



Worth Parish Council Newsletter

CRAWLEY DOWN VILLAGE Autumn 2025

WORTH PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

It's been a wonderful summer in the parish, with a number of highly successful events taking place. And as a very welcome bonus, the weather was pretty kind on the whole. Now we look forward to a new season for all of us in Crawley Down and Copthorne. We'd like to say congratulations to everyone involved with the Gig on the Green in July (where the rain did sadly make an appearance) and the Crawley Down Village Fayre in September. Both of these occasions, along with several other smaller events in the parish, were highly enjoyable and extremely well supported.

On a more sombre note, anti-social behaviour can be extremely upsetting for all of us, so it's important to know how to report it. Sussex Police operates a user-friendly web page (details below) that makes reporting as easy as can be, and we encourage all our local residents to use it as and when necessary. By building up an accurate picture of potential hotspots, the authorities can then respond in an appropriate manner.

Tony Dorey, Chairman, Worth Parish Council

SAFER STREETS

An important message from Sussex Alerts: Help us to tackle anti social behaviour. We are actively patrolling hotspot areas, but we need your eyes and ears. If you witness anti-social behaviour you can report it here: <https://www.sussex.police.uk/ro/report/asb/asb-v3/report-antisocial-behaviour/>

Reports help us to target areas and discourage behaviour that makes communities feel unsafe. By reporting issues as and when they occur, you'll be helping the Police to build a greater understanding of potential hot spots, and this can then assist with allocating resources in the future. Remember: posting details of an incident on Facebook or other social media platform is not the same as reporting via the correct channels.

FACEBOOK

Did you know that Worth Parish Council has a very active Facebook page? It offers information about a wide range of subjects, including roadworks, events, Council meetings, police matters, litter picks, allotments and much, much more. We have well over 700 followers in Crawley Down and Copthorne already, so why not come and join us?

You can find our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/worthparishcouncil>

COUNCIL DROP-IN SESSIONS

Would you like to come and meet your local Council Officers? Worth Parish Council hosted two drop-in sessions recently, one at Oliver's in Copthorne and the other outside the shops in Crawley Down. We were joined by Lizzy, our local PCSO and a representative of Age UK. We'll keep you posted about future sessions via social media.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW

The Local Government Review which will see Mid Sussex District Council and West Sussex County Council merged into one new unitary authority is currently underway. As part of this process, Worth Parish Council is actively engaging with the review to understand what any proposed changes could mean for the community. The Council is currently gathering information, considering the potential impacts and working to ensure the voices of local residents are represented. Once clearer details are available, Worth Parish Council will share updates with the community to keep everyone informed and involved in the process.

ROYAL OAK

Members of the Crawley Down Working Party have met with the landowner of the Royal Oak three times in this past year to discuss the building and find out what plans there are to improve it. The building is in a poor state of repair and in a prominent position on Station Road, so local councillors are keen to ensure the building is made safe and brought back into use. The landowner intends to bring forward a planning application for the site which is likely to include flats on the first floor with a community space on the ground floor, and a retail unit at the rear of the site. The landowner was encouraged to do early community engagement on any plans so that local residents can have their say. The full notes of this meeting were published with the agenda for the Planning & Highways Committee meeting on 1st September.

PLANNING

The Planning & Highways Committee has had a few large planning applications to consider for Crawley Down recently. We'd always recommend that if you feel strongly about a planning application, that you ensure that you submit your views to Mid Sussex District Council, attend our meetings and contact your local councillors to make your views known. Whilst Worth Parish Council is not the authority responsible for making decisions on planning, we are able to represent the views and concerns of the community to Mid Sussex District Council, who are the local Planning Authority. Land north of Burleigh Lane is of significant local interest, so residents may be interested to know that the Committee has met with the developer and the officer at MSDC to highlight the concerns of the community. As always, the earlier we are informed of concerns and issues, the more chance we have of exerting influence.

SPEEDING IN THE VILLAGE

Speedwatch are still in desperate need of volunteers and are appealing for more to come forward. Being a volunteer can involve as little as one hour every two or three weeks, although if you'd like to do more that would of course be welcomed. For more information, please go to communityspeedwatch.co.uk and click on Register/Join an Existing Group. Alternatively, you can email Steve O'Connell of Sussex Police at stephen.oconnell@sussex.police.uk

They now have 2,500 volunteers across Sussex, with 190 Parish Councils and 15 Wardens carrying out Community Speedwatch initiatives. They issue 5,000 letters per month to drivers for speeding; from this they only have a repeat offender rate of less than 5% out of the 60,000 or so letters sent over the year, which means drivers really do take notice.

If you witness speeding in and around the village, you can report it via Operation Crackdown at operationcrackdown.org

BOWERS PLACE CAR PARKING

As part of our plans to improve the village, we are intending to create 18 new parking spaces on Bowers Place, east of the Village Green. This is a project that has been ongoing for several years, so you have most likely seen details before. Following ongoing discussions with West Sussex County Council about the technical details of our proposal, we have made some necessary changes and are now reapplying for planning permission. These spaces will be available for all public parking and will

not be subject to parking restrictions. The parking spaces will be created by converting the existing verge and path into parking spaces, enabling vehicles to park off the highway and providing a clear carriageway through to the Health Centre. We will update the community once the planning application is live, so that you can have your say on the plans.

