# 7 low-energy ModCell homes

by Oliver Style / (1) 2015-10-01 10:34:25 / Internazionale / (1) 10250 / 🍽 EN



Building Type : Collective housing < 50m Construction Year : 2015 Delivery year : 2015 Address 1 - street : St Bernards Road BS11 9UR BRISTOL, United Kingdom Climate zone : [Cfb] Marine Mild Winter, warm summer, no dry season.

Net Floor Area : 668 m<sup>2</sup> Other Construction/refurbishment cost : 1 575 000 € Number of Dwelling : 7 Dwelling Cost/m2 : 2357.78 €/m<sup>2</sup>

### General information

These 7 terraced homes located in Shirehamton, Bristol, UK, constitute the world's first commercially available straw eco-homes, using the BM Trada Q Mark certified ModCell Core prefabricated straw bale panel system. As part of the planning requirement the panels are clad with the traditional red brick, that complements the look and feel of existing neighbouring Shirehampton homes. This handsome row of housing comprises five 3 and 4 bedroom homes, and two 2 bedrooms homes that bookend the development. Each house has full height timber fences as well a shed to store bikes and other household goods.

Behind the traditional brick elevation of the St Bernard's Road development is a state of the art, super insulated, low carbon straw bale construction system by ModCell: the recently BM Trada Q Mark certified ModCell Core prefabricated straw bale panel system. The excellent insulating properties of straw encapsulated in the walls of the project can reduce heating bills by up to 90% compared to the average for Bristol.

All internal wall partitions are made from Coobio Compressed Straw Board panels (CSB), replacing conventional plasterboard which has a negative environmental impact, and providing instead a fully carbon negative build system with excellent acoustic insulation between rooms.

The rear garden has been turfed and has a timber deck as standard. Some of the units have chosen to have oak flooring fitted in the open plan ground floor.

Progetic designed the Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery (MVHR) systems for the homes, which cleverly swap heat from the outgoing air into the incoming fresh air, ensuring stable temperatures, better air quality and drastically reduced heating bills and carbon footprint. The combination of straw bale construction and MVHR means the homes stay warm in winter, cool in summer and are healthy and comfortable to live in.

Heating is provided by a high efficiency air source heat pump that extracts heat from outdoor air and transfers it to water, which is circulated through low temperature radiators around the homes. The same system provides domestic hot water generation.

Additionally, each home is fitted with a 2.2 kWp grid-tied solar PV array. The green electricity they generate can be instantly self-consumed and/or exported to the grid, receiving a feed in tariff that reduces occupants' electricity bills.

All homes come with 'A+ or A++' appliances and broad spectrum LED lighting.

Each home is equipped with a rain water harvesting system. The Washing machine, toilets and garden will all draw their water needs from the rain water harvesting tank.

### See more details about this project

#### Thttp://www.st-bernards-portway.co.uk/

C\* http://www.modcell.com/projects/straw-eco-homes-nearly-finished/

### Stakeholders

### **Stakeholders**

Function : Thermal consultancy agency

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### Function : Designer

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Function : Manufacturer ModCell

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http://www.modcell.com/

Function : Manufacturer Coobio http://www.coobio.com/contact/

C http://www.coobio.com

### If you had to do it again?

The house is warm and the MVHR system is quiet. Very comfortable

### Energy

**Energy consumption** 

Primary energy need : 120,00 kWhpe/m<sup>2</sup>.year

Primary energy need for standard building : 200,00 kWhpe/m<sup>2</sup>.year

# Calculation method : Primary energy needs

CEEB: 0.0001

Breakdown for energy consumption : - Space Heating: 10.2 kWh/(m2a)

- Hot Tap Water [DHW]: 10.3kWh/(m2a)
- Electricity: 25.9 kWh/(m2a)

### Envelope performance

Envelope U-Value : 0,13 W.m<sup>-2</sup>.K<sup>-1</sup>

#### More information :

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All internal wall partitions are made from Compressed Straw Board panels (CSB), replacing conventional plasterboard which has a negative environmental impact, and providing instead a fully carbon negative build system with excellent acoustic insulation between rooms.

