

# Woolhope Dome Community Woodfuel Co-operative

A new model for community woodfuel

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Co-operative helping people to set up renewable energy co-ops  
Founded 2011, spin-off from Energy4All  
28 co-ops set up across the technologies



- Finding projects
- Setting up the co-operative
- Financial planning
- Landowner negotiation
- Share offer setup, marketing
- Administration

# Woolhope Dome





## The Woods

- Undermanaged or unmanaged woodland
- Wildlife and Biodiversity benefits
- 4000 tonnes/yr practicable sustainable resource (FC)
- Few incentives to manage



Need for a high value, steady income stream for woodfuel ?

and/or support, stability, advice, co-operation, information sharing...

# Heating

- Heating on oil or LPG
- Costs rising
- High carbon
- Move to biomass expensive and risky

Need for capital and a reliable supply of genuinely sustainable woodfuel



Heating oil costs  
adjusted for RPI 2000-  
2011

## The Co-operative

- Contracting for wood supply locally
- Storing, drying, chipping
- Installing, maintaining and fuelling boilers for local heavy heat users



Fownhope CRAG

A local co-operative which members of the public can join, run and benefit from. Members return 6-8% (supported by RHI)

## Boilers offer

- Large heat users (£5000/yr+)
- State of the art boiler installed free
- We sell them heat
- We maintain and fuel the boiler
- 20% below oil costs guaranteed for 20 years



# Art Clean Green Boiler

SAVE SAVE SAVE  
20% on fuel for 20  
years  
PLUS maintenance  
costs  
PLUS replacement  
costs



For your FREE  
expert  
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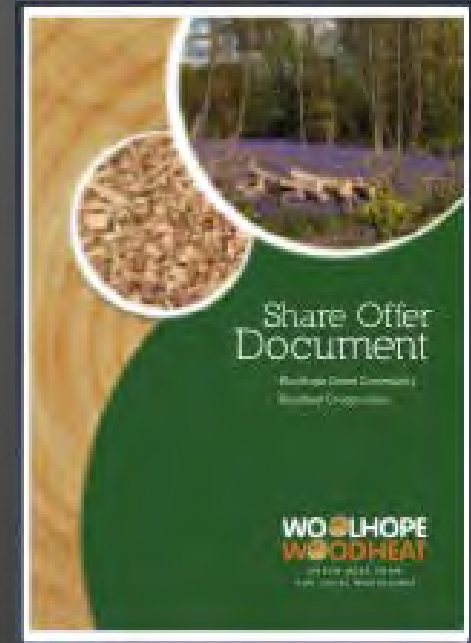
# Canon Frome Court

- 50 residents in 19 flats
- Heated on LPG, oil, coal, wood
- Hard to heat and listed
- Willing to consider radical solutions



## Share offer

- £325k raised in 2012
- 160 members
- Many local but UK-wide interest
- UK's first heat co-op



# Canon Frome install

- 199kW boiler
- LPG backup
- Heat main





## Next steps

- Sharing the model
- More boilers
- Woodfuel supply chain





# Lessons

- Ambitious is more fun
- People want to support this
- Complex and lengthy project
- Need wheelbarrow pushers
- Holistic is hard
- Regulation is stifling
- Choose projects carefully
- Learn from others





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