

ATHELSTANEFORD VILLAGE HALL

APPLICANT

Athelstaneford Parish Hall

www.athelstaneford.wordpress.com/village-hall

TOTAL PROJECT COST

£174,413

£57,863
(33.2%)

£116,550

Tyne Esk LEADER Match Funding

PROJECT AIMS

- Refurbish a much-used village hall and bring it up to 21st century standards.
- Create a more appealing space for community and private events.
- Create a more flexible space for business use.
- Provide the hall with a more sustainable revenue stream.



PROJECT DETAIL

Athelstaneford Village Hall is the only covered community space in this small village in East Lothian. As such it serves an essential purpose for the community, enabling them to meet and hold events. Built in 1929 and last refurbished in the 1990's, the hall was starting to feel dated, the space inflexible, storage had become an issue and there were complaints about the heating. The project aimed to address this and provide Athelstaneford with a hall which would take pride of place and permit more hire out, providing a sustainable income stream.



RESULTS

The project has met its aims and transformed Athelstaneford Village Hall. New paving and opening out of the entrance make it more welcoming. The meeting room has been refurbished and independent access to the toilets provided meaning it can be rented out separately. The storage facilities have been consolidated, the heating replaced and extended to toilets and kitchen, and its effects enhanced through a new ceiling and insulation. The audio-visual equipment planned will be added at a later date, enabling the hall to be used as a community cinema/for presentations, for both business and community.



The completed hall was open from October 2019 – March 2020 when Covid struck, but in this interim hosted a good number of events with revenues significantly improved. These included yoga, art classes, councillors' surgeries, use as a polling station, private gatherings and a Christmas fair. During Covid the hall has been utilised by the school for gym sessions. The aim of providing an updated and more attractive space for the community to engage has been met and is demonstrated by the numbers. What is certain is that Athelstaneford is well served for when 'normality' ensues, post- Covid restrictions.