### Building Compactness Coefficient : 0,61

Indicator : EN 13829 - q50 » (en m3/h.m3) Air Tightness Value : 3,00

### Real final energy consumption

Final Energy : 46,20 kWhfe/m<sup>2</sup>.year

### Renewables & systems

### **Systems**

### Heating system :

Heat pump

#### Hot water system :

Heat pump

#### Cooling system :

No cooling system

#### Ventilation system :

- Natural ventilation
- · Double flow heat exchanger

#### Renewable systems :

Solar photovoltaic

#### Renewable energy production : 29,00 %

#### Other information on HVAC :

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All homes come with 'A+ or A++' appliances and broad spectrum LED lighting

Finally, each home is equipped with a rain water harvesting system. The Washing machine, toilets and garden will all draw their water needs from the rainwater harvesting tank.

Each home is fitted with a 2.2 kWp grid-tied solar PV array. The green electricity they generate can be instantly self-consumed and/or exported to the grid, receiving a feed in tariff that reduces occupants' electricity bills.

Solutions enhancing nature free gains : Heat Recovery System

### Urban environment

Informally known to locals as "Shire", Shirehampton is a neighbourhood of some 7000 inhabitants, located near Avonmouth at the north-western edge of the city of Bristol, England. Originally a separate village, the area retains a village feel, with good access to all parts of the city and its work environment. Land plot area : 363,00 m<sup>2</sup>

Built-up area : 160,00 %

# Products

### Product

Nilan CT150 MVHR Unit

Nilan

info@nilanuk.com

#### http://www.nilanuk.com/

Product category : Table 'c21\_italy.innov\_category' doesn't exist SELECT one.innov\_category AS current,two.innov\_category AS parentFROM innov\_category AS oneINNER JOIN innov\_category AS two ON one.parent\_id = two.idWHERE one.state=1AND one.id = '19'

PHI Certified heat recovery ventilation unit with heat recovery efficiency of 87% For ventilation requirement of up to 150 m3/h

System is quiet and efficient, providing good air quality

Daikin Altherma LT Monobloc 6kW

Daikin

+44 845 641 90 00

#### http://www.daikin.co.uk/

Product category : Table 'c21\_italy.innov\_category' doesn't exist SELECT one.innov\_category AS current,two.innov\_category AS parentFROM innov\_category AS oneINNER JOIN innov\_category AS two ON one.parent\_id = two.idWHERE one.state=1AND one.id = '18'

Electrical Input: 1.41 kW

Heating COP: 4.26 \*Ambient air temperature 7°C and leaving water temperature 35°C (A7 W35)

No comment as yet

ModCell Core

ModCell

enquiries@modcell.com

#### Attp://www.modcell.com/

Product category : Table 'c21\_italy.innov\_category' doesn't exist SELECT one.innov\_category AS current,two.innov\_category AS parentFROM innov\_category AS oneINNER JOIN innov\_category AS two ON one.parent id = two.idWHERE one.state=1AND one.id = '9'

ModCell® Core panels are 427mm deep, factory finished fully closed, dry lined panel system using breathable sheathing boards in place of the render. The standard internal finish is a sheathing board, battened (not included in above dimension) ready to receive a variety of internal surface finishes, external finish is a breathable sheathing board, battened ready to receive a variety of rainscreen options.

U-Value: 0.13 W/(m2K)

Modular prefabricated system which is quick and easy to install.

Panasonic HIT photovoltaic module

Panasonic

info.solareu.panasonic.com

### Attp://eu-solar.panasonic.net/

Product category : Table 'c21\_italy.innov\_category' doesn't exist SELECT one.innov\_category AS current,two.innov\_category AS parentFROM innov\_category AS oneINNER JOIN innov\_category AS two ON one.parent\_id = two.idWHERE one.state=1AND one.id = '31'

Array of 8 PV Modules with a total output of 1.96kWp









### Costs

## Energy bill

Forecasted energy bill/year : 890,00 € Real energy cost/m2 : 1.33 Real energy cost/Dwelling : 127.14

### Health and comfort

### Indoor Air quality

Good indoor air quality is achieved by two means: firstly, indoor air is continually replenished with full fresh, filtered, and pre-heated outdoor air, via the mechanical ventilation with heat recovery system; secondly, almost all materials in contact with indoor air are bio-based, non-toxic and low VOC's, meaning offgassing is minimal and indoor contaminant generation is small.

### Comfort

Health & comfort : Thermal comfort is provided through high levels of thermal insulation, reduced thermal bridges, and minimal air leakage, meaning cold spots and draughts are kept to a minimum.

### Carbon

### **GHG** emissions

GHG in use : 31,00 KgCO<sub>2</sub>/m<sup>2</sup>/year Methodology used : PHPP with GEMIS CO2 emissions data

Building lifetime : 100,00 year(s)

#### Contes

### Reasons for narticinating in the competition(s)





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