



Worth Parish Council

Community-Environment-Youth-Security-Village Centres

Worth Parish Council Quarterly Update January – March 2024

Key Decisions Made

Council agreed the removal of play equipment from Copthorne Recreation ground due to it being beyond economic repair. Date of removal to be confirmed.

Considering conversion of Speed Indicator Device (SID) from battery to solar power due to batteries reaching end of life, or alternatively purchasing a new camera.

Appointed a specialist playground contractor to assist with the Crawley Down Playground Rejuvenation. Works to be funded via s106 monies.

Agreed purchase of a music licence for the Youth Bus to enable it to have wider appeal to young people when out and about.

Agreed the purchase of iPal to assist with Youth Initiatives. This will streamline the booking system.

We have submitted response to the Mid Sussex District Council District Plan Regulation 19 consultation.

Agreed siting of children's funfair on Crawley Down Green in April.

Grant of £750 awarded to Crawley Down Scouts to assist in the setting up of Squirrels.

Grant of £450 awarded to Copthorne Christmas Float for the purchase of a replacement generator.

Key Activities

Our Grounds Maintenance Team is now back to full capacity and are developing an Estate Management Plan to help beautify and improve the villages of Copthorne and Crawley Down.

Youth Clubs continue to run each week in both villages, and we are continuing to offer additional youth workshops and activities during the school holidays.

Copthorne Community Clean Up group has seen a good uptake and we have had many volunteers come along to the village litter picks. We also run litter picks in Crawley Down.

Allotment tenants are busy preparing their plots for the warmer months. There are still plots available to rent.

Full Council continues to meet regularly to discuss issues important to both villages. The Planning & Highways Committee meets once a month to discuss and comment on local planning applications.

Update on Projects

Copthorne Recreation Ground Rejuvenation

We successfully secured £164,300 of Section 106 monies from Mid Sussex District Council for the development of the MUGA (multi-use games area) on Copthorne Rec. We had previously applied for planning permission to carry out work at the Copthorne Recreation Ground to introduce the new MUGA and to rejuvenate the playground. However, we are currently awaiting a further arboriculture survey before planning permission can be granted.

Next steps: If agreed, we intend to sign an agreement with the Preferred Suppliers. Works to introduce the new MUGA as Phase 1 of the project will then be scheduled to start.

Bowers Place Parking Scheme

Following much discussion with West Sussex County Council, we have now received confirmation that we can proceed with our plans to introduce new parking spaces at Bowers Place, with some amendments. We have arranged for further drawings to be completed to support a revised planning application.

Next Steps: Once completed we will submit the revised planning application and a Section 278 Agreement (the legal agreement required with West Sussex County Council to make changes to the public highway). You will have a further chance to have your say as part of the planning process.

Crawley Down Playground Rejuvenation

We had a fantastic response to our Playground Competition with 82 entries received in total! Our three winners received their prizes from Councillor Kerry Scott on Monday 11 March.

Next Steps: We have appointed a Playground Consultant, whose initial job will be to support us in the tendering exercise for the playground design and equipment. We have shared information from the competition entries with the consultants, who will then use it to help inform their design. We'll share more on this as work progresses, including how you can have your say.

CCTV

It is intended to install four CCTV cameras in the Parish. In Copthorne they will be located by the Recreation Ground and the Village Green; and in Crawley Down, by the Play Area and on the corner of Burleigh Way. We are currently dealing with wayleaves and connectivity issues, which we hope will be resolved shortly.

Next Steps: To agree dates for installation and to sign an agreement with Sussex Police for the cameras to be monitored.

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The Council Offices are open to the public 9:30 am to 12 noon Monday – Friday
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