



# Worth Parish Council

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

## Summer 2023 Newsletter Cophorne Village

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am writing this article the week of the Local Council elections, so this may well be my last contribution to this newsletter!

If I do get re-elected onto Worth Parish Council, I look forward to continuing to act on behalf of both our villages to maintain the momentum we have gained as a Council to continue to improve our villages and facilities.

It has been an absolute pleasure serving as Chair of the Council for the last two years, although it can sometimes be a thankless task! I am so proud of the progress we have made as a Council in this term and sincerely hope the progress continues into the next term and beyond. In this term we have expanded our team of officers to widen our skill set and improve capacity. This in turn has allowed us to progress projects such as the CCTV provision and Bowers Place parking which were delayed due to COVID and the proposed Council split. These are now progressing to a conclusion in the near future and other projects such as the Cophorne Rec (see separate article in this newsletter) and the Crawley Down shop fronts are starting to gain momentum. We have employed a Youth Support Worker who is a vital addition to our team and has been instrumental in us setting up Youth Clubs in both villages – this was an extremely important goal for the Council in this term. We have also promoted a Grounds Supervisor who is putting together a plan for how we maintain and improve our 'estate' going forward. I am 100% confident this will lead to big changes in maintenance around the villages that will be pleasing to all our eyes.

Looking forward into the next term, I would like to take this opportunity to urge ALL residents to get more involved with the Council. Know who your local Councillors are, interact with them to understand what the Council is doing and how it works for you. Get involved with either the CDRA (Crawley Down Residents Association) in Crawley Down or the CCG (Cophorne Community Group) in Cophorne to ensure that the Council is acting in everyone's interests, not just a few. But more than anything, please understand that ALL your local Councillors are residents like yourself and volunteer their time – evenings and during the days – to work for our villages. Your support will make this all the easier and more pleasurable. We all want the same things, I promise you.

So now I will hang up my chains and keep my fingers crossed that I will be present at the Annual Council Meeting on 15 May where a new set of committees and Chairs will be elected to start work on the next 4-year plan. I will finish by thanking all my fellow Councillors and especially the staff of Worth Parish Council for their help and support during this last term.

Kind Regards

**Tony Dorey**  
**Worth Parish Councillor**

## COPTHORNE RECREATION GROUND



In the Copthorne Village Centre Action Plan from 2022, it was suggested that Copthorne needed a focal point, with parking being provided to encourage visitors to the shops on Copthorne Bank.

It has long been recognised that the play area is in need of updating, which was also identified in the Action Plan. Worth Parish Council decided that rather than adopt a piecemeal approach, it would be better to plan to redevelop the whole area.

To that end, we are working on proposals to remove the existing play area and skate park, and to build a new larger play area further back on the site (see site plan). This will allow space for a small car park at the front, with around 25 bays. Behind the play area, it is proposed that a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) is installed. This will provide opportunities for football and basketball as well as general informal sport.

A consultancy firm has been engaged to assist in the process, and we hope to have plans and designs for the play area and MUGA to share very soon. This will be your opportunity to give us your feedback so that we can make adjustments if required.

It is hoped that this £500,000 project will be funded via developer contributions (Section 106 monies) and grant funding from national agencies. We also have nearly £10,000 received as a donation from the

Jack and Jill Preschool when it sadly closed down recently, given on the proviso that it be used for new play equipment.

## COPTHORNE YOUTH CLUB

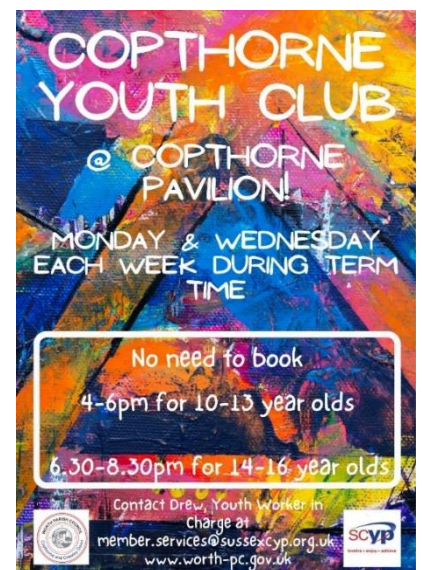
Copthorne Youth Club is going from strength to strength, and we are looking at ways to bring more youth support and initiatives to the young people in the Parish.

Copthorne Youth Club runs every Monday and Wednesday during term time:

- 4-6pm for 10-13 year olds
- 6.30-8.30pm for 14-16 year olds.

There is no need to book.

Our Youth Worker in Charge, Drew, will also be at Copthorne Carnival with a basketball shootout challenge.



## COPTHORNE COMMUNITY CLEAN UP GROUP

Would you like to join the Copthorne Community Clean Up Group?

This will mean you will hear about all future litter picks in the Village in advance. If you would like to join this group, please email [enquiries@worth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@worth-pc.gov.uk)

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR LOCAL PCSO'S

There has been an increased number of reports of antisocial parking in the villages within the Worth Parish. The reports suggest the issues are taking place at all times of the day particularly around the schools and shops in the area. Please can I remind all those who park in the villages to do so in a considerate manner and remember that pedestrians need to be able to use the pathways, driveways must be kept clear and to avoid parking on grass verges. Thank you.

**PCSO Lizzy Whitmore**  
**Sussex Police**

## FORTHCOMING MEETING DATES

You can view the agendas for all forthcoming meetings [here on our website](#). You can also take a look at the minutes of meetings that have already been held.

## 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

You can find [Parish Councillor contact details](#) on our website

## WORTH PARISH COUNCIL OFFICERS

**Clerk**  
Jennifer Nagy  
[clerk@worth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@worth-pc.gov.uk)

**Finance Officer**  
Ellen Smith  
[rfo@worth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:rfo@worth-pc.gov.uk)

**Deputy Clerk**  
Tracy Cruickshank  
[deputyclerk@worth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deputyclerk@worth-pc.gov.uk)

**Communications and IT Administrator**  
Stacey Westbrook  
[comms@worth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:comms@worth-pc.gov.uk)

## USEFUL LINKS AND CONTACTS

### [Anti-social Behaviour](#)

Report anti-social behaviour to Sussex Police online or by calling 101. If it's an emergency or someone is in immediate danger call 999.

### [Anti-social driving and abandoned vehicles](#)

Report any anti-social driving or abandoned vehicles to Operation Crackdown.

### [Noise Issues](#)

You can report a noise issue contact the Environmental Protection Team at Mid Sussex District Council 01444 477292 or at [pollution@midsussex.gov.uk](mailto:pollution@midsussex.gov.uk)

### [One Network](#)

Find out about roadworks in your area

### [Planning](#)

Visit the West Sussex County Council website to find, comment on or submit a planning application.

### [Report a Problem with a Road or Pavement](#)

### [Streetlights](#)

Street lighting in Worth Parish is partly the responsibility of Worth Parish Council and partly of West Sussex County Council. Any Worth Parish Council streetlighting faults should be reported to the Council office on 01342 713407 or at [enquiries@worth-pc.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@worth-pc.gov.uk). You can find a list of all Worth Parish Council owned streetlights at the link above.

### [Sussex Safer Roads Partnership](#)



Would you like the Worth Parish Council newsletter delivered straight to your inbox?

[Sign up here](#)

### 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](http://www.worth-pc.gov.uk)*

*You can follow us on Facebook at [@worthparishcouncil](#)*