

Appleby Thermal Imaging Project Q and As

What is Thermal Imaging?

It is a process of taking images of houses with a camera that can sense different temperatures. The resultant “picture” highlights areas of heat loss and implicitly poor insulation.

Why do the Parish Council and Appleby Environment want to undertake such a survey of the village?

There are a wide range of house types in Appleby and the survey will allow us to understand how well the overall village fares in terms of energy conservation and its carbon foot print

How do you propose to use the information?

The data (pictures and associated reports) will be analysed to draw conclusions as to the principal areas of heat loss from different housing types and whether improvements can be made. Results would remain confidential unless specific householders were happy for it to be released to the local community. We would propose to produce a report on the analysis and an exhibition on March 5th highlighting the results and giving practical advice.

How will householder’s privacy be respected?

The images would be taken from the public highway and would not involve entering onto private property. The images produced would remain confidential unless houseowners agreed for them to be used in any report or exhibition.

When would the images be taken?

It is necessary to take the images after dark to ensure the effects of the sun do not distort the results. It is also necessary for it to be colder outside the house than inside. For this reason we cannot give exact dates. However we expect it will be no earlier than January 10th and no later than mid February.

What is the Parish Council’s Involvement and who else is involved?

It is important that the study is open and transparent and for the local population to be fully aware of the proposal. The involvement of the Parish Council helps to ensure this is the case. All funds are being managed by the Parish Council and they will retain copyright of the images taken.

Appleby Environment are organising the survey and the exhibition on the Parish Council’s behalf.

The actual pictures will be taken by a commercial organisation contracted to the Parish Council on the basis of a competitive tender. They are only involved in this part of the project and won’t be contacting households to try to sell any products or services.

Who is funding the project?

The main funding is provided by a Climate Friendly Communities Grant from Leicestershire County Council, administered by the Rural Community Council.

Appleby Environment is providing some matched funding from their own reserves and via contributions in kind of volunteer labour. There is also a small grant from Information Byway.

Would house owners be able to have copies of the image of their own property and an assessment of its heat loss?

Subject to the arrangements made with the supplier we would anticipate that this option would be available for a nominal sum, well below the commercial cost of having individual properties surveyed.

What will the benefit be to Appleby and its residents?

For individual households the benefits will be in learning where one is losing heat (and with it money and warmth) and in getting practical help in sort this out. The help will be tailored to all the types of homes we have in Appleby.

We also believe that it shows Appleby to be a progressive village with an interest in playing its part in a sustainable future. There has been a lot of interest in this project and we have agreed to provide information on our experience to other villages who might want to do something similar.

What would a thermal image of a property look like?

Below is atypical image that can be obtained from thermal imaging.



Appleby Environment

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