In Summer 2019, Sleaford Tennis Club received a grant from the British Airways Carbon Fund for the installation of a 5kW Air Source Heat Pump. Previously the Club relied on a gas boiler that used LPG bottles, which were costly and very restrictive. The Club is extensively used by the local community: around 6,500 people use its facilities every year. A cheaper, more reliable heating system has meant that the Club can stay open for longer, available to more groups and clubs and is of greater value as a community space.
Project Details

Sleaford Tennis Club is located in the rural market town of Sleaford, Lincolnshire. It is an extremely well used sports facility as well as being an important community space for other activities and clubs such as yoga and the Round Table. It is a focal point for community events such as fireworks night and the local carnival.

The Club wanted to replace its gas boiler with a low carbon Air Source Heat Pump. The boiler relied upon bottled LPG, which was costly and unreliable. There was little or no warning when the LPG bottles were likely to run out and often the club was without heating for several days. In colder months, this meant that some activities at the club had to be cancelled.

A grant from the British Airways Carbon Fund allowed the installation of a 5kW ASHP, which has made a huge difference to the comfort and usability of the building, as well as offering considerable savings. The savings have allowed the Club to extend its free tennis tuition to schools.

**Project type:**
British Airways Carbon Fund grant

**Grant Value:**
£9,624

**Social Impact:**
In addition to the cost savings made by no longer having to rely on expensive LPG bottles, the Club also benefits from the RHI which helps keep its facilities affordable and accessible for a wide range of groups and users.

“As a not for profit organisation, the capital funding offered by the British Airways Carbon Fund was essential for the installation of our renewable heating system. Without their assistance, the dream for our club and its users to benefit from clean and reliable heating would have been 8-10 years away. Without their help the club would have faced many years of relying on ineffective, unreliable and extremely expensive heating.” Andy Thompson, Chair, Sleaford Tennis Club