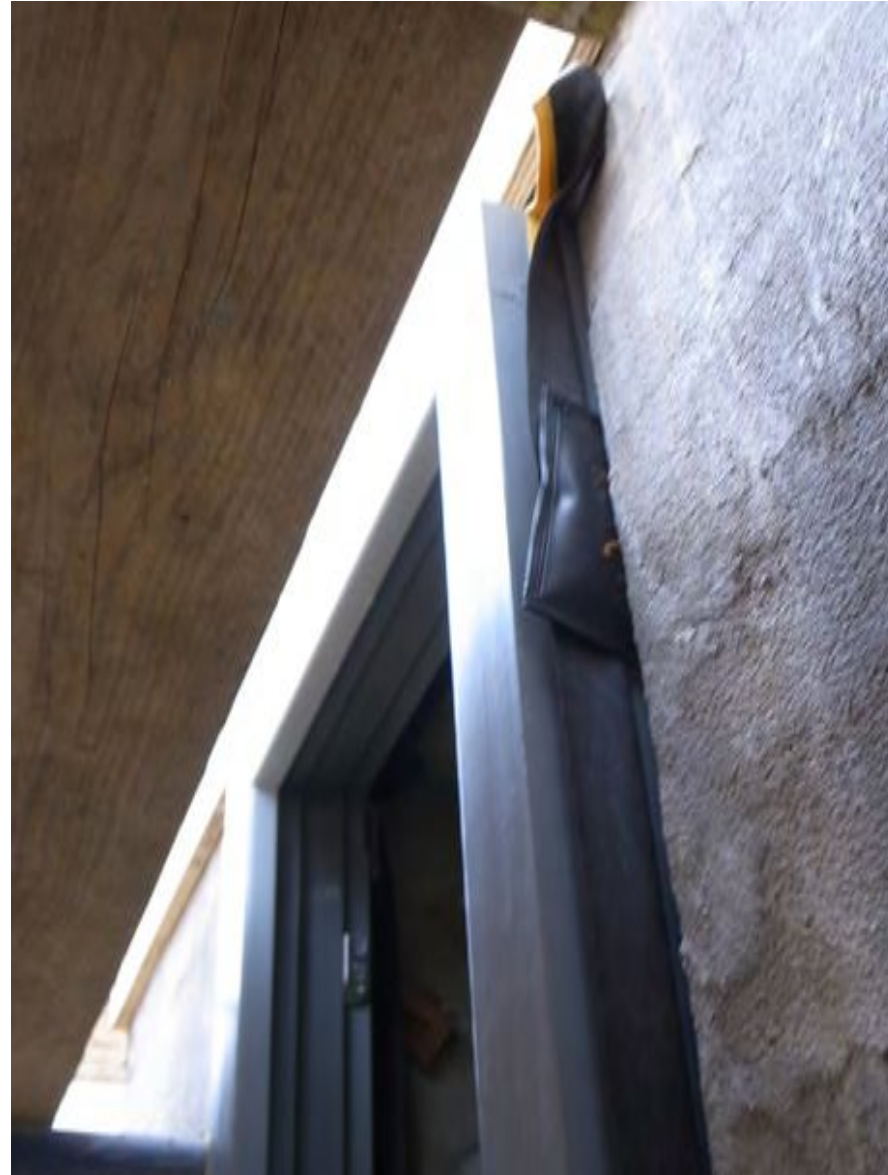
Windows 1-2-3

- ...and how to fold the rabbit ears
- Inner and outer tapes for vapour and moisture respectively



Windows 1-2-3

- Inflatable window bags
- German headless screws
- Screws do not require plugs
- Suspend the window without distortion

