



Worth Parish Council

Newsletter

Spring 2022

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Hopefully by the time you read this the recent winds have subsided and hopefully you escaped unscathed? Certainly caused us some problems in the village, but as always, our excellent Groundsmen were on hand to keep things under control.

The Parish Council has been busy preparing for the Community Governance Review outlined elsewhere in this newsletter. This is a completely new process to the Council so we are working hard to keep up with proceedings and keep you all informed of what's happening. This is going to be a major event for most of this year leading up to a conclusion sometime in September when we will learn the future fate of the Council.

Tony Dorey, Chairman

NEWS FROM THE CRAWLEY DOWN ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE WORKING PARTY

Over the last two years, the Covid Pandemic has made budgeting for the normal spending patterns of the Parish Council difficult as many of our planned projects have had to be postponed. As a result, the Council's Reserves have increased but a significant proportion of these are now ear-marked for the delayed projects we are now undertaking and will implement in the next financial year starting in April.

Examples of these projects are:

1. a comprehensive CCTV system covering both villages of Crawley Down and Copthorne and our response to the problems that residents report with anti-social behaviour including speeding and reckless driving.
2. a parking scheme for Bowers Place in Crawley Down.
3. employing an extra member of staff to improve the communications between Council and residents.

The Council has been able to minimise the increases in the Precept paid by residents which has increased by much less than inflation and is one of the lowest in the Mid Sussex District. The Council's financial management gets top marks from our Auditors.

In the current Financial Year to the end of March 2022, we forecast that the Council will spend a net £260,000 against an original budget of £375,000. Our net spending plans for 2022-2023 total £478,000, a Precept of £300,000 has been requested and therefore approximately £178,000 of our Reserves will be applied to balance the shortfall in income. The Council's website has comprehensive details of the Council's finances if further information is required.

Announcing The Haven Centre's Platinum Fair at Crawley Down on Friday 3rd June 2022

As part of the four-day Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June, marking Her Majesty the Queen's 70 years on the throne, The Haven Centre in Crawley Down will bring the community together by organising and staging a really exciting event to mark this momentous occasion.

The day will kick off with the unveiling of a special commemorative plaque marking the occasion, presented by Worth Parish Council, at 11 o'clock in the morning and then the Fair will be declared officially open.

Many people in Crawley Down and the surrounding villages will doubtless be holding street parties over the weekend, but this event will be a great opportunity for the community to start the celebrations off with a bang!

With fairground rides, food, plant and other stalls, a BBQ and hog roast, ice creams, music, a beer fest, some traditional games, face painting, a fun dog show and access to that fabulous long bar for prosecco teas *and* drinks inside the centre - all on your doorstep - after all the long months of restrictions and lockdowns - what better way to get together with family and friends to celebrate?!

NEWS FROM WORTH PARISH COUNCIL

A Community Governance Review is being undertaken to consider whether a new Parish and Parish Council should be created for Crawley Down. This is in response to a petition from local electors.

All electors of Crawley Down and Copthorne received a Public Notice from Mid Sussex District Council in February. This invites them to contribute their views on this important matter which will determine the future local governance arrangements for the Parish area, effective from May 2023.

What is the Stance of Worth Parish Council?

Worth Parish Council as a representative body is neither in favour nor against a split. Currently 4 of the 17 Worth Parish Councillors fully support the petition. There are concerns related to the lack of transparency and the way the petition came about - being submitted to Mid Sussex District Council without any discussion or case presentation to Worth Parish Council. We have seen little evidence that the proposed change will deliver the claimed benefits and do not have the information required to determine whether the considerable cost, risks and impacts of a split are justified. Nobody should underestimate the complexity of splitting an existing Parish Council.

Community Governance Review Public Meetings

Public meetings are being held in Copthorne and Crawley Down giving you the chance to find out more and ask any questions you may have. These meetings are open to the public and there is no need to book:

The Haven Centre, Crawley Down

- Friday 4 March 7.30-9.30pm
- Friday 1 April 7.30-9.30pm

The Parish Hub, Copthorne

- Wednesday 16 March 7.30-9.30pm
- Wednesday 13 April 7.30-9.30pm

If you have received a Public Notice about the Community Governance Review, we encourage you to contribute your views using the details provided in the Notice.

Find out more about the [Community Governance Review](#) on our website.

If you have any questions for us email clerk@worth-pc.gov.uk

FORTHCOMING MEETING DATES

All meetings start at 7.30pm and all agendas and minutes are on our [website](#)

Monday 4 th April 2022	Full Council, followed by Planning and Highways Committee
Monday 11 th April 2022	General Purposes & Finance Committee, followed by Planning & Highways Committee
Monday 25 th April 2022	Full Council, followed by Planning & Highways Committee
Monday 9 th May 2022	Annual Council Meeting
Monday 16 th May 2022	General Purpose & Finance Committee, followed by Planning & Highways Committee
Monday 30 th May 2022	Full Council, followed by Planning & Highways
Monday 13 th June 2022	General Purposes & Finance Committee, followed by Planning & Highways Committee
Monday 27 th June 2022	Full Council, followed by Planning & Highways Committee

DO YOU KNOW THE LAW ON E SCOOTERS?

