

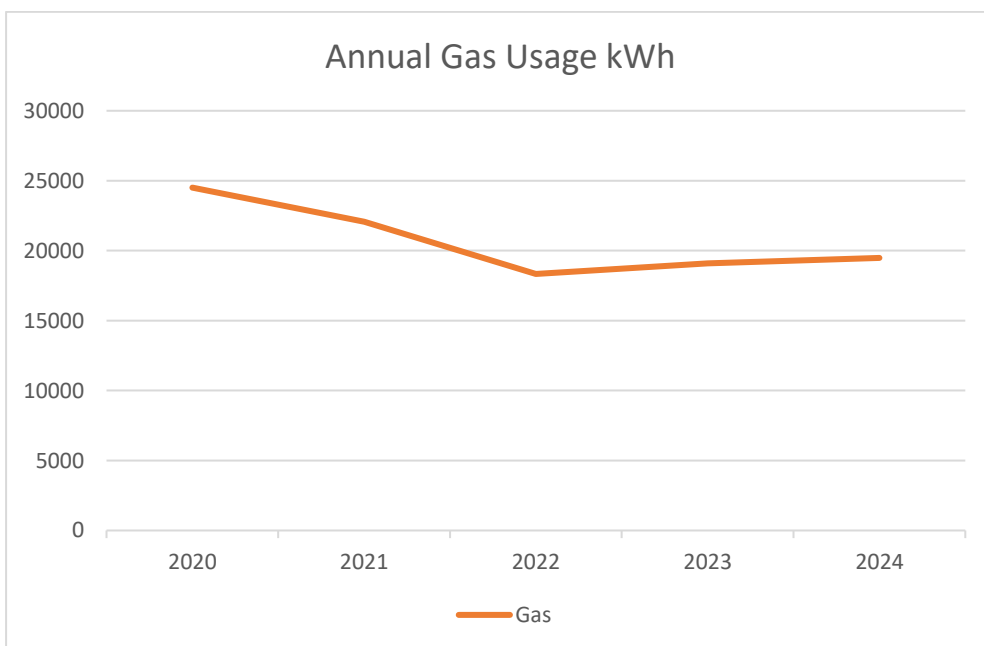
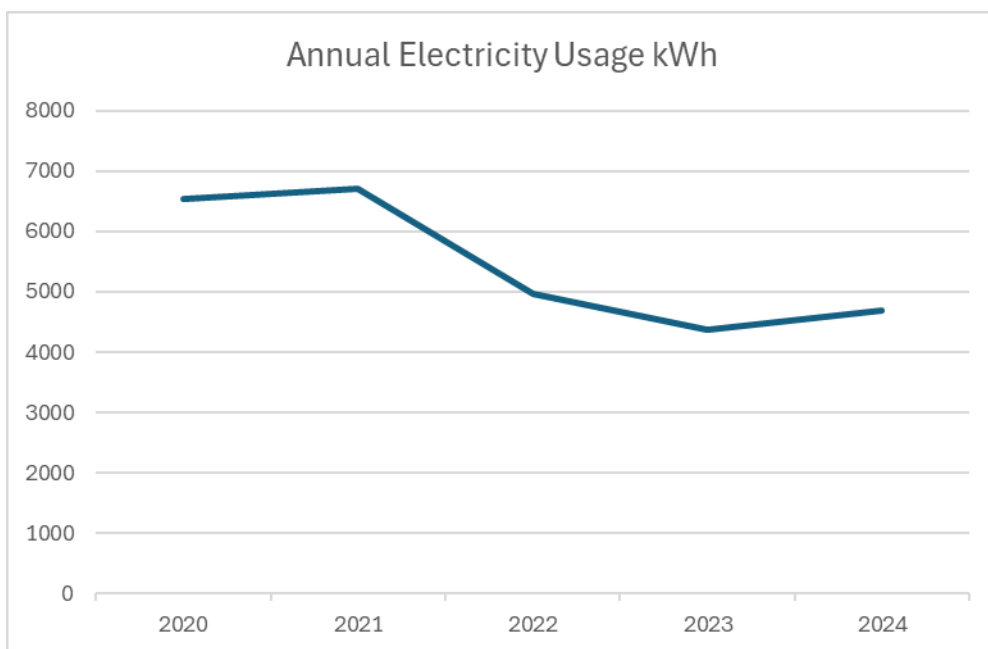
# Monitor Home Energy Use

It isn't always easy to work out whether the changes you make are affecting your energy use – particularly when the overall costs charged by your energy supplier are changing so often.