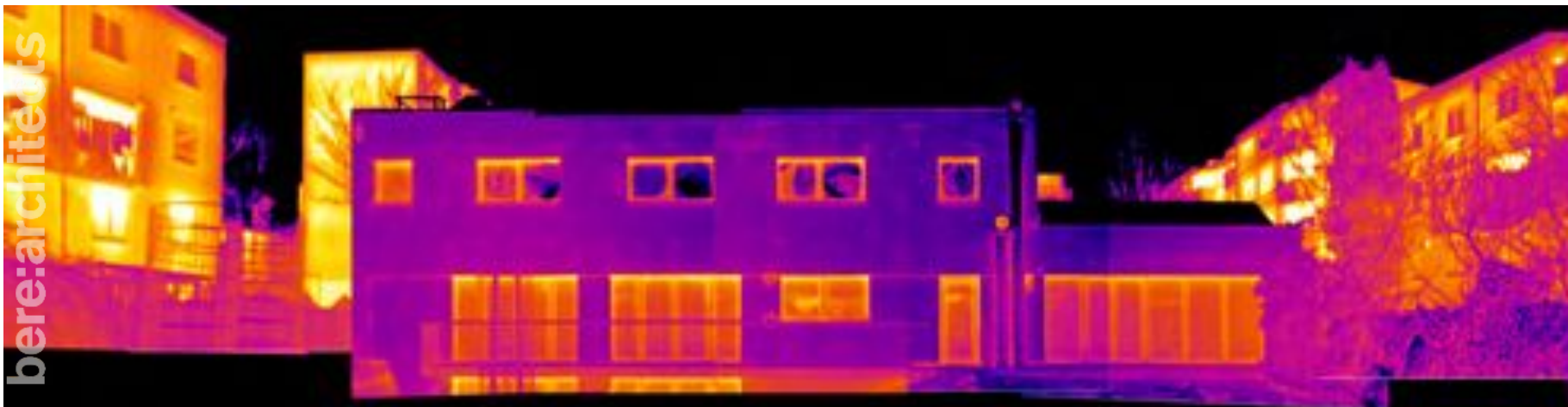


Windows 1-2-3

- Line of airtightness maintained by correctly folded tapes to form a good quality connection between windows and parge coat on walls
- Cill tapes are fixed separately
- EPS insulation will follow, with deep window cills and insulation part-covering the window frames
- Non-opening windows are fixed by means of metal tabs



Mayville Community Centre



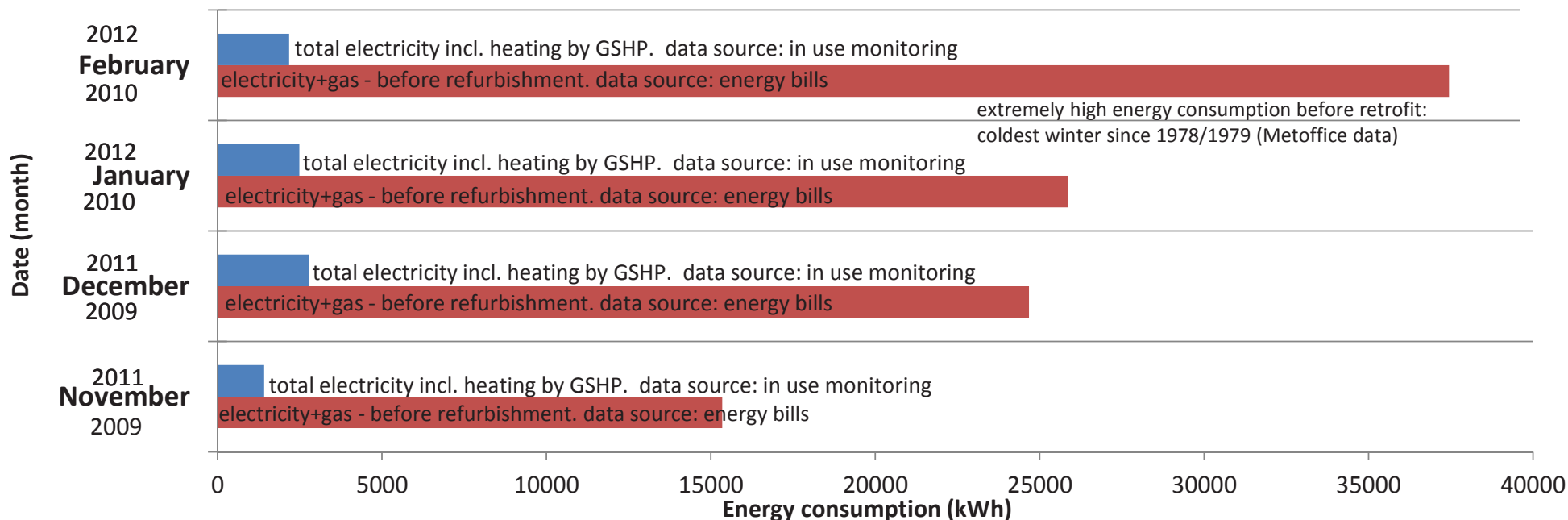
5. Performance

Performance

Comparison between total Winter energy use BEFORE and AFTER refurbishment

Up to 95% reduction in total operational energy consumption after refurbishment

Mayville Passivhaus Community Centre - Energy consumption during winter months before retrofit (gas +electricity bills - Nov 2009- Feb 2010) and after refurbishment (preliminary sub metering data: EDF+PVs*- Nov 2011 - Feb 2012)

