



Youth Strategy V3

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Update on Youth Provision

- Youth Club has gone from strength to strength this year.
- There has been a significant change in staffing this year. Gemma Resce has joined us as Youth Supervisor. Victoria was recognised for her work and commitment to the youth provision and was made team leader for the younger sessions. We also welcomed 2 new youth workers Lauren Smith and Kateryna Artsybasheva to the team.
- Copthorne has seen a really strong presence this year, with a consistent attendance of year 5 children.
- Crawley Down struggled initially with attendance, however lowering the school age to include year 4 , numbers started to increase. Both clubs are now running at capacity with a waiting list some some weeks.
- The introduction of a cancellation policy agreed by the Amenities and Asset Committee in March has now lowered the persistent nonattendance of some children which has allowed those on the waiting list the chance to attend sessions.
- We have been using Ipal now since March 2024. This has been very beneficial to us and has suited the needs of the youth provision so far. With the introduction of the older sessions and the absence of the parent booking, thought needs to take place as to whether IPAL continues to meet that need. Our contract with IPAL finishes March 2027.
- The youth provision has lacked holiday provision this last year, this is through lack of staff availability. Whilst it was the right decision not to have a full-time youth worker , this has had an impact on what the youth team can deliver whilst having other commitments.
- Potential plans for holiday provision devised by the team are explained later in the strategy.
- Our youth team have all completed safeguarding training and have received certificates in level 2 food hygiene.
- Our Youth team all have uniform which consists of a purple hoodie and T shirt with Youth worker printed on the back.
- The youth team have been successful in getting a lot of equipment and materials donated from residents, this has saved a considerable amount of money.
- Steps were taken to reengage with Imberhorne lower school to rebuild relations. This was successful, new surveys were given to the children to complete, and a positive response was received. Posters were put up around the school advertising 'Opening soon Teen Hang Out Sessions'.
- We were also able to secure a venue for the Crawley Down Teen Hang Out Session after a successful meeting with the Rev Christine. They also very generously donated lots of youth equipment to us.
- Unfortunately, we were not successful with our MSDC grant application .







- Gemma and Kateryna will lead the older youth sessions. These will be held term time only.
- Copthorne @ The Parish Hub in the South Room Tuesdays 3.45-5.45pm
- Crawley Down @The Glebe Centre Thursdays time TBC.
- Copthorne launches on the 28th of April
- Crawley Down on the 7th of May
- Schools have been informed and socials have started advertising.
- These sessions will be set out as a teen hang out, activities include
- Table tennis, darts, table football, air hockey, chill out zone, as well as arts and crafts.
- The youth team will be visiting bus stops over the next couple of weeks talking to the children as they depart the bus advertising the sessions. Posters are up in Imberhorne.
- New PCSO assigned to Crawley Down, they have taken note of the upcoming sessions.

Future Plans to consider

Introduction of a Tuck Shop

An Officer report will be submitted to the next Asset and Amenities meeting on the 15th June. The youth team would like the committee to consider introducing a small, affordable tuck shop within all sessions.

The tuck shop will offer the children affordable treats while helping them develop independence, decision making skills and a sense of responsibility.

The aim is the tuck shop will be self- sustaining through its sales.

Feedback from the team is often the children are extremely hungry during the sessions as they are straight after school.

Guidelines for stock variety include

No fizzy drinks

No energy drinks

No products containing nuts

The youth team would like to ask for the Cllrs opinion before the report is submitted to the committee to consider.

Wrapping the youth Bus

Removable magnetic branding, this is a cheaper more cost-effective way of branding the youth bus.

Transition

As the children reach year 6, thinking about transition sessions as they move into the older teen hang out club. Victoria to attend some sessions to help the younger children settle in.

Victoria and Gemma will introduce a Y 6 to Secondary School transition. Inviting in the transition coordinator from Imberhorne along to the younger youth sessions. This helps improve the working relationship with local schools.

Local Businesses

The youth team are keen to re start reaching out to local businesses to introduce into sessions.

Ideas include

Martial Arts, self-defence, graffiti art , sports, and dance clubs and first aid.

Consider Future plans continued

Youth Council

Hannah has recently attended a training event on future leaders, which focused on attracting young talent to parish and town councils.

This was an informative session, lots of information was shared from Cottenham parish Council and Goldalming Town Council. Their youth council's each have a small budget and work on projects throughout the year and discuss issues that concern them. The youth council works with members from the council and the wider community that help develop their ideas and make sure the young people's opinions are heard.

Would Worth Parish Council consider having a youth Council ?

School Youth Cllrs- Consider inviting youth Cllrs along to Parish meetings- hear directly from the youths themselves.

Copthorne Working party have invited the youth Cllrs from the Junior and Infant school to present their idea for Road safety in Copthorne. The young Cllrs are hoping to secure some funds from the working party to see their ideas come to life.

Something to consider !



Cottenham | Parish Council

Join Our Youth Council

Calling ALL young people
Are you passionate about making a difference in Cottenham?
Do you want to share your ideas and help shape the future of our village?
Join our Youth Council.

Who Are We Looking For?
Young people who live in Cottenham aged 10-18
Creative thinkers and problem solvers
Individuals who want to represent the views of young people in Cottenham

What Will You Do?
Join in discussions about local issues
Plan events and activities that benefit young people
Work with Cottenham Parish Council and community organisations
Develop leadership skills and make new friends.

Why Join?
Have your voice heard and make a real impact
Gain valuable experience and skills for your future
Enjoy fun activities and projects with like-minded peers

How to Apply:
Interested?
Please contact: Mary Kidston
cldr.kidston@cottenham-pc.gov.uk and look out for details of an open meeting in January 2025

Visit Cottenham Parish Council Website for further information
www.cottenham-pc.gov.uk
Let's work together to create a vibrant future for our community!

Future Plans to consider Continued

Holiday Provision

Play on the green sessions were not well supported last year, by both staff and young people.

The youth team had concerns regarding timings on the sessions, and toileting facilities.

Ideas to consider-

Half term's – Movie nights, games , cookery sessions 1 session per village each week. Consider a charge for Cookery classes @ £10 per child.

Summer holidays New Concept to consider younger

Week 1 Crawley Down 9am-3pm

Week 2 Copthorne 9am-3pm

Week 3 Crawley Down 9am-3pm

Week 4 Copthorne 9am-3pm etc

Full day of activities

Consider a charge of £10 per child to cover the cost of the room hire

Parents to provide a packed lunch and snacks

• Work Experience

- Consider the introduction of Work experience to Worth Parish Council.
- Provides opportunities for younger people to gain experience in the local government sector.
- Helps strengthen links with neighbouring schools and Colleges.
- Demonstrates the Councils commitment to education, inclusion and civic engagement. Enhances the council's profile and shows the council as forward thinking.
- Could encourage interest in local government and public administration as career.
- Young people may bring new ideas, digital skills and enthusiasm.

Summary- Ultimate Goal for Worth Parish Council Youth Provision

- As the current staff team was not in place when the Council's youth provision was originally established, it is important to seek clarity on Councilors' aspirations and long-term vision for this service.
- To ensure that youth provision remains relevant, effective and sustainable, the Council is invited to consider and articulate its overarching goals.
- Councilors are therefore asked to reflect on and define what they want Worth Parish Council's youth provision to achieve, including its purpose, priorities and desired outcomes for young people within the parish.
- This will help provide clear strategic direction, ensure alignment with Council values and community needs, and support officers in delivering a youth offer that is proportionate, well-managed and fit for the future.

Thank you
The Youth Team

