

First stage of village hall revamp now complete

VOLUNTEERS behind a £130,000 project to revitalise a village hall are celebrating the completion of the first stage of the scheme.

Residents in Topcliffe and Asenby said the 1960s building served a crucial role, particularly for elderly and vulnerable residents in the area, and needed an array of improvements.

Judith Lowe, the hall's secretary, said the community hub was one of the busiest in the area, with uses ranging from a venue for a bocchia club for the elderly to a swap library.

Initial work has seen a £16,000 kitchen revamp.

The work has been funded through grants from The Big Lottery - Awards for All Fund, Hambleton District Council and the Stokesley-based Jack Brunton Charitable Trust.

Later this year, work will start on a substantial extension to the hall, which will feature toilet facilities, extra space for community activities and storage areas.

The work, costing nearly £100,000, will also see improvements to the entrance lobby, enhancements to the building's exterior and significant changes to enable disabled people to access the building more easily.



Topcliffe and Asenby Village Hall secretary Judith Lowe and fundraising organiser Doug Allan in the revamped kitchen

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