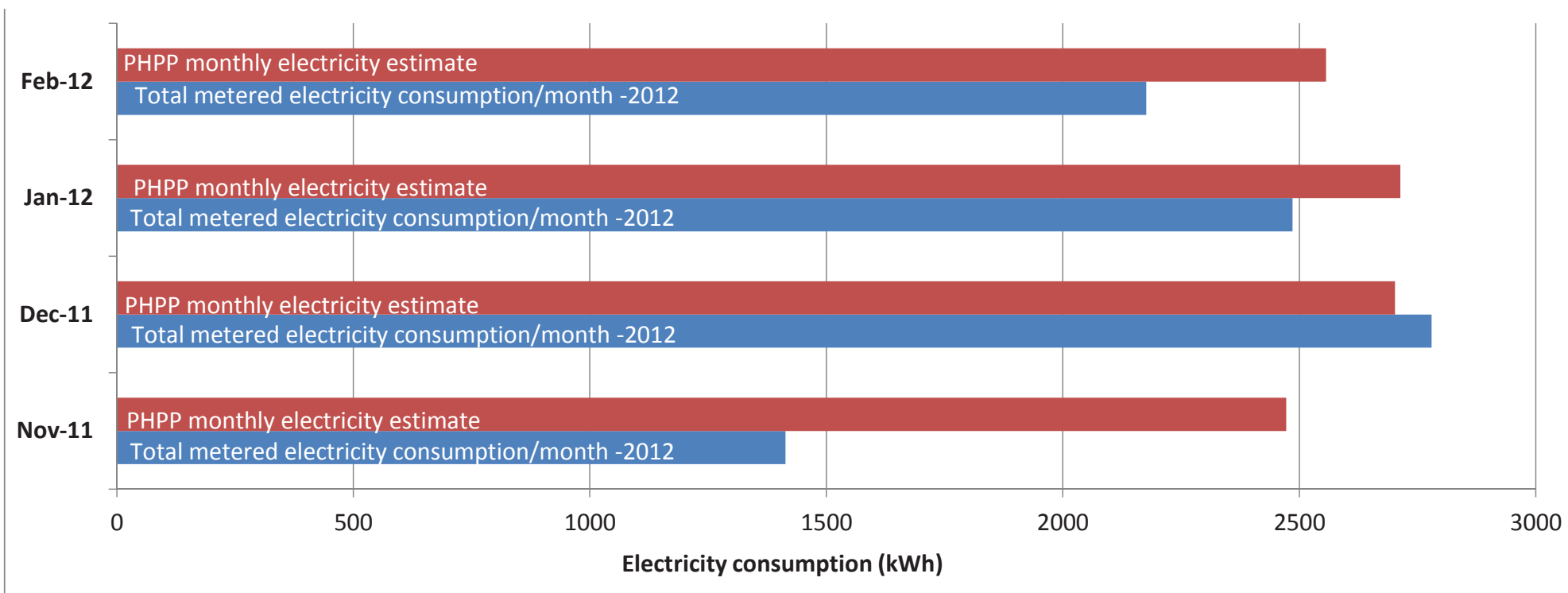


* data collected before PV export sub-meter installed; assumes all electricity generated by PVs was used in the building, nothing exported back to grid

