Worth Parish Council

Community-Environment-Youth-Security-Village Centres

Newsletter
Crawley Down Village
Summer 2026

WORTH PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

2026 is already proving to be a busy – and positive – year for Worth Parish Council. The Annual Parish Awards were held in March and were a big success. I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate everyone who was nominated, and to say a big thank you to them all on behalf of our community for all their hard work.

In the coming weeks and months, the Copthorne Recreation Ground Project and the Bowers Place Parking Solution will be coming to fruition, and we look forward to more projects making progress during the summer. I'm also pleased that our successful Youth Clubs in both Crawley Down and Copthorne will be expanding to cover more age ranges. More details are included in this newsletter.

It won't be long before the Copthorne Carnival and Crawley Down's Gig on the Green will be taking place. As always, I'd like to give a special mention to all those organisers who help to make these wonderful village events such a success. Thank you for all you do.

Tony Dorey, Chairman, Worth Parish Council

YOUTH CLUBS – NEW TEEN HANG OUT SESSIONS

Our Youth Team has recently introduced new Teen Hang Out Sessions in both Copthorne and Crawley Down, and they have proved to be a big success. Activities include pool, darts, air hockey, table tennis, gaming, table football and arts & crafts. There's also a chill-out zone for relaxation. Sessions are for 11-15 year olds on Tuesdays in Copthorne and Thursdays in Crawley Down during term times.

PARISH AWARDS 2026

The Parish Awards evening in late March was a wonderful occasion, and a chance to say thank you to a wide range of worthy individuals and organisations. The winners were Paul Eaton (Copthorne) and Molly & Peter Tavani (Crawley Down), while both Ken Luttman and Kay & Roger Webb were given lifetime awards.

In addition, a special award was given to Councillor Phillip Coote, in recognition of his many years of service to the local community. Councillor Coote was also awarded the Freedom of the Parish.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in April at the Parish Hub in Copthorne. Council Chairman Tony Dorey gave a speech highlighting the various projects that the Council has been involved in of late and celebrating all the wonderful volunteers that make life in Copthorne and Crawley Down so much better.

A highlight of the evening was a CPR demonstration given by Andrew Latham from the Crawley Community First Responder Group.

ROYAL OAK

The former pub continues to be a hot topic in Crawley Down. Worth Parish Council recently applied for a Section 215 Notice from Mid Sussex District Council; this will give MSDC the authority to ask the owner to tidy the building and area, and if this doesn't happen MSDC can arrange such works, with the costs being met by the owner.

CCTV

CCTV cameras have been installed in both Copthorne and Crawley Down, and they have proved useful to police investigations in recent weeks. By the end of April, 14 incidents in Copthorne and 37 in Crawley Down have been monitored by the relevant police department. Worth Parish Council will continue to support the authorities and will report crimes and anti-social behaviour where appropriate.

VOLUNTEERING IN THE COMMUNITY

There are a number of volunteering opportunities in both Copthorne and Crawley Down at the moment. They include the likes of Community Speedwatch, litter picking, village working parties and more. Do you want to get involved? If so, please get in touch with the team at Worth Parish Council. There are also many organisations within the parish that are looking for help and support. Lots of people told us in our Business Plan consultation that they would be willing to volunteer, now is the perfect time to do so.

OPERATION WATERSHED

Work is now under way for drainage improvements at the King George Field in Sandy Lane. This will see the drainage on the field improved by extending the ditch and creating a culvert through to a drain in Sandy Lane. This has been made possible through a significant grant from West Sussex County Council, and the continued work of local residents. We hope this work will resolve the longstanding drainage problem and provide some relief to people who live nearby.

FACEBOOK – A LANDMARK NUMBER OF FOLLOWERS!

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 1.000 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

Here's an update on recent large planning applications in the parish:

DM/25/3020 Land to the West of Courthouse Farm Copthorne - Outline planning application of an extra care retirement community - Amended application received 08.04.2026 Worth Parish Council have previously objected to this application. As of the 30.04.2026 this application is still pending consideration by MSDC.

DM/25/3021 Land West of Courthouse Farm Copthorne - Outline planning application for the erection of residential dwellings. Amended application received on the 25th of March 2026. Worth Parish Council objects to this application. As of the 30.04.2026 this application is still pending consideration by MSDC.

DM/26/0577 Land West of Turners Hill Road and North of Huntsland Crawley Down, amended application received 24/04/2026 for erection of up to 230 dwellings - Worth Parish Council's response:

Defer to the opinion of the Officer. This development is an allocated site within the MSDC District plan. As of the 30.04.2026 this application is still pending consideration by MSDC.

2025/1376 and **DM/26/0303** Land north of Borers Arms Road, east of Copthorne Bank & south of Clay Hall Lane, Copthorne. Outline for up to 260 dwellings. Worth Parish Council objected to this application. As of the 30.04.2026 this application is still pending consideration by MSDC and Tandridge District Council.

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 awaiting completion of the final Highways document before entering a formal agreement with our preferred contractor, Landbuild. After such a long period of planning and effort, it is genuinely exciting that the creation of the new parking spaces now appears to be imminent.

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.

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.

We'd like to welcome our new addition to the team, **Kateryna Artsybasheva**, who has taken on the role of Youth Support Worker recently.

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

WORTHPARISHYOUTH

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?

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, providing a vital service to the local community.

We're delighted to announce that we now have a volunteer litter pick co-ordinator for Crawley Down, who will be organising litter picks in the village from now on. If you'd like to know when these events will be taking place, why not ask to be included on our email mailing list? Please email enquiries@worth-pc.gov.uk or call 01342 713 407 to be added.

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:

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Youth Support Worker	Lauren Smith	
Youth Support Worker	Kateryna Artsybasheva	
Grounds Maintenance Supervisor	Shane Portman	
Grounds Maintenance Officer	Colin Botterill	

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