

## EnviroHomes Case Study – Village Hall Extension

The village hall at Gilcrux, just outside Cockermouth, was originally built in 1864 as the village school. However approximately 30 years ago, the school closed and the building changed its use, serving the community as its village hall. Little had been carried out to the main fabric of the building since its closure as a school. This meant that the hall was very damp and cold. To add insult to injury the small 1970's rear toilet extension, in the winter months, froze up on a regular basis.



Gilcrux Village Hall Committee was successful in securing funding from the Big Lottery, to allow the building to under take a total refurbishment. Instrumental in achieving the final outcome, EnviroHomes Ltd was selected to work with the principle contractor to manufacture, off-site, the new 95m<sup>2</sup> extension. The company was very proud to be awarded the contract as Gilcrux is only 4 miles from its manufacturing base – just outside Cockermouth.

EnviroHomes took a fabric first approach to the design and settled on U-values for both walls and roof of 0.12 W/m<sup>2</sup>K. The extension was manufactured off site, in the company's factory and transported to site in 5 modules. This meant that the completed extension was delivered, installed and made water tight in less than half a day. Internally the extension features

1. Male / female / disabled toilets
2. Meeting room
3. Full commercial kitchen and store
4. Under floor heating to all areas
5. Fully wired and plumbed in the factory before shipping to site.



*Nikki Clark, chair of the Gilcrux Village Hall and Educational Trust, commented: "The updated village hall is a warm and pleasant community building which offers great facilities and is environmentally and economically sustainable."*

The basis of the extension is a structural steel frame. The highly insulated walls, roof and floors are fitted in the factory, along with the plumbing, lighting, power circuits etc. Because virtually all the work is completed in the factory, work can carry on regardless of the weather. It also means that a very high level of quality can be consistently achieved.

### **Building Performance**

Originally, before the work started the building was assessed at an 'F' rating. The transformation has meant that the building is now 'A' rated and is fully equipped for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

For further information contact:-

Karen Mitchell      01228 575080  
[karen.mitchell@envirohomes.co.uk](mailto:karen.mitchell@envirohomes.co.uk)

[www.envirohomes.co.uk](http://www.envirohomes.co.uk)  
[www.vacuum-panels.co.uk](http://www.vacuum-panels.co.uk)  
[www.loft-pod.co.uk](http://www.loft-pod.co.uk)

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***“The project has been a huge challenge for us and we are exceptionally pleased with the finished article.”*** Said Nikki Clark for  
*Gilcrux Village Hall.*

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