



A Glaisdale Farm



Information on this home

We are an organic livestock farm up the dale at Glaisdale. We have a bunk barn which was renovated a couple of years ago and was very thoroughly insulated at the time. We recently installed a log boiler, which is situated in an outbuilding and runs central heating and hot water in the farm a cottage and for the bunk barn. We have just completed having solar photo voltaic panels installed which will be a very useful addition as we use a lot of electricity on the farm.

We needed an Energy Performance Certificate before installation of the PV panels. The SAP Rating is 60 in Band D.

Big Insulation Works

Installed:- 2005 for attic room and 2011 for bunk barn.

Installers:- Insulation carried out by local builders as part of larger projects, Colin Featherstone for attic and Roger Norris for bunk barn.

Costs:- A few thousand pounds in each case (difficult to separate from costs of larger projects).

Materials:- Kingspan used for underfloor insulation, walls and ceiling.

Renewables: heat

Boiler:- Windhager LogWIN gasification log boiler 50 kW, provides underfloor heating to the bunk barn and 20 radiators in the two houses plus domestic hot water for all three properties. Hot water is stored in two 1500 litre thermal stores.

Installed:- July 2013

Cost:- £27,000

Installer:- Life's Energy, Scarborough, <http://lifesenergy.co.uk/>

Financial support:- Commercial Renewable Heat Incentive will be paid at a rate of £5-6,000 per year for 20 years.

Fuel use: Predicted fuel use of about 16 m³ of logs per year, but closer to 30 m³ is more likely.

Details of products and installers are provided for information only and cannot be considered as endorsements by Moor Sustainable



Issues to consider:- Fuel supply should be considered. All logs come from the farm so our only costs are chain saw and tractor fuel plus time. An external wood store allows for drying helped by the wind with a covered store for the dried logs. Support for the cost of hedge laying and coppicing comes from the National Park farm scheme and from High Level Stewardship payments. The woodland area is being expanded by allowing natural regeneration combined with some oak planting.

Renewables: electricity

Solar Photovoltaic Panels: 16 panels, 3.68 kW on the roof of a south facing barn not visible from roads or public footpaths

Installed:- March 2014

Cost:- £6,000

Installer:- Life's Energy, Scarborough,
<http://lifesenergy.co.uk/>

Financial support and savings:- Feed in Tariff (FIT) payment at 14.9 p per kWh
Predicted generation is 3,390 kWh giving FIT payments of about £500 per annum plus about £80 for export. Savings of £500 per year predicted from a £1,500 annual electricity bill.



Personal insights

Two properties were already being heated with logs in wood burning stoves. The bunk barn was built with under-floor heating using an oil boiler. The advice in 2011 was that oil was the only practical fuel and biomass was not an option. Things have changed in only two years. The oil fired boiler was sold. The availability of biomass technology, logs on the farm and commercial RHI were all incentives for change.

For any renovation insulation should be part of the project. Some more internal insulation may be carried out in future in some rooms, but doing this for the whole house would be too disruptive. External insulation is not an option for a stone farmhouse in a national park.

Details of products and installers are provided for information only and cannot be considered as endorsements by Moor Sustainable