

# Work set to start on village hall revamp

NORTHERN ECHO  
18 JANUARY 2016

By Emily Flanagan  
Staff Reporter

emily.flanagan@nne.co.uk

WORK on a village hall's major refurbishment is due to get under way after a successful campaign to raise £110,000.

Renovations to Topcliffe and Asenby Village Hall, near Thirsk, are expected to start early next month after the money was raised from a wide range of regional and national charities and other organisations.

The 55-year-old building will be extended to accommodate new toilets, extra space for community activities, new storage areas and to improve disabled access.



WORK: Peter and Judith Lowe, Linda Nuttall, Dave Bowman

The work will also involve an improved entrance lobby.

Facilities inside will also be improved and the hall redecorated. The lighting and dancefloor will be updated and a new audio visual system installed.

Last August, work was completed on a £16,000 kitchen refurbishment which allows

the hall to host such activities as weddings, parties and dances, as well as providing facilities for regular users.

That work was paid for with grants from The Big Lottery: Awards for All Fund, Hambleton Council and The Jack Brunton Charitable Trust in Stokesley.

Andrew Eckersley, chair-

man of the Topcliffe & Asenby Village Hall committee, said the new kitchen was already proving invaluable.

"It has taken a lot of very hard work to raise the amount of money needed to undertake this essential improvement work," he said.

"I am extremely grateful to the committee members who have raised the cash we require and to the Northallerton and District Voluntary Services Association that has provided crucial guidance and support.

"But most of all I thank the organisations that have provided grants to enable us to undertake this project."

Mr Eckersley said the project also received a huge boost from local residents.