The Westbury Parish Church Environment Group took up this challenge and asked 6 interested households to examine their energy use over an extended period of time. Their top hints:

1. Get an annual reading of your gas and electricity usage – as close to 1<sup>st</sup> January as possible
2. Think about the changes you have made to reduce your energy use
  - Changes to heating system?
  - New appliances, lightbulbs?
  - Adding insulation, blocking draughts?
3. Think about other factors that affected your energy use
  - Changes in family numbers
  - Working from home
  - Illness
  - Changes in behaviour
4. Share your results
  - a. What works, what doesn't?
  - b. Understand how the weather might have affected results
  - c. If you convert the data to kilowatt hours (kWh) you can directly compare results.

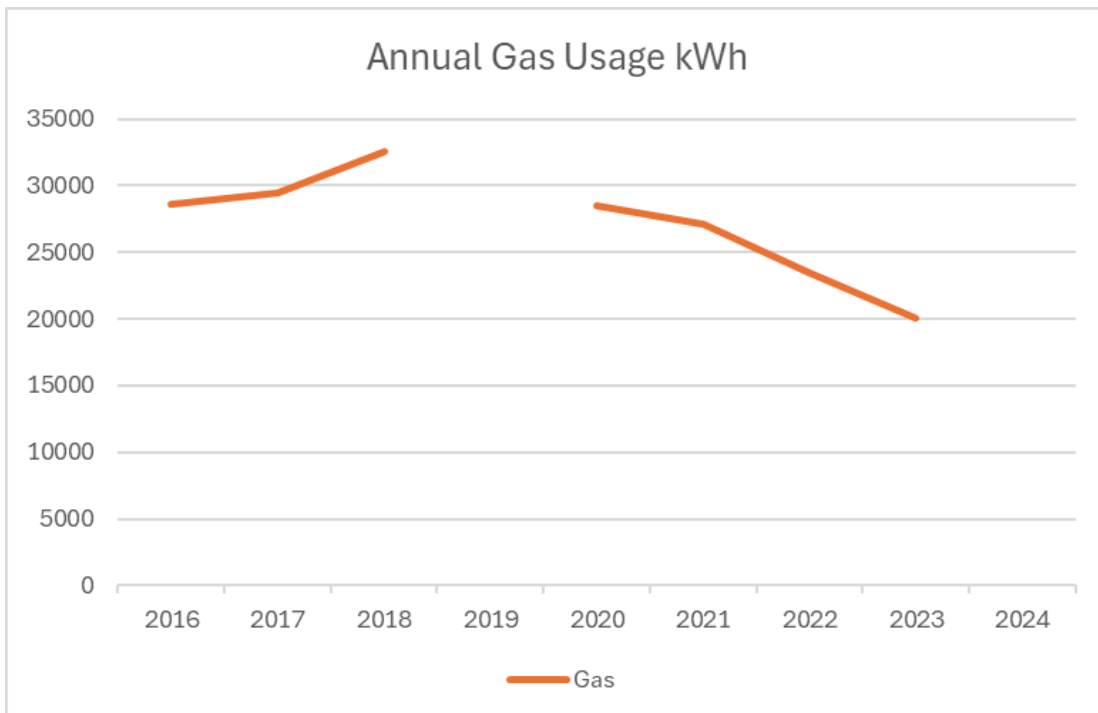
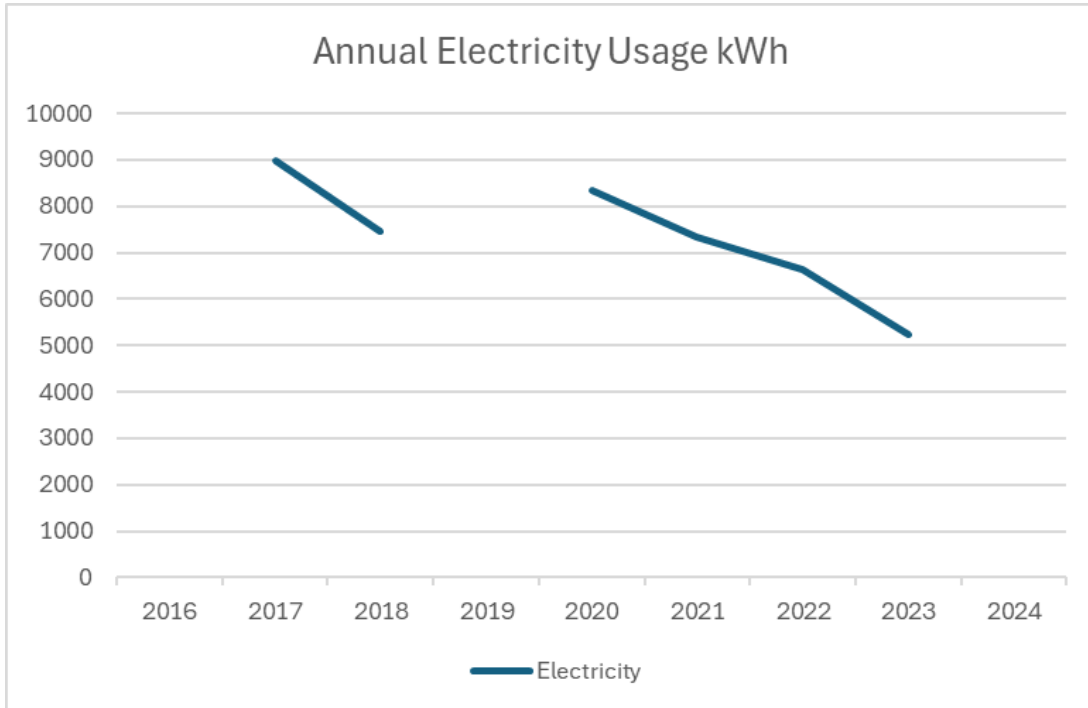
The charts here show some of the findings from individuals in the group and some SusWoT members