Performance

Comparison between total energy use design estimate and actual use

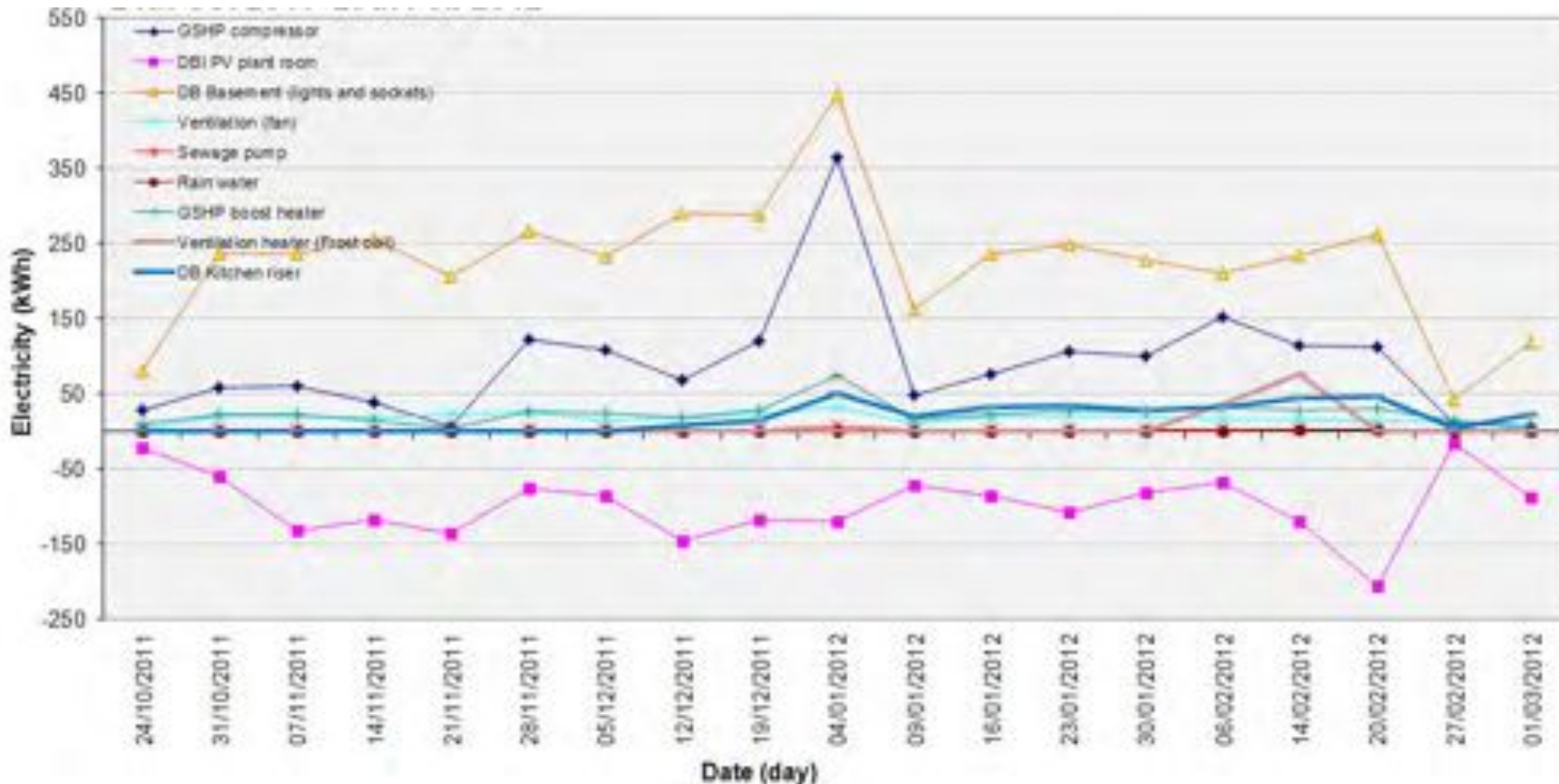
- The first Winter's operational performance is even better than the PHPP design prediction.
- The building used less energy than designed each month apart from December where the building thermostat was accidentally turned up very high over the Christmas holiday.



Performance

Winter 2012, energy use and energy generation

Note Christmas holiday heating spike caused by accidentally leaving the thermostat set at a very high temperature throughout the holiday period after an elderly persons' Christmas party.



6. Investment and Return

Investment & Return

(Comparison between passivhaus & minimum standard)

STEP (1): finding & comparing design energy consumption for each option

- (a) Headline list of changes in accordance with Building Regs Part L and ventilation rates
- (b) Four different PHPP documents were created (PH with gas boiler, PH GSHP, PH with GSHP & PV)
- (c) Old energy bills (before refurb) were also analysed

(a) Changes to PHPP:

U-Values:

- 1. Lower ground wall
Insulation Styrofoam floormate A = 0 (100)
Insulation Styrofoam perimate = 90 (100)

- 3. Basement Slab
Insulation Kingspan TF70 = 75 (75)

- 4. Ground Slab
Foamglass T4+ = (300)

- 5. North Elevation External wall GF
Insulation Permarock EPS = 90 (290)
- 6. South Elevation External wall 290mm insulation
Insulation Permarock EPS = 100 (290)
- 7. West Elevation External wall 290mm insulation
Insulation Permarock EPS = 100 (290)
- 8. West Elevation External wall 320mm insulation
Insulation Permarock EPS = 100 (320)

Existing Elements:

	Building Regs (as in Part L)	Building Regs (as in PHPP)	Passivhaus (as in PHPP)
Existing Walls (External insulation)	0.30	0.28-0.30	0.12
Basement slab	0.25	0.26	0.26
Ground slab	0.25	0.24	0.13
Sloping Roof (insulation at after level)	0.18	0.18	0.11

New elements:

	Building Regs (as in Part L)	Building Regs (as in PHPP)	Passivhaus (as in PHPP)
Windows	2.20	1.24-2.09	0.8-1.0
Roof lights	2.20	1.55-1.84	1.06
Velux openable rooflights	3.50	1.84	1.45
Huge-usage entrance doors	3.50		
Wall to single storey extension	0.28	0.27	0.11
Flat Roof (with integrated insulation)	0.18	0.18	0.13

