



## Roof makeover boost for historic Tibenham church

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An historic Grade I listed church will soon be reopening to parishioners, complete with a repaired roof which had been in danger of collapsing.

All Saints' Church at Tibenham, which dates back to the 13th century, should be open again by early February after it was closed to allow for repairs to the roof, which has dropped a foot due to centuries of wear and tear.

The repair work started in mid-September and involves the replacement of one of the supporting trusses and the raising of the sagging section to bring it close to level with the rest of the roof.

Contractor Fisher Bullen has also replaced lead slates on the roof and carried out repairs to guttering and the church's drainage system, as well as the roof eaves.

The Cromer and Fakenham-based contractor made the new oak roof truss, which spans the nave, in its workshop as a copy of the original 15th century truss.

Jennie Hawks, fabric officer for All Saints' Church council, said the work was set to cost £150,000 and had been funded through a grant from English Heritage as part of general funding given to churches across the county.

She added: "There are always problems when you have to close the church for worship for a long period of time because you have got to get your worshippers back, but on the other hand it is a very significant building in the village and a lot of the locals are very pleased with how it is progressing."

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