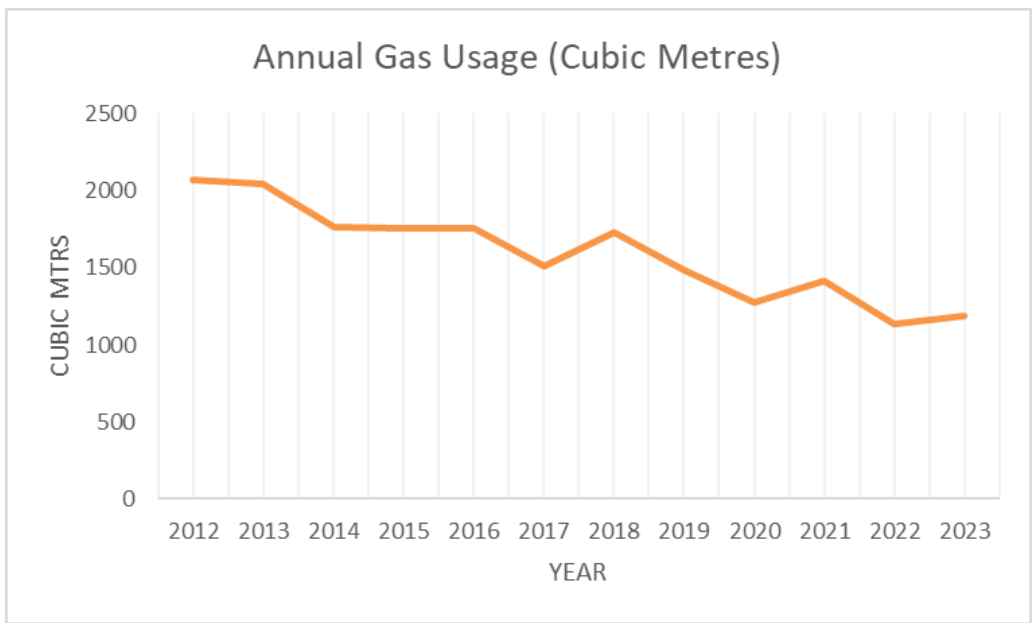
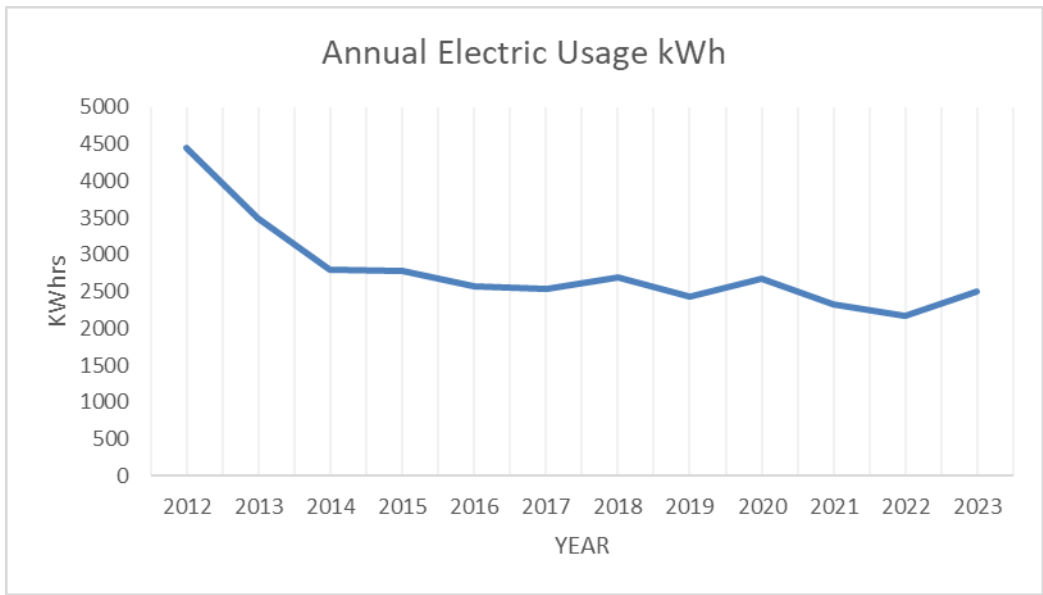
2021 Tried to reduce electricity use: LED lightbulbs, shorter showers, turning off appliances on standby...