Air permeability	10.0 m3/hm2 at 50 Pa	10.0 m3/hm2 at 50 Pa	0.93 m3/hm2 at 50 Pa
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(b)

	Before refurbishment		2010 Building Regs* + gas boiler		PH + gas boiler		PH + heat pump			PH + heat pump + PV + solar heating				
	with gas boiler without PV and solar thermals		with gas boiler without PV and solar thermals		with gas boiler without PV and solar thermals		with heat pump without PV and solar thermals			with heat pump with PV* and solar thermals *using existing building data. Calculations include XXkwp solar PV system				
ENERGY	Electricity	GAS	Electricity	GAS	Electricity	GAS	ELECTRICITY	Contribution		ELECTRICITY	Contribution			
	OTHER	Space heating only	OTHER	Space heating only	OTHER	Space heating only	HEAT PUMP used	OTHER used	HEAT PUMP contribution	HEAT PUMP used	OTHER used	HEAT PUMP contribution	SOLAR contribution	PV
Total Energy demand, kWh/a	28979	189197	25820	48855	25835	13821	4051	26015	-8605	3664	25881	-7784	-1342	-14400
ENERGY TOTAL, kWh/a	218176		74675		39656		30066			29545				15145
GAS Cost per unit	£0.0877	£0.0000	£0.0298	£0.0877	£0.0000	£0.0298	£0.0877	£0.0000	£0.0298	£0.0877	£0.0877	£0.0877	£0.0877	£0.0877
Energy priced, kWh	28979	0	189197	25820	0	48855	25835	0	13821	4051	26015	-8605	3664	25881
Energy cost	£2,541	£0	£5,646	£2,264	£0	£1,458	£2,286	£0	£412	£355	£2,282	-£755	£321	£2,270
Standard charge	£87		£265	£87		£265	£87		£265	£87		£265	£87	
COST TOTAL, £	£2,628	£8,539	£5,911	£2,351	£4,074	£0	£3,030	£0	£677	£2,724	£2,678	£1,415		
CO2														
CO2 GEMIS 3.0, kg/kWh	0.68	0.25	0.68	0.25	0.68	0.25	0.68	0.25	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.43
CO2 level	19706	47299	17558	12214	17588	3455	20445		-5852	20091		-5293	-913	-6192
CO2 TOTAL	67005		29771		21023		20445			13899				
ENERGY Assumptions	Space heating and cooking is supplied by gas boiler only Electricity supplied by grid only Data taken from annual set of bills for		Space heating is supplied by gas boiler only Electricity supplied by grid only Data taken from PHPP Energy contribution by renewable sources account for energy saved not alternative energy produced, like in case of PVs		Space heating is supplied by gas boiler only Electricity supplied by grid only Data taken from PHPP		Space heating supplied by heat pump only Electricity supplied by grid only Data taken from PHPP			Space heating supplied by heat pump and solar thermals Electricity supplied by grid and PV panels Data taken from PHPP				

Investment & Return

(Comparison between passivhaus & minimum standard)

STEP (2): finding the Cost of an otherwise identical Min. Standard community centre

