

Curridge School Green Heat Launch Day Thursday 11th October 2007

The children, staff and a number of parents attended the launch day of West Berkshire's first wood-fired school heating system. This initiative was led by TV Bioenergy in partnership with West Berkshire Council and marks an important stepping stone in creating a sustainable future for communities locally.

Councillor Geoff Findlay (West Berkshire Council) spoke of the importance of this project to the Thames Valley, and how West Berkshire Council must continue in its commitment and help lead the way for other councils. Council officers, Jan Ralph and Jeremy Davy were also in attendance, along with contractors who had worked on the project.



Councillor Geoff Findlay delivering his presentation outside the renewable energy boiler house

Also in attendance was the Newbury Weekly News and coverage of the event appeared in its Thursday 18th October 2007 edition. EnAgri magazine also published an article, as did BBC News Online.

The head teacher, Marilyn Dollard spoke along with Mary Miller of TV Bioenergy about the importance of renewable energy and moving towards a more sustainable future. In addition, the school's own 'Eco-Action Group' gave an excellent presentation on how this was only the start for school's long-term sustainability plans.



Mrs Lesley Dick, Chair of the School Governors had the honour of officially cutting the ribbon on the boiler house



The children also had the chance to enter the 'Design a Logo' competition for the project, the winner being Megan Deeks, aged 4½. The intention is for this logo to be used on a plaque on the boiler room at the School



Inside the boiler house

The boiler is now up and running with a the heat supply contract agreed between the school and TV Bioenergy which will ensure that the school benefits from the use of local renewable fuel replacing fossil fuel energy (in this case, heating oil). TV Bioenergy will organise and manage the wood chip supply and maintain the equipment. The boiler is rated at 50kW thermal and will save 14 tonnes of CO₂/year.

This concept has potential to be replicated in other schools in West Berkshire and further afield across the Thames Valley and beyond.

TV Energy (the parent company of TV Bioenergy) and West Berkshire Council gratefully acknowledge the financial support given to this project and related activities from SEEDA.

For more information visit www.tvenergy.org or contact us on 01635 817420 / info@tvenergy.org.

Detailed technical information on the Curridge biomass boiler can be found at <http://www.see-stats.org/thamesvalley-all.htm>, reference project 187.

