

V1: Parish Action Plan 2024/25: Community Engagement Committee

Reviewed 12th September 2024

- Liaison with community topics and local groups
- Allocation of grants
- Maintain and monitor emergency plan
- Supervise Council's communications – website, noticeboards, newsletter, social media
- Develop and deliver agreed outputs from Parish Action Plan
- Manage in year committee budget within programme and delegation
- Identify and justify committee budget for future year

Objective	Planned Action	By When	Status	Last Updated	Budget & Code if applicable	Resources	Notes
1. Continue to improve communications with residents and organisations in the parish.	Improve Annual Parish Meeting with the aim of increasing participation.	May 2025	2024 APM took place on 21.5.24 Events Working Group reviewed as per notes from the meeting, decisions for a theme for May 2025 to be considered after the St Lawrence Fair	June 2024	5600		
	Hold annual Community Forum for local groups in conjunction with MSVA	Feb 2025	Date fixed for 29 th January, now Forum is much larger and the Club Lounge in use by Kiddie Capers, will be held in Function Room	September 2024	5600		
	Assist the Parish Strategy Group in consultation with residents, businesses, clubs and societies	Ongoing	Assist with promoting Parish Strategy consultation questionnaire in due course. High Street business questionnaire already publicised/linked to via the PC website. Enquiries made with Hassocks PC regarding their own consultation	September 2024			

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2. Young People, promote increased opportunities and support for local young people.	Chair/Vice Chair to continue to attend Mid-Sussex Health and Wellbeing Network to develop relationships with agencies/charities.	Ongoing	Chair attending network meetings when possible, most recent 19 th June regarding support for young people with Autism and SEN.	July 2023			
	Promote/develop youth activities at Court Bushes. To continue liaising with MSDC and WSCC regarding Youth Provision following closure of MSCYP	Ongoing	Still being pushed with MSDC/WSCC, discussions being held with Worth PC in relation to use of their "purple bus". Better Young Lives meeting hosted by MSDC but Parish Council not included Meetings held with Hassocks PC regarding their efforts for Youth Provision Meeting held 10.9 with Holy Trinity	September 2024			
	Encourage involvement of young people in developing and enacting council 'environmental policy' (Sustainability Strategy)	Ongoing	Hurst Rethink youth group were invited to have a table at the APM but despite several chaser emails they did not respond. MSVA Eco Forum attended. Lost Woods nature connection and play training took place on 21.6.	April 2024			

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3. Inform residents of, and support opportunities for older people.	Develop and regularly review Dementia Awareness Project.	Ongoing	Pharmacy settling in well to the village and Council intend to approach them about safe spaces and dementia friendly buildings, particularly important with the collapse of "Know Dementia" locally.	April 2024			
			Publicity about "safe spaces" in May Hurst Life article, plus appeal to more businesses to take part with a view to a re-launch/new training session. Some interest received from Cycling without Age, however we have struggled to find a suitable partner to run the training	September 2024			
			First MSOPC tea party at Sayers Common took place on 5 th July, cost was approximately 50% of the grant awarded so they hope to be able to run another event from these funds. Pictures added to website	September 2024	5650		CE23/24.036.4b
			Dementia Café restarting 3/9 at Court Bushes and in Hassocks, joint project AgeUK, Sussex Vale Rotary plus grant application received for PC funding.	September 2024			

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4. Support Important Parish Events	Support, publicise and attend (where appropriate) local community events	September 2024	Hurst Festival: Grant awarded towards the Super Sunday event, promote this event via the usual channels.	April 2024	5630		CE23/24.045.2
		December 2024	Santa Sunday: grant awarded for 2024 event but not for new road signs as PC were believed to have some - many of our signs are the heavy metal kind which are not easily transportable. Briefing note about street signs for C.E. 12.09.2024 meeting	April 2024			
		January 2025	Orchard Wassail: Date fixed for 11 th January 2025	September 2024	5600		
5. To improve the health and wellbeing of residents (including temporary residents such as refugees) especially those who are vulnerable.	Publicising and signposting to local services.	Ongoing	Local groups/services are promoted at the Annual Parish Meeting and the Community Forum events, also on Parish Council noticeboards, in Hurst Life on our Facebook page and website	July 2023	5660		Information regularly being shared in Hurst Life articles and the PC Facebook and website page. Min Ref: CE23/24.012.06 & CE23/24.012.5
	Encouraging/facilitating groups/services to use our facilities.	Ongoing	Court Bushes to be promoted, particularly after repairs completed	September 2024			
	Hold a Community Groups Forum to increase networking between wellbeing services.	February 2025	Date fixed for 29 th Jan 2025 at Court Bushes	September 2024			

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6. Work closely with local businesses to make Hurstpierpoint a more attractive place to visit and shop.	High Street reps to work with traders to help to boost the High Street.	On-going	Posts on social media to support our high street for example recently when the High Street was closed to try and encourage footfall. Link added to the Parish Council Website in respect of Hurstpierpoint Society's "Now & Then" project, also promoted in September's Hurst Life.	September 2024			CE24/25.010.4
		September 2024	Super Sunday – grant awarded and will be promoted by PC	September 2024	5630		CE23/24.045.2
		December 2024	Santa Fun Sunday grant application awarded 13.6, will be promoted via the usual channels by the Parish Council.	June 2024	5630		CE24/25.008.2b

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7. Options will be explored to provide adequate public transport facilities in the parts of the Parish currently under-served.	Continue to press for better public transport links when opportunities present themselves.	Ongoing	CT Sussex/ Sussex Vale Rotary discussed potential shopping transport. This was put on hold pending improvements to the 273 bus. Response to be considered as to need and level of any PC involvement now that timetable is out. Burgess Hill TC have approached villages regarding potential for funding with Sussex Vale for a shopping bus between the villages and Burgess Hill, providing a doorstep service. Awaiting full proposal	September 2024			
	Publicise where transport does exist e.g., to Pauline Shaw Centre, Hassocks.	July 2024	273 bus route significantly improved, including Sunday and Bank Holiday service, with funding from WSCC and Brighton and Hove Council, widely publicised on social media already – circulate again in July Hurst Life for those residents not online, also in August Hurst Life including new real time info boards	September 2024			

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COMPLETED ITEMS BY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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1. Continue to improve communications with residents and organisations in the parish.	Assist the Parish Strategy Group in consultation with residents, businesses, clubs and societies		Visioning questionnaire completed for APM soliciting online and physical responses,	September 2024			
2. Young People, promote increased opportunities and support for local young people.	Offer Work Experience to Downlands Students	July 2024	Work experience took place for 2 x Downlands Students in July.	September 2024			
3. Inform residents of, and support opportunities for older people.	Supported local groups for older people.	2024/25	Knit & Natter given a grant for their room hire for 2024/2025.	April 2024	5650		Minute CE23/24.045.4
			First Sayers Common Tea Party funded by the Committee set to take place on 5 th July	June 2024	5650		Minute CE23/24.036.4b
4. Support Important Parish Events	Support, publicise and attend (where appropriate) local community events	July 2024	St Lawrence Fair: Successful stall run at 2024 fair, stall and new banner looked great.	July 2024	5600		
7. Options will be explored to provide adequate public transport facilities in the parts of the	Publicise free transport to the APM 2024		Transport provided from Sayers Common Village to the APM, advertised via website, posters, social media and in the shop – only Cllr Sampson on the bus.	May 2024			

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Parish currently under-served.							