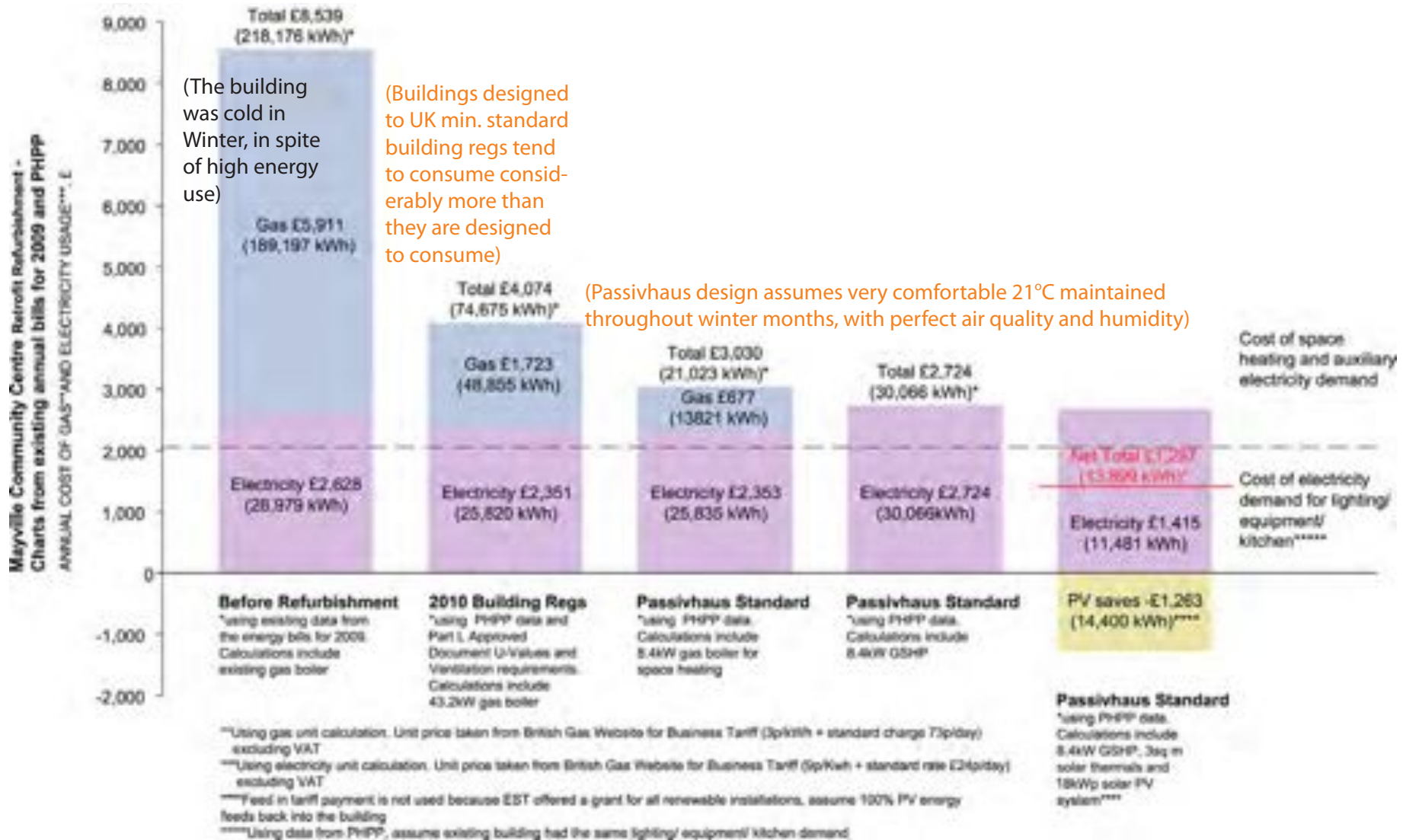
Take detailed Bills of Quantities (As Built) and convert to Building Regs spec, item by item

Mildmay Community Partnership Alteration and Improvements to Community Centre			Tenderer: Option 1 - Buxton Building Contractors Contract Sum - Passivhaus with Heat Pump, Solar Thermal and PV Installations		Tenderer: Option 2 - As Option 1 with Heat Pump Installation but excluding Solar Thermal and PV Installations		Tenderer: Option 3 - As Option 1 but with a 8.4kW Gas Boiler and excluding Heat Pump, Solar Thermal and PV Installations		Tenderer: Option 4 - Building Regulations with a 43.2kW gas boiler, additional radiators excluding Heat Pump, Solar Thermal and PV installations	
Mayville Community Centre, Woodville Road, London N16 8NA			Date:	09-Mar-10	Date:	09-Mar-10	Date:	09-Mar-10	Date:	09-Mar-10
BILLS OF QUANTITIES				£		£		£		£
457	overall size 1100 x 2708; reference W117H	1 nr	847.74							
A11	Reduction for double glazed windows	(1) nr	2,525.25	2,525.25	2,525.25	2,525.25	2,525.25	2,525.25	2,525.25	2,525.25
								628.20	-	628.20
458	overall size 2751 x 890; reference W117E; added since quotation	1 nr	1,052.47							
A12	Reduction for double glazed windows	(1) nr	2,408.25	2,408.25	2,408.25	2,408.25	2,408.25	2,408.25	2,408.25	2,408.25
								599.09	-	599.09
459	overall size 2470 x 1180; reference W107F, W108F, W109F, W110F	5 nr	654.66							
A13	Reduction for double glazed windows	(5) nr	1,908.08	9,540.40	1,908.08	9,540.40	1,908.08	9,540.40	1,908.08	9,540.40
								474.67	-	2,373.34
				22,072.14		22,072.14		22,072.14		16,581.31
	Windows and window frames, obscured glazing; tilt and turn opening mechanism									
460	overall size 1250 x 1180; reference W106E,W111E	2 nr	902.95							
A14	Reduction for double glazed windows	(2) nr	1,331.85	2,663.70	1,331.85	2,663.70	1,331.85	2,663.70	1,331.85	2,663.70
	Screens, borrowed lights and frames, clear glazing; fixed lights							331.32	-	662.64
461	overall size 3572 x 2434; pair of glazed doors each overall size 900 x 2325; reference D005D, D006D, D007D	3 nr	763.92							
A15	Reduction for double glazed windows	(3) nr	6,641.70	19,925.10	6,641.70	19,925.10	6,641.70	19,925.10	6,641.70	19,925.10
								1,652.24	-	4,956.72
462	overall size 3572 x 2513; pair of glazed doors each overall size 900 x 2404; reference DB01G, DB02G, DB03G	3 nr	739.90							
A16	Reduction for double glazed windows	(3) nr	6,641.70	19,925.10	6,641.70	19,925.10	6,641.70	19,925.10	6,641.70	19,925.10
								1,652.24	-	4,956.72