DEFIBRILATOR

The defibrillator at Crawley Down shops fell into disrepair several months ago. We have been trying to find a compatible battery to fix it, but that has not been possible. We now know that the machine cannot be fixed and so we have applied for funding for a new machine, and we should hear back about the funding in the next month or two. If funding is refused, the Council has already agreed that a new machine can be purchased and this will be done.

ALLOTMENTS

Worth Parish Council still has a handful of available allotments in Crawley Down, just off Station Road. If you're interested in renting one, please contact us on 01342 713 407 or via email at astclerk@worth-pc.gov.uk. Plots in various sizes are available.

We welcome organised visits to the view the allotments, but we politely request that we are notified of such visits in advance.

YOUTH CLUBS

Worth Parish Council's Youth Team is working together to provide excellent Youth Club sessions for children in the Parish. If you'd like to find out more, please contact the office on 01342 713 407 or via email to enquiries@worth-pc.gov.uk

Our Youth Clubs in Crawley Down have been continuing in the summer holidays with Play on the Green sessions. We will be returning to the usual Youth Club activities in September.

We're looking for youth club volunteers from within the community to help at either Copthorne, Crawley Down or both. Individuals will need to have a valid DBS check which the Parish Council will pay for. If you're a friendly, enthusiastic individual and can spare a few hours a week, we'd love to hear from you. Just call 01342 713 407 or email us at enquiries@worth-pc.gov.uk



Our Youth Clubs run:

Monday 3.30-5.30pm at The Haven Centre in Crawley Down

Wednesday 4-6pm at The Pavilion in Copthorne

For Years 5 and up. They are completely FREE!

Please book your children into the club using the IPAL booking system so we can take registers and sign the children in and out. Please ensure your child also has a drink and any snacks provided must be nut-free. <https://worthparishyouth.ipalbookings.com/>

Please note, we have a limit on numbers at each Youth Club due to adult/child ratios. So please check there is space for your child before leaving.



You can keep up to date with everything Youth related by following us on Instagram or Facebook.



CRAWLEY DOWN COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

Have you ever thought about getting more involved in your local community, and taking part in an activity that makes a genuine difference to life in Crawley Down?

Many people already come along and take part in litter-picks, and we would like to hear from anyone who would be interested in becoming one of the co-ordinators of future Community Clean-Ups in the village, which are currently held approximately 4-6 times per year.

Volunteer co-ordinator duties would include collecting and returning equipment (you would need a car for this), providing guidance and support to other litter-pickers and making sure safety and admin requirements are met.

Litter-picking events are great fun. They're held at weekends and are supported by individuals, couples and families. They offer a chance to get out and about in the village and provide a vital service to the local community.

If you're interested in becoming a co-ordinator, or indeed if you'd like to be added to our expanding list of volunteer litter-pickers, please message us at enquiries@worth-pc.gov.uk or call 01342 713 407.

SOUTH ROOM, THE PARISH HUB, COPTHORNE



Our bright and spacious South Room is available to hire for one-off events or for longer term/regular bookings.

The room is suitable for a wide range of uses, including art classes, business meetings, activity sessions, workshops and so much more. It has free Internet access, excellent audio-visual equipment, access to a small kitchen and plenty of chairs and tables.

If you would like to come and take a look at the room to see if it meets your needs, please email us at enquiries@worth-pc.gov.uk

You can also find out more here https://www.worth-pc.gov.uk/The_South_Room_42763.aspx

Worth Parish Council Office

The Council Offices are open to the public 9:30 am to 12 noon Monday – Friday
Worth Parish Council, First Floor, The Parish Hub, Borers Arms Rd, Copthorne, West Sussex, RH10 3ZQ

www.worth-pc.gov.uk

Would you like the Worth Parish Council newsletter delivered straight to your inbox? Sign up here.



FORTHCOMING MEETING DATES

You can view future meetings and agendas for all forthcoming meetings and the minutes of meetings that have already been held on our website at www.worth-pc.gov.uk and click on Council Meetings.

PARISH COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

To assist compliance with data protection, any email contact regarding Council matters should be made via the email addresses listed below:

Crawley Down Ward

Phillip Coote	Phillip.coote@worth-pc.gov.uk	01342 713443
Alex Cruickshank	Alex.cruickshank@worth-pc.gov.uk	01342 714328
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Liz Williams	Liz.williams@worth-pc.gov.uk	07887 575867

Copthorne & Worth Ward

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MID SUSSEX COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

Crawley Down & Turners Hill Ward

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Ian Gibson	Ian.gibson@midsussex.gov.uk	01342 716790

Copthorne & Worth Ward

Chris Phillips	Christopher.phillips@midsussex.gov.uk	01342 712668
Graham Casella	Graham.casella@midsussex.gov.uk	07710 019516

WEST SUSSEX COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

Worth Forest Ward (including Copthorne)

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Imberdown Ward (including Crawley Down)

Ian Gibson	Ian.gibson@westsussex.gov.uk	01342 716790
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WORTH PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

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Assistant Clerk (Projects)	Gill Kearney	projects@worth-pc.gov

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Youth Supervisor
Youth Assistant
Grounds Maintenance Supervisor
Grounds Maintenance Officer

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