2021 –Applied draught excluder tape around front door

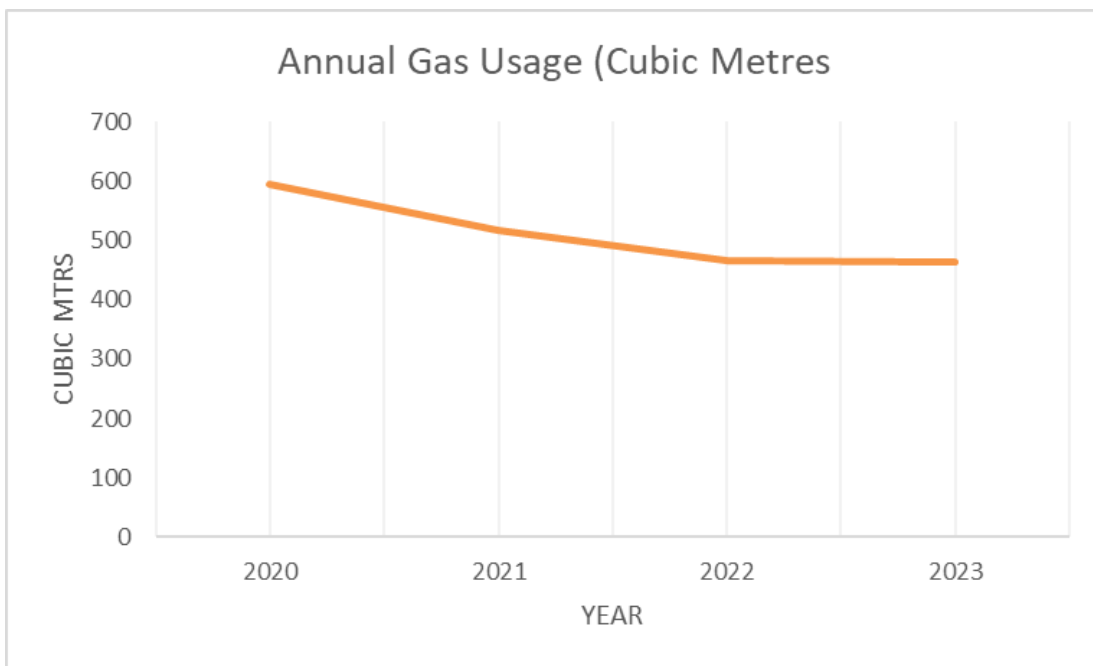
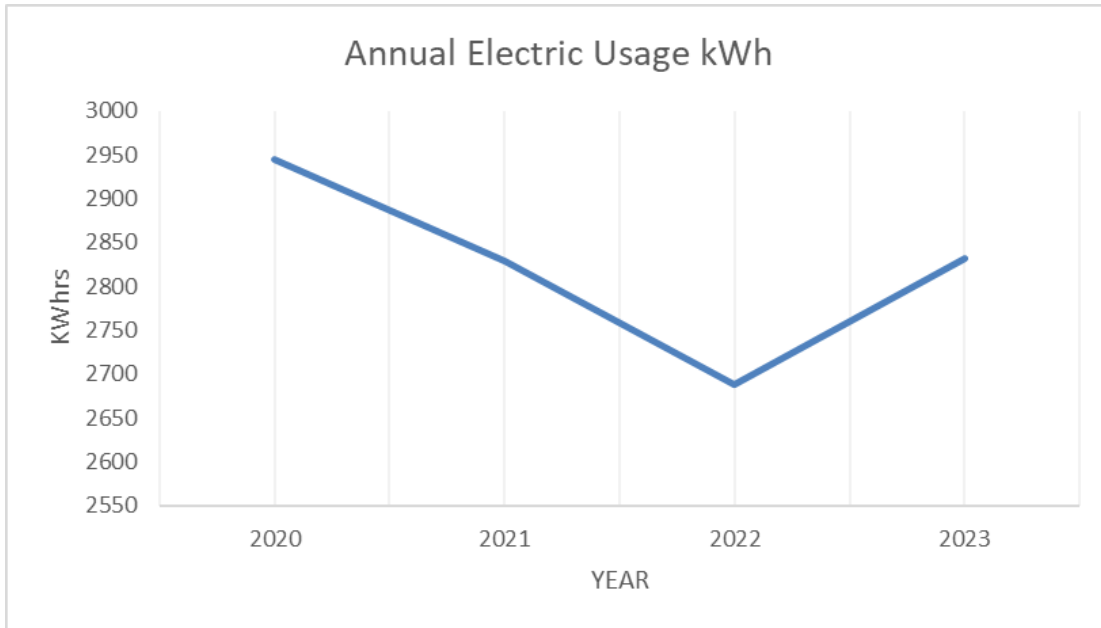
2023- stopped working from home so much, new fridge, thicker curtains