Investment & Return

(Comparison between passivhaus & minimum standard)

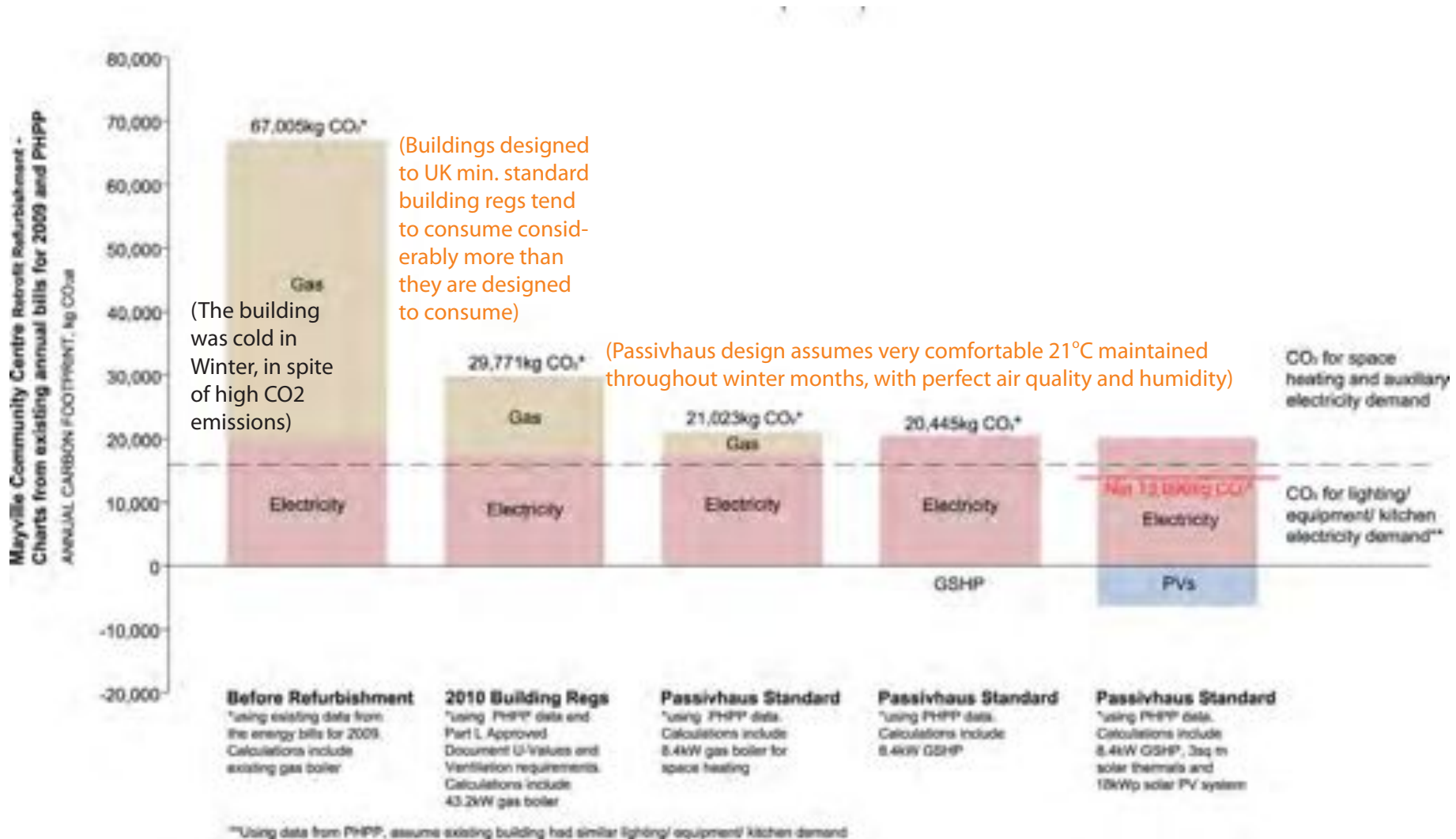
STEP (3): Graph comparing Annual Energy Consumption derived from step (1)



