# Worth Parish Council

*Community-Environment-Youth-Security-Village Centres*

## Newsletter
## Crawley Down Village
## Winter 2026

## WORTH PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

By the time you read this, Worth Parish Council will have completed two major projects, the Bowers Place Parking Solution and Phase One of the Copthorne Recreation Ground Rejuvenation. Achieving completion has been extremely pleasing, in part because, like all such projects, there are always going to be bumps along the road. A great deal of hard work has gone into getting us to this stage, and I would like to say a big thank you, on behalf of the whole community, to everyone involved.

Now, as the days get shorter and the temperatures start to drop, we all look forward to a number of local events that always make the winter months so special. These include the switching on of Christmas lights in Copthorne and Crawley Down, as well as several other feel-good celebrations. We wish everyone involved the best of success with each of them.

Along with the rest of the community, we have heard about the closure of the Copthorne Hotel. We will be contacting the owners of the Hotel to find out their future plans, and hope that this becomes an amenity of the parish again soon.

Of course, November is also a time of remembrance. On Sunday November 8th, people from both villages commemorated those who lost their lives in service to their country. As always, everyone at Worth Parish Council remembers those who made such a huge sacrifice in past conflicts.

Tony Dorey, Chairman, Worth Parish Council

## YOUTH CLUBS – NEW TEEN HANG OUT SESSIONS

Our recently introduced Teen Hang Out Sessions in both Copthorne and Crawley Down have already 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 COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2027

Parish council elections will be held next May, and we are keen to encourage residents to consider standing. Being a Parish Councillor is a rewarding opportunity to have a direct input into local decisions, help shape the future of our area and represent the views of the community. You don't need any special qualifications, just an interest in your community, its people and its services. If you'd like to find out more about what the role involves, please get in touch—we'd be delighted to have an informal, no obligation chat and answer any questions you may have.

## CCTV

Phase 2 of our CCTV Project for Crawley Down has now been scoped for CCTV to be installed on the Crawley Down Village Green. At the time of writing, a report has gone to our Finance & General Purposes Committee with the recommendation that we proceed. If agreed, it is anticipated that works

will be completed this financial year. Most of the money for this is coming from Section 106 funding (contributions paid by developers) and the remainder will come from ear-marked reserves.

## OPERATION WATERSHED

Operation Watershed, a project to alleviate flooding in Crawley Down's King George V field and potential damage to nearby properties, has now been completed. We'd like to thank everyone involved, including affected homeowners and our appointed contractors. The works involved the installation of a continuous watercourse that connects the field's ditch to the drain in Sandy Lane.

The costs of the project were entirely met via a grant from West Sussex County Council, and everything was completed within budget. The successful completion of Operation Watershed can be seen in more detail on the Projects page at the Worth Parish Council website.

The successful completion of the scheme owes a great deal to the proactive, helpful involvement of local residents, who were aware of their riparian responsibilities, which specify that if a watercourse runs along the boundary of a property's land, the owner is usually responsible for it up to the centre line.

Councillor Liz Williams said "the flooding in the field has been a nuisance to residents, young footballers and other users of the recreation facility for years. Solving it has not been easy. It's great that WPC has been able to help facilitate the project and enable the residents' suggestions to become a reality. Special mention goes to WPC Chief Officer Leanne Bannister, who has skilfully collated all the paperwork and grant funding required overcoming paperwork bottle necks at both WSCC and MSDC.

## FACEBOOK – MORE FOLLOWERS HAVE JOINED US

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 1,300 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

## 2026 ALLOTMENT AWARDS

A big thank you to all our allotment holders for another successful year. In October, Councillor Thérèse Wilson was on hand to present trophies to our annual award winners. Pictured is Thérèse with our overall winner Malcolm Lee, while the second image shows our runners-up Marg and Jason Reilly. Congratulations!

We still have some allotments available if you're thinking of renting. Please contact the office on 01342 713 407 or drop us a line at admin@worth-pc.gov.uk





## 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

We are happy to see that construction on the parking spaces is now complete. The temporary traffic lights have been removed, and the spaces are in use. Over the next few weeks the playground fencing will be replaced, and knee rail fencing will be installed alongside the new parking spaces.

Here is what our Lead Councillors, Kerry Scott and Therese Wilson, have to say about the project:

"We are delighted to finally see this project completed. It certainly has been a long time coming but the wait, we hope all agree, has been worthwhile and we appreciate the patience of all the residents during the construction period. The new path and marked bays in Bowers Place look very smart thanks to a great job by the contractor, Landbuild, who delivered the project efficiently and on time. Thanks also to Paul Budgen of PBA Planning and all who have been involved."

The Parish Council thanks John Hitchcock, who spent a considerable amount of time and effort over many years to progress this project for the benefit of the community, and Paul Budgen of PBA Planning who has worked as the project manager to make this project a reality.

