



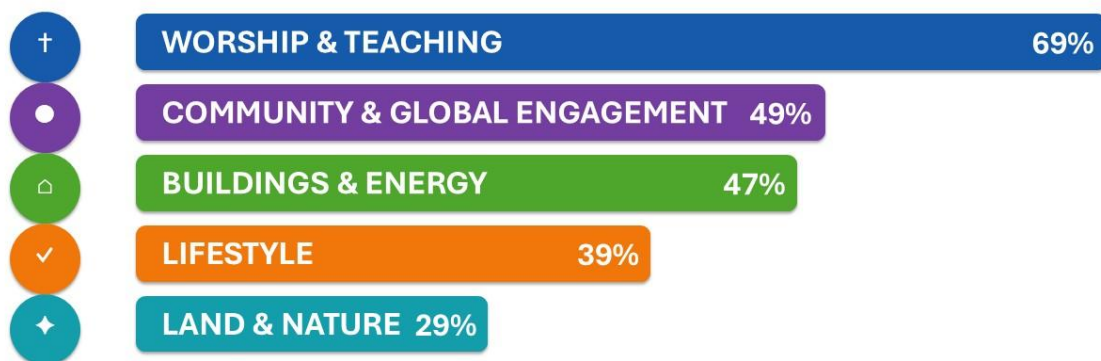
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RECAP

- The Methodist Church is committed to achieve net zero carbon emissions
- All churches are encouraged to participate through the A Rocha eco church scheme
- In June this year, we submitted a successful application for our bronze award
- We aim to achieve our silver award by summer 2027.

Our Eco Church Bronze Award Scores



Bronze = 25%

Silver = 50%

Gold = 75%

ALL AGE ECO COOL CORNER

HOW OUR WILD GARDEN CAN HELP THE PLANET



A wild garden is like a mini nature superhero base! When we grow native flowers and bulbs — plants that already belong in our local area — we give bees, butterflies, birds and tiny insects the food and homes they need. Flowers such as bluebells, primroses, cowslips, snowdrops and wild marigolds can turn a small patch of ground into a busy café for wildlife.

Native flowers and bulbs help the planet because they need less fuss, less watering and fewer chemicals than many garden plants. Their roots help hold the soil together, soak up rainwater and give shelter to worms, beetles and other helpful creatures underground. That means a wild garden can be tough, clever and planet-friendly — a bit like nature's own repair team.

Butterflies sip nectar from flowers, bees collect pollen, and birds visit for seeds, berries and insects. If a garden has lots of different native

plants, it can feed wildlife from early spring to late autumn. Planting bulbs for spring, flowers for summer and seed heads for winter is like setting out a year-round picnic for nature.

WILD GARDEN UPDATE



It's a frame up! Our first two bed frames for phase 1.



Karen's made a pile! Log on here for more details!

We have had generous offers of soil and seed for our first two timber-framed beds. The aim is to have the soil in place by the end of this month and to complete the planting of native wildflowers and bulbs by the end of October, whilst the soil is still warm.

Karen has also set up our log pile in the furthest corner. As the *Yorkshire Wildlife Trust* explains, "Putting together a log pile will create a village for all things creepy and crawly. In turn, this busy community will attract birds, hedgehogs and frogs looking to snack on a tasty morsel."

ARE YOU SMART?

If you have been to our Welcome Repair Café, you may have met Alan Thawley. He is the Events Manager for Buckinghamshire Community Energy whose purpose is ***Bringing people together for smarter energy choices***. Alan is sometimes on hand to give people free advice on all domestic energy matters, whilst they have their free cuppa and wait for their repairs.



A typical domestic smart meter

A common topic is smart meters. If you don't already have one, Alan says that the benefits are very clear. "They give you access to cheaper (or even free) smart time-of-use electricity deals. There are (also) significant benefits for the grid in having better visibility of usage, which will help with their future planning as we move to integrate more and more renewables." There is more information at:

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/advice/guide-to-smart-meters/>



Smart meters measure how much gas and electricity you're using and send those readings automatically to your energy supplier. They come with an in-home display screen to help you monitor and reduce your energy use.

At the end of 2025, [over 71% of all meters in Great Britain were smart.](#) The government has set a target for energy suppliers to fit smart meters in all homes in Great Britain by the end of 2030.

If you don't have one already and would like one, get in touch with your energy supplier to find out more.

SUMMARY

- It's free
- It tells you how much energy you are using
- It helps you to cut your energy bills
 - 86% of smart meter users say they have changed their habits to save energy (Smart Energy GB)
- It helps to reduce your carbon footprint
 - 16% of the UK carbon footprint is from home emissions
- No more manual readings

METHODIST AND ECO CHURCH PARTNERSHIP

The Methodist Church has approved a new [three-year partnership](#) with Eco Church, the environmental award scheme we are in, run by the Christian conservation charity A Rocha UK.



It helps churches like us measure and improve their environmental performance by assessing whether creation care is part of worship,

buildings have low carbon emissions, churchyards encourage wildlife, churches support environmental projects and congregations reduce waste, travel sustainably and make environmentally responsible choices.



The Methodist Church was one of the founding funders of Eco Church when the scheme launched in 2016. It says that under the newly approved partnership, the Church “will provide £15,000 per year for an initial three-year period which will enable Eco Church to continue offering guidance and resources to local churches, further develop the Eco Circuit and Eco District awards, and strengthen learning and collaboration across denominations”.

MEDAL PEDAL



Dr Michele Challenger, our in-house maths guru, who regularly cycles to and from church, will help us to pedal to a silver medal by taking on the measurement of the carbon emissions from our buildings and activities. If anyone can figure it out, Michele can!

AYLESBURY WELCOME REPAIR CAFE

Aylesbury Methodist Church & Centre, Buckingham St, HP20 2NQ

Email: **awelcomerepaircafe@gmail.com**

Join the Repair Revolution at Aylesbury Welcome Repair Café every fourth Saturday of the month (except August and Dec) - 9.30-12.30

2026 - Saturday 26 September, 24 October, 28 November

**2027 - Saturday 22 January, 27 February, 27 March, 24 April,
22 May, 26 June, 24 July**

Repair Café is a local community initiative that promotes repair as an alternative to throwing things out.

Bring your broken bikes, torn textiles, rusty tools, electricals, ceramics and mechanical items and our team of volunteer repair experts will diagnose, advise and repair, if possible, on the day.

Come along for a **free** cuppa and a chat, no repair necessary, hosted by the Welcome Café. All welcome. Donations appreciated.

Donations keep the café and repairs running as a free service to all.

If you'd like to help out as a repairer or a café host, please contact Phil or Peter at awelcomerepaircafe@gmail.com or find out more:

Facebook page Aylesbury Welcome Repair Café

[Repaircafe.org/en/café/aylesbury-welcome-repair-café/](https://repaircafe.org/en/café/aylesbury-welcome-repair-café/)



AYLESBURY WELCME REPAIR CAFE 9.30 - 12.30

Aylesbury Methodist Church & Centre
Buckingham St. HP20 2NQ

Monthly every 4th Saturday
(Except August & December)

