

# Longcroft Hall goes green with eco cash

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**St Ninian's Craigmalen Parish Church has been awarded over £42,000 to make the Longcroft Hall in Linlithgow more environmentally friendly.**

The church's eco-congregational group has received word from the Scottish Government that it was successful with the bid to the Climate Challenge Fund to help make the hall greener.

The grant of £42,160 will go towards energy efficiency measures including insulation and cladding. This will

reduce energy use, bills and carbon emissions, while helping to tackle climate change as well as make the building more comfortable for all users.

The project will also promote energy efficient behaviour and lower carbon travel amongst church members and hall users leading to a more sustainable future for the church and community.

Patricia Chapman, convenor of the church's eco-congregational group, said: "We are delighted to gain funding for what is a very popular community resource. Our minister, Richard Houston, informed the congregation on Sunday of our successful bid.

"As well as the insulation

## Cash aid for community groups

●● The Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) enables carbon-cutting projects with a local focus to get underway.

●● This latest cash boost of £1.5 million, takes the total budget for 2014-15 to £11.8 million.

●● The Climate Challenge Fund has been important in supporting 658 community group projects that have been awarded grants totalling more than £57.2 million.

●● A total of £10.3 million will be made available each year up until March 31, 2016.



**HALL RIGHT:** Longcroft hall at the West Port hosts many community groups and organisations.

and cladding, there will also be new LED lighting, new secondary glazing and thermal curtains. It is wonderful news as we could never have carried out this upgrade without the grant. The hall is home to many community events including mother and tod-

dlers sessions, judo, Tai Chi, parties, and is also the base for the Chernobyl Kids charity. Work will begin in July to upgrade the premises."

The church will celebrate the 60th anniversary of the joining of the two churches on Sunday, June 8, with a spe-

cial service and garden party.

The church was one of 18 projects bidding for Climate Challenge Fund grants. Grants up to £150,000 per year, per project are available until March 2016 through the Climate Challenge Fund and Junior Climate Challenge Fund.