Hall goes solar

An eco-friendly village hall is set to breathe life into the heart of the Bruisyard community – with a little bit of help from the Green Energy Trust.

The Suffolk village, home to around 200 people, has been awarded almost £10,000 to install an environmentally friendly heating system and three solar panels to the hall.

With no shop, pub or post office, the village hall will become a real heart for the community.

John Gibb, a member of the committee, is pleased ScottishPower is involved. He said: "There is a real need in Bruisyard for a space where locals can meet, so the village hall will really see the town come alive.

"It's important to us to be as energy-efficient as possible, so to work with a company like ScottishPower which has great green credentials is a real bonus.

"Local architect Robert Smith has used the latest in green technology, earning the design an Energy Performance Certificate Rating of 'A'.

"The hall will be heated by an air sourced heat pump which on even the coldest winter days will be four times more energy efficient than a normal heating system."

Glass will be a main feature of the building to maximise natural light, and all electrical light will come from longlife, energy-efficient bulbs.

Alison McKean, Senior Environmental and Social Policy Manager at ScottishPower Energy Retail, said: "ScottishPower was delighted to be involved in this.

"It is a great example of how a small village can benefit from being aware of the impact they have on the environment."