

Case Study - FlexiDry fast drying floor screeds installed at the new environmentally friendly Burnham Park Centre

A new community centre in Burnham, south Bucks is setting the standards for environmentally friendly heating in the region.

The new facility for both business and community use includes a Civic Hall, two meeting rooms and a large hall including a licensed bar and a café area. And the whole building will be warmed using a ground source heating system bored 100 metres into the earth beneath the centre's front gardens.



Test holes were drilled on the site as soon as the old building was demolished, to ensure the heating system was practical. It was, and the system should pay for itself in eight years, after which it will continue to provide green warmth for years to come.

The ground source feeds the underfloor heating system, which was installed using a covering of FlexiDry fast drying floor screed in the F3-21 day dry time formulation, laid progressively as rooms in the building became available. The screed provides a thermal mass for the heat to dissipate into, giving a consistent temperature across an area with a gradual rise and fall over time.

Traditionally, screed is laid as a wet mix or semi dry, on top of the underfloor heating pipes which have already been fixed and pressure tested for leaks. It must be allowed time to dry, and cannot be force dried as this may cause cracks.

FlexiDry solves the problems, with a choice of drying time of 7, 14 or 21 days, after which final floor finishes can be laid; and by creating a denser screed, there is greater protection against cracking.

The ground source heating system installed at the Burnham Park Centre uses a mixture of water and antifreeze circulating through the underground loop to absorb heat, which is then used to provide environmentally friendly heating and cooling systems.