Buying an e-scooter can be tempting especially as they can be purchased from popular retailers. However, the current law is clear.

It is illegal to use a privately owned e-scooter on pavements, cycle paths or public roads at present. The only place an e-scooter can be used is on private land with landowner permission.

Why is this?

E-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs), so they are treated as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements, such as: MOT, licensing, insurance and drink/drug driving legislation. As e-scooters do not have number plates, signalling ability and don't always have visible rear lights, they can't be used legally on the roads.

Sussex Safer Roads Partnership has produced an information leaflet clarifying the current law around e-scooters in Sussex. You can view and [download the full leaflet here](#)



SHOPAPPY.COM

High Street shops and local businesses across the UK face an uncertain future as more and more consumer spend goes to the online giants.

Mid Sussex District Council is now fighting back! And in collaboration with [ShopAppy.com](#), is inviting local independent shops and traders to join the collective local shopping and business website at no cost for the first 12 months, making it easier for people to shop closer to home.

[ShopAppy.com](#) traders will have a virtual presence which boosts their shops and services, making it easier for everyone to support their own local High Street from the comfort of their sofas, as well as visiting in person. To sign up email shoplocal@shopappy.com



Councillor Stephen Hillier, Cabinet Member for Economic Growth explained: "We are really pleased to be able to offer 12 months free to our local businesses who sign up to this innovative platform as part of our support for local Mid Sussex businesses."

TRADING STANDARDS ON HAND TO BEAT NUISANCE CALLS

Help is on hand for elderly and vulnerable residents in West Sussex to stop them being targeted by fraudsters. West Sussex Trading Standards is offering to install call blocking devices free of charge to help stop nuisance calls.

Residents need to satisfy certain criteria to qualify for the devices, which are proven to block up to 98% of nuisance calls.

To qualify for a call blocker, residents need to:

- Live in West Sussex
- Regularly receive scam and nuisance calls
- Have care or support needs due to factors such as age, mobility or mental health

[Find out more](#) and apply or call Trading Standards on 01243 642124 (option 2).



SUSSEX POLICE PCSO BEAT SURGERIES

Your Local Neighbourhood Policing Team will be holding drop-in surgeries at The Haven Centre Café on:

Monday 4 April 10am – 11am

Monday 9 May 10am – 11am

Further dates will be published on our [website](#).

How to Report a Crime to Us

As always, in an emergency please dial 999. For non-emergencies please dial 101, alternatively, you can [report non-emergency matters online](#)

HIRE OF THE SOUTH ROOM @ THE PARISH HUB IN COPTHORNE

Our bright and spacious South Room is available to hire for a range of events such as birthday parties, meetings, or exercise classes. If you would like to make a booking please call us on 01342 713407 or take a look at our [website](#)



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

Elaine Anscomb	Elaine.anscomb@worth-pc.gov.uk	01342 715213
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
John Hitchcock	John.hitchcock@worth-pc.gov.uk	01342 716831
Chris Mayor	Chris.mayor@worth-pc.gov.uk	07710 039277
Clare Pointer	Clare.pointer@worth-pc.gov.uk	07762 132538
Kerry Scott	Kerry.scott@worth-pc.gov.uk	01342 712213
Roger Webb	Roger.webb@worth-pc.gov.uk	01342 719029

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

Phillip Coote	Phillip.coote@midsussex.gov.uk	01342 713443
Ian Gibson	Ian.gibson@midsussex.gov.uk	01342 716790
Roger Webb	Roger.webb@midsussex.gov.uk	01342 719029

Copthorne & Worth Ward

Chris Phillips	Christopher.phillips@midsussex.gov.uk	01342 712668
Bruce Forbes	Bruce.forbes@midsussex.gov.uk	01342 719866

WEST SUSSEX COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

Worth Forest Ward (including Copthorne)

Bruce Forbes	Bruce.forbes@westsussex.gov.uk	01342 719866
--------------	--------------------------------	--------------

Imberdown Ward (including Crawley Down)

Ian Gibson	Ian.gibson@westsussex.gov.uk	01342 716790
------------	------------------------------	--------------

WORTH PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

Clerk	Jennifer Nagy	clerk@worth-pc.gov.uk
Finance Officer	Ellen Smith	rfo@worth-pc.gov.uk
Deputy Clerk	Tracy Cruickshank	deputyclerk@worth-pc.gov.uk
Communications and IT Administrator	Stacey Westbrook	comms@worth-pc.gov.uk

USEFUL LINKS AND CONTACTS

[Anti social driving and abandoned vehicles](#)

[Noise Issues](#)

pollution@midsussex.gov.uk

01444 477292

[One Network](#) – Find out about roadworks in your area

[Planning](#)

[Sussex Safer Roads Partnership](#)

PARISH 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

Tel: 01342 713407

www.worth-pc.gov.uk

You can follow us on Facebook at [@worthparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/worthparishcouncil)