The Village Green will see further enhancements soon. Next year, the Council will start work on scoping the improvement and extension of the playground. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates as and when they are available.

## 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

The children in our younger and older sessions all enjoyed some Halloween fun in October. The youth workers also held a spooky Halloween movie night in the October half term. If you would like to find out more about our youth sessions please, contact Gemma at youth@worth-pc.gov.uk

**We're still actively looking for volunteers to help support our sessions. This could be someone looking to get involved with the community or perhaps someone who's keen to augment their teamwork, communication, leadership and organisational skills. Commitment to the community, reliability and the ability to support young people can enhance future employability and strengthen a CV. Please contact enquiries@worth-pc.gov.uk for more information.**





Our youth provision runs on the following days
Monday - Crawley Down at the Haven Centre 3.30-5.30pm School Years 4,5 and 6
Tuesday - Copthorne at the Parish Hub South Room 3.45-5.45pm School Years 7,8 and 9
Wednesday Copthorne at the Pavilion 4-6pm School years 5 and 6.
Thursday - The Glebe Centre Crawley Down 3.45-5.45pm School Years 7,8 and 9

All our sessions are free and run during term time only; during school holidays to find out more please contact Gemma our youth supervisor on youth@worth-pc.gov.uk
To register your child for our younger session please use https://worthparishyouth.ipalbookings.com/
Teen sessions are drop in with no need to register.

Please ensure your child also has a drink and any snacks provided must be nut-free.

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.

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.

Nikki, our wonderful volunteer litter pick co-ordinator for Crawley Down, has organised several litter picks in the village. 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.

You can also follow the group on social media by searching for **Crawley Down Wombles** on Facebook.

## 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** | | |
| Phillip Coote | Phillip.coote@worth-pc.gov.uk | 01342 713443 |
| Alex Cruickshank | Alex.cruickshank@worth-pc.gov.uk | 01342 714328 |
| Ian Gibson | Ian.gibson@worth-pc.gov.uk | 01342 716790 |
| Sue Kipps | Sue.kipps@worth-pc.gov.uk | 01342 718289 |
| Peter Bingle | Peter.bingle@worth-pc.gov.uk | 07881 927462 |
| Clare Pointer | Clare.pointer@worth-pc.gov.uk | 07762 132538 |
| Kerry Scott | Kerry.scott@worth-pc.gov.uk | 01342 712213 |
| Therese Wilson | Therese.wilson@worth-pc.gov.uk | 07970 616728 |
| Liz Williams | Liz.williams@worth-pc.gov.uk | 07887 575867 |
| **Copthorne & Worth Ward** | | |
| Graham Casella | Graham.casella@worth-pc.gov.uk | 07710 019516 |
| Tony Dorey | Tony.dorey@worth-pc.gov.uk | 07802 359123 |
| Andrew Dymond | Andrew.dymond@worth-pc.gov.uk | 07834 486098 |
| Trevor Hodsdon | Trevor.hodsdon@worth-pc.gov.uk | 07771 810220 |
| Bob King | Bob.king@worth-pc.gov.uk | 07851 332918 |
| Eddie Lord | Eddie.lord@worth-pc.gov.uk | 01342 714905 |
| Chris Phillips | Chris.phillips@worth-pc.gov.uk | 01342 712668 |
| Lauraine Stewart | Lauraine.stewart@worth-pc.gov.uk | 07811 223387 |

## MID SUSSEX COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Crawley Down & Turners Hill Ward** | | |
| John Hitchcock | John.hitchcock@midsussex.gov.uk | 01342 716831 |
| 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)** | | |
| Mel Winn | Mel.winn@westsussex.gov.uk | 01342 719866 |
| **Imberdown Ward (including Crawley Down)** | | |
| Gary Dowsett | Gary.dowsett@westsussex.gov.uk | 01342 716790 |

## WORTH PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Chief Officer | Leanne Bannister | clerk@worth-pc.gov.uk |
| Deputy Chief Officer | Hannah Smith | astclerk@worth-pc.gov.uk |
| Assistant Clerk (Projects) | Gill Kearney | projects@worth-pc.gov.uk |
| Communications and IT Administrator | Dave Showell | comms@worth-pc.gov.uk |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Administrator | Fiona McCann | admin@worth-pc.gov.uk |
| Youth Supervisor | Gemma Resce | youth@worth-pc.gov.uk |
| Lead Youth Support Worker | Victoria Cadwallader | |
| Youth Support Worker | Lauren Smith | |
| Youth Support Worker | Kateryna Artsybasheva | |
| Grounds Maintenance Supervisor | Shane Portman | |
| Grounds Maintenance Officer | Colin Botterill | |

## Follow Us, Get In Touch or Visit Us

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|---|---|---|---|
| **Facebook**<br>@worthparishcouncil | **Instagram**<br>@worthparishyouth | **Email**<br>enquiries@worth-pc.gov.uk | **Telephone**<br>01342 713407 |