

Worth Parish Council

Community-Environment-Youth-Security-Village Centres

Worth Parish Council Quarterly Update April - June 2024

Key Decisions Made

Council agreed new noticeboards for outside the shops in Crawley Down. One is for Council notices, one is for the CDRA and the third will be available for general community notices.

After the closure of the Allotment Association in Crawley Down, the Council has taken back ownership of the on-site allotment building.

A new flowerbed is planned for the junction of Brookhill Road and the A264 in Copthorne, to enhance the entrance to the village.

At the Annual Council Meeting, Cllr Dorey was re-elected as Chairman of the Council for 2024/25, and Cllr Phillip Coote was elected as Vice Chairman.

A review of both Neighbourhood Plans is to be undertaken.

A planning consultant has been appointed to assist with the rejuvenation of Crawley Down Play Area; this is to be funded via s106 monies.

A project manager has been appointed to manage the Copthorne Recreation Rejuvenation Project.

The following grants have been awarded:

Grant of £475 awarded to Bereavement Group at St John's Church.

Grant of £350 awarded to support the Air Ambulance.

Grant of £750 awarded towards a new minibus for Crawley Down Monday Club.

Key Activities

Our Grounds Maintenance Team is working hard mowing public areas in both Copthorne and Crawley Down, in order to enhance the aesthetics of the villages.

Council representatives met with the WSCC Highways Manager to assess speed deterrents for the St Francis Court bend on Copthorne Bank, in light of the recent serious accident.

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. Both villages have a litter pick arranged for July.

Allotment tenants are busy working on their plots in 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.

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.

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. involves several distinct phases, including drainage works, the introduction of a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA), a new playground, car parking spaces, landscaping and pathways. Whilst we have been successful in obtaining money for the MUGA, our previous applications for grant funding for the playground were unsuccessful. We have therefore been liaising with Mid Sussex District Council and local developers about the possibility of obtaining Section 106 monies for this and the remaining works. We will be considering a grant this month.

Existing play equipment, with the exception of the swings, is in the process of being removed for health and safety reasons.

Crawley Down Noticeboards

Worth Parish Council approved the costs for the new noticeboards in Crawley Down and for the ground works required to remove the existing old noticeboards, make good the area and install them. We have now placed the order for the new noticeboards to be made and are awaiting confirmation of when they will be delivered and installed. We will publish more on this when we know dates for installation as it is anticipated that ground works will take a few days, requiring the area to be cordoned off.

Bowers Place Parking Scheme

After some delay, the Arborist has now been on site to carry out their tree surveys and prepare the reports required to obtain planning permission for the Bowers Place Parking Solution. We anticipate being able to apply for planning permission as soon as that is received and then to go back out to tender to identify a Preferred Supplier to undertake the work once planning permission is granted. Despite the delays, we remain optimistic

that work can be completed this year and we will continue to update you as things progress.

Crawley Down Playground Rejuvenation

The recent site visit with a Play and Sports Consultant at **Crawley Down Playground** gave us a lot of food for thought about how best to take this project forward. Further discussions are now taking place to determine the best next steps before we agree the budget and timescale for the work and go out to tender to procure playground designs.

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We have experienced some delays in moving the **CCTV Project** forward, due to the Preferred Supplier's commitment to update existing technologies in the Sussex Police area. We understand that work is due to finish shortly and we will be liaising with the Preferred Supplier to answer any final questions and resolve any remaining connectivity and wayleaves issues (the agreement required between the landowners and those who will access the land to do the work to install, service, maintain, repair, and replace the CCTV equipment).

After a review of the CCTV Project, the Council agreed that the first phase of the project will include 2 CCTV cameras, rather than the 4 originally anticipated. One will be placed on Copthorne Village Green. The other will be on the corner of Burleigh Way in Crawley Down. This will enable us to install those that are the simplest to install as they are not impacted by other projects, such as the Copthorne Recreation Ground project. Once installed we will allow a 6-month period to review how things are going before deciding whether to install more.



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