



Worth Parish Council

Community-Environment-Youth-Security-Village Centres

Newsletter Crawley Down Village Spring 2026

WORTH PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

After a seemingly long, dark winter, it's pleasing to know that springtime is finally with us. There is so much going on in our two villages at the moment, with major projects coming towards fruition, new County Council elections on the horizon and improvements being undertaken throughout the parish. By the time you read this, our annual Parish Awards will have taken place; at time of writing, I am looking forward to attending this wonderful event, and to thanking those who have helped to make our community so much better.

Tony Dorey, Chairman, Worth Parish Council

PARISH AWARDS

We had a brilliant response to the Parish Award nominations, with over 30 nominations made from the community. We hope everyone had a great time at the awards and we are already looking forward to next year's event. A special thanks to our sponsors – KT Kat Kreations, Branding Box, Olive Branch Hypnotherapy, Duman Turkish Restaurant, Paw Paddock, Awakening the Moon, and Dough and Cakes. Without these generous donations, we would not have been able to host such a brilliant evening. The biggest thanks need to go to the volunteers - our community wouldn't be what it is without all of the amazing volunteers selflessly contributing their time and efforts over many years.

WORTH PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET

Leaflets detailing Worth Parish Council's budget for 2026-27 have been distributed throughout the parish recently, and relevant information is also available on our website and social media platforms. We also published a budget breakdown for further information on where your money is spent. In Cophorne and Crawley Down the average household will pay £97.15 for our running costs, a little over £8.00 per month.

Services we provide include youth clubs, allotments, playgrounds, street lights, village greens, waste collection from public areas, community grants, grounds maintenance, support to local events... and much more!

OPERATION WATERSHED

We are delighted to announce we have received funding of £75,000 to improve drainage on King George V Field (this is the field with the tennis courts). This was made possible with continued efforts and persistence from local residents. We hope this work will resolve the longstanding drainage problem and provide some relief to residents.

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. Recently, we were delighted to announce that we have more than 900 followers in Copthorne, Crawley Down and beyond already, so why not come and join us?

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

PLANNING

Despite robust objections from Worth Parish Council and a number of local residents, Mid Sussex District Council recently approved a scheme to construct 48 new homes at Woodland Close in Crawley Down. We'd like to thank all the members of the public who wrote letters and who came to our meetings to make their feelings known. WPC's Planning Committee meet every month, and these meetings are open to the public. If you feel strongly about planning matters, or are just curious about the processes involved, why not come along to the next one? Details of upcoming meetings can be found on our website.

With regard to planning enforcement, we are aware of some significant breaches in planning regulations elsewhere in the parish in recent times. As always, we continue to report these to MSDC, and we would like to thank them for taking the appropriate action as and when necessary. If you suspect a breach, be sure to contact MSDC at the earliest opportunity.

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

This project has taken many years to come to fruition, and at the time of writing this newsletter, we are waiting for some final agreements to be approved before we can instruct contractors. It is exciting that after so much work, the parking spaces (at the time of writing) appear soon to be built.

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.

CRAWLEY DOWN PLAY AREA

Planning will begin later this year to improve the play area. This may not be evident, as work will be taking place behind the scenes initially. We hope to make major improvements to the area, beginning with replacing the fencing and eventually extending the play area and upgrading the surfacing and some equipment. We are aware that there have been ongoing issues with the roundabout and we are working with the supplier on a long-term solution.

CLARION

The Crawley Down Working Party recently met with representatives from Clarion Housing to discuss ongoing concerns about several of their properties in the village. Clarion shared the progress they've made over the past year and expressed confidence that their engagement with residents has improved, with many issues now moving toward positive resolution. If you are a Clarion resident, please continue to report any problems directly to them as soon as they occur. We will continue our engagement with Clarion as matters progress.

YOUTH CLUBS

Our Youth Club team has been working together to offer a great range of activities at the Youth Club in Crawley Down on Mondays and Copthorne Youth Club on Wednesdays. The team – Gemma, Lauren and Victoria – have a number of exciting plans in the pipeline, so be sure to watch out for updates on Facebook and Instagram.

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 4 and up. They are completely FREE!

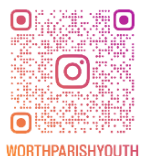
Please book your children into the club using the IPAL booking system so we can take registers and sign the children in and out. Please ensure your child also has a drink and any snacks provided must be nut-free. <https://worthparishyouth.ipalbookings.com/>

It's important to note we have a limit on numbers at each Youth Club due to adult/child ratios. So be sure to check there is space for your child before leaving.

Worth Parish Council is currently looking to recruit a Youth Worker. This is a part-time role (6 hours per week) and is suitable for age 18 and over. Working hours are on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Please contact Hannah on 01342 713 407 or at astclerk@worth-pc.gov.uk



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 dates, venues and agendas for all forthcoming meetings and the minutes of meetings that have 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

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Copthorne & Worth Ward

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Copthorne & Worth Ward

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Imberdown Ward (including Crawley Down)

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WORTH PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

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Grounds Maintenance Officer	Colin Botterill	

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