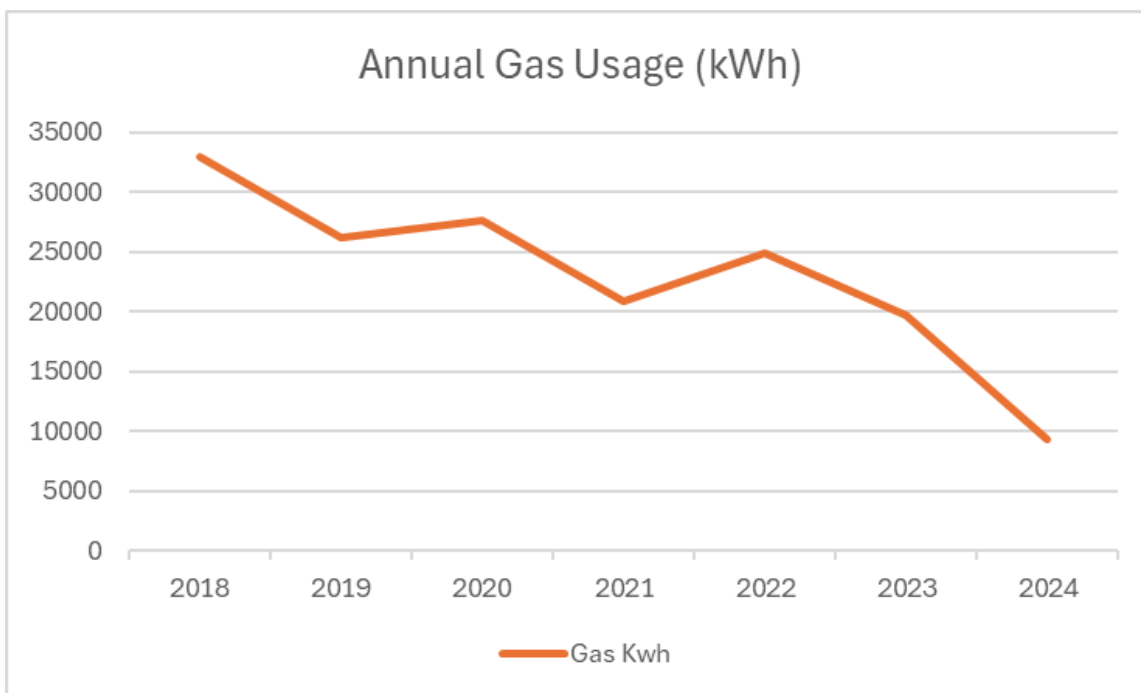
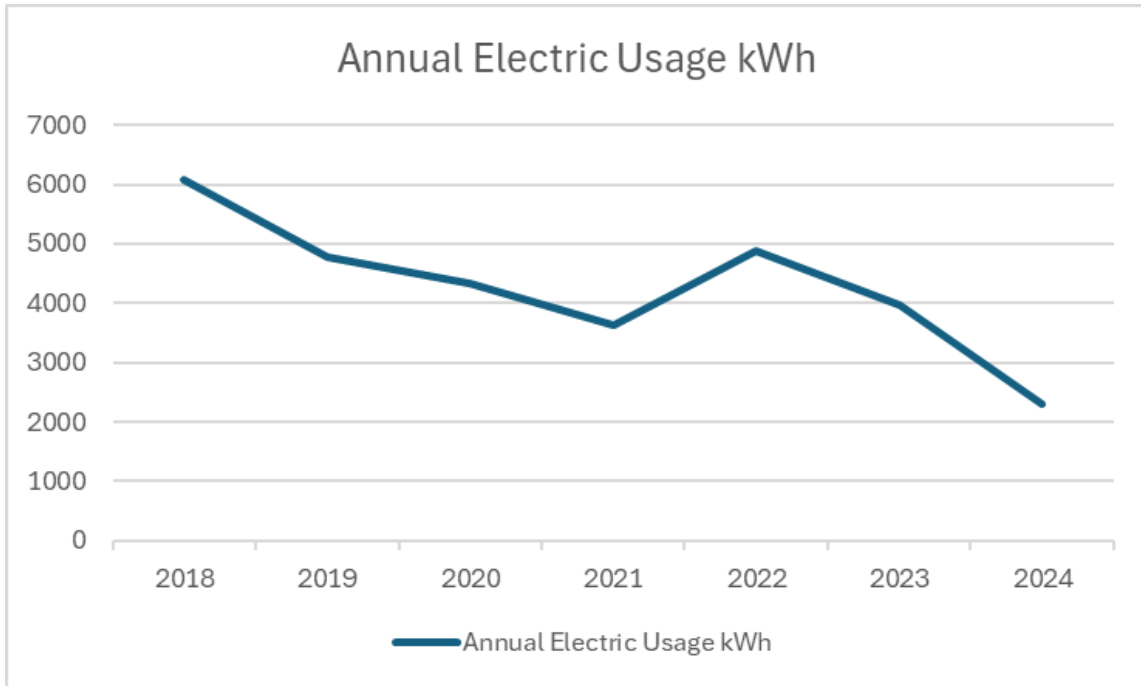
- April 2019 new boiler
- Sept 2020 daughter moved out
- Oct 2022 – set thermostat to 17
- July 2023 – New double-glazed back windows



Gas Trend downward after adding more insulation generally each year  
 Electric generally down after 2012 since solar panels fitted  
 2023 slightly higher on electric: 5 occupants in latter quarter instead of 3-4



No specific change in circumstances  
Gas only powers central heating and hob



Before the house was extended in 2014 and greater insulation put in place, the total energy bill was about £2,250 per year.

After the extension was build and a new boiler installed, the annual energy bill fell to £1,600 per year