**PROFILE**

Ballybofey & Stranorlar Golf Club is a member-owned sport and community organisation in Stranorlar, Co Donegal. We draw membership (500+ in 2023) from the Finn Valley area and beyond. We serve the sporting needs of the area and make our premises available to various Educational, Sporting, Charitable and Community groups for fundraising events. We have an 18-hole golf course and Golf Shop as well as a modern Clubhouse Bar & Restaurant open to the public.

**RATIONALE FOR AN ENERGY MANAGEMENT POLICY.**

* Rising energy costs
* Dependence on fossil fuels
* Age of the Building
* Sustainability of Club environmentally and financially
* Awareness of global climate change and how to reduce CO2 footprint.

**MAIN PURPOSE OF AN ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

An energy management project is a series of activities that involves identifying opportunities to actively reduce energy usage in the building and carry out a detailed project to install and commission energy conservation measures and energy-saving equipment that yield measured improvements in energy.

**SSEA ENERGY AUDIT REPORT**

This was commissioned in 2022. The ‘Energy Management Diagnostic’ section reported on 6 aspects of Energy Management and ranked each on a scale from 0 – 4. These aspects were:

1. Energy Policy
2. Organisation (how the management of the Club supports energy management)
3. Communication (How and how often Club draws awareness to energy issues)
4. Information Systems (How we monitor consumption)
5. Marketing (How we make others aware of the benefits of energy management)
6. Investment (How we make decisions around investing in energy efficiency)

In each part of the assessment, the Club ranked 1.

The Club Council then decided to address energy management and consumption in a committed and formal manner.

**SUMMARY OF STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITES HIGHLIGHTED IN ENERGY AUDIT.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **FOCUS** | **STRENGTH** | **OPPORTUNITY** |
| **ENERGY POLICY** | Set of informal guidelines exist. | Establish a formal energy management policy |
| **ORGANISATION** | energy management is being addressed. | Establish a dedicated energy management structure integrated with current Club structures |
| **COMMUNICATION** | Staff & Members informed informally of energy issues. | Establish a method of Informing Staff & Members of major and minor energy management issues. |
| **INFORMATION SYSTEMS & MARKETING** | Some data is available. Staff & Members are aware that energy management carries benefits | Consider energy management consumption and emissions in addition to cost. Record data relating to same. |
| **INVESTMENT** | Willingness to invest in energy efficiency measures. | Identify areas of significant cost and consumption. Analyse and select solutions in which to invest. Establish a process of checking energy savings after a solution has been implemented |

**SHORT TERM MEASURES (by end 2023)**

* Set up monitoring procedure to assess and track energy and oil use
* Review current energy contract to ensure best pricing.
* Spot checks to identify where heating, lighting and equipment is being left on unnecessarily.
* Consider upgrading bulbs and fixtures to LED.
* Consider the use of timers and sensors on lighting and equipment where applicable. Review existing sensors to ensure that lights are not in for an unnecessary length of time.
* Review external lighting to ensure it is only in use when needed and that lighting levels are appropriate for safe use as well as for the environment.
* Consider reducing heating temperature by 1°C
* Block off draughts and avoid leaving windows and doors open when heating is in use.
* Regularly service and check boilers and generators to maintain efficiency.
* Clean filters in fridges and ventilation to limit unnecessary energy use.
* Plan water heating to ensure Club is not wasting energy and money on hot water that isn’t being used.
* Communicate energy efficient practices to Club members and to outside Club users.
* Dust off lights at least once a year to enhance lighting performance and maximise natural light use, when possible, by having blinds and curtains open during daylight hours.
* When replacing bulbs, choose LED alternatives where available.

**MEDIUM TERM MEASURES** (by end 2025)

* Check the seals on doors and windows to reduce draughts.
* Procure a BER/Thermal Imaging Assessment of the Clubhouse to determine quality of building fabric.
* Insulate club’s facilities: Insulate roof space. Consider wall and floor insulation.
* Insulating water tanks as well as interior and exterior water pipes.
* Evaluate condition of window/door glazing.
* Consider installation of EV charging facilities.

**LARGE SCALE MEASURES (by end 2030)**

* Engage with individuals/groups with suitable expertise to determine most energy efficient methods of generating heat/light etc.
* Engage with suitable Grant authorities to procure financial support.
* Finance Committee to engage in discussions around Capital Investment energy efficiency.
* EV Charging points for members for Member and Community use.

**ASSESS AND REVIEW**

* Consider a quarterly report to House Committee on energy consumption and cost.
* Review and assess progress in plan at min 2 Council Meetings per year.
* Highlight to Staff & Members the benefits of energy efficient behaviours and encourage same.

**SUPPORT DOCUMENTS:**

* SEAI
* SSEAI PLAN FOR BSGC
* ENGLAND GOLF/SUSTAINABILITY
* GAA GREEN CLUBS
* GOLF IRELAND SUSTAINABILITY