Summary of the Report on CoP Meeting – Semester 4

PP5 Municipality of Middelburg

The 4th Semester of Community of Practice (CoP) Meetings of the Municipality of Middelburg took place in 2018 on the following dates.

- 3rd July
- 11th September
- 6th November
- 19th December

During this series of meetings many topics were discussed, and progress was tracked, new directions made, and opportunities created, which aim directly at building owners.

There was a plan to document and visualise the value of listed buildings before and after implementing energy-saving measures. However, this plan cannot be realised scientifically due to several complex inter-related topics. The hypothesis brought up by CoP members was that the investment repays on two levels, namely by a lower energy bill and by a higher value of the building. The sales price of a building depends on many factors; therefore, it is very difficult to show that a higher sales price is due to energy-saving measures being taken.

To face this challenge the monument passport was developed, and it shows a building characteristic including the ongoing energy costs. An interest of other regions from the Netherlands towards the monument passport, has been noticed. The passport is currently being offered with a discount, but the question raised, is whether people want to pay the real price for it.

Several listed buildings in the Netherlands will be subjected to a blower-door test to see how their air tightness performance is. A project is being set up in the municipality where owners of listed buildings can buy solar panels on a building outside the historic city.

After introducing a new method to make historic buildings energy-efficient, in which moisture problems are prevented and the package on the inside of the wall is only a few centimetres thick, the COP members decided to organise an excursion to a site which uses this technique.

A strategy was developed from the CoP meeting for the upcoming months, which includes the next steps, like the blower-door test, the excursion and the setup of a new project.