Investment & Return

(Comparison between passivhaus & minimum standard)

STEP (4): Graph comparing Annual CO₂ emissions derived from step (1)

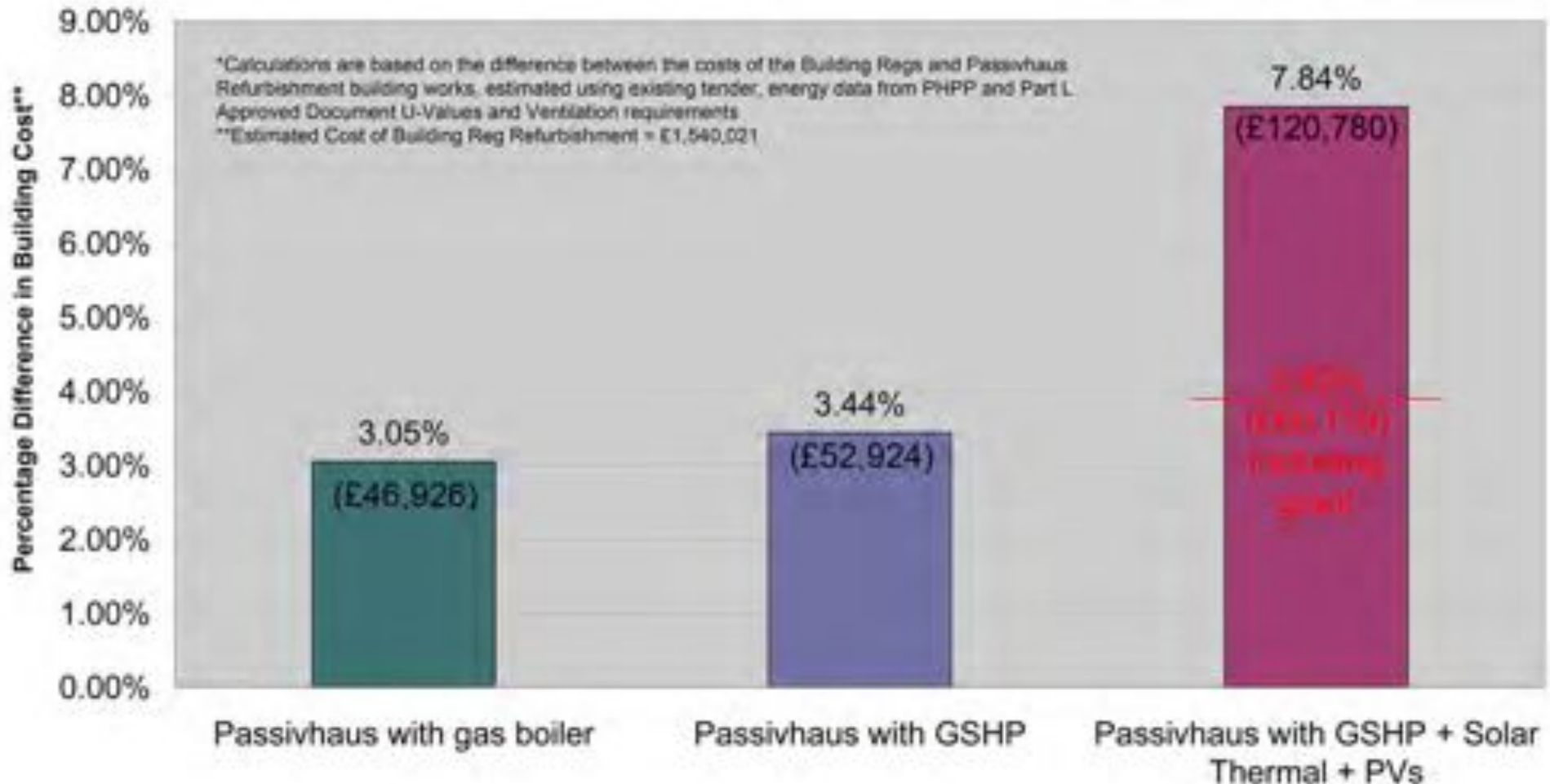


Investment & Return

(Comparison between passivhaus & minimum standard)

**STEP (5): Graph showing the extra investment cost of PH derived from step (2)
Percentage difference investment to achieve passivhaus standard***

The additional investment was found to be just 3% without renewables or 8% with renewables



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING
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