

V1: Parish Action Plan 2026/26: Community Engagement Committee

Reviewed 3rd April 2025

- Liaison with community topics and local groups
- Allocation of grants
- Develop and monitor implementation of the Sustainability Strategy
- Supervise Council’s communications – website, noticeboards, newsletter, social media
- Develop and deliver agreed outputs from Parish Strategy Plan once finalised
- Manage in year committee budget within programme and delegation
- Identify and justify committee budget for future year

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS 2025/26

Objective	Planned Action	By When	Status/specific action	Last Updated	Budget & Code if applicable	Resources	Notes
1. Communicate effectively with residents and organisations in the parish	Plan Annual Parish Meeting.	May 2025 & May 2026	May 2025 APM plans well underway for 13 th May improvements made following feedback from the public and Councillors.	April 2025	5660	Staff Time Cllr Time	
	Hold annual Community Forum for local groups in conjunction with Community People	November 2025	Forum to be moved back into November to avoid clash with January Wassail event and to mark mid-point between APM and Forum.	April 2025	5660	Staff Time Councillor Time	
	Annual review of Communication Strategy	March 2026	Hold Communication Strategy Working Group Meeting	April 2025		Staff Time Councillor Time	
	Review and update Media & Communication Policy	Feb 2026	Draft to be discussed at to C.E. Feb	April 2025		Staff Time Cllr Time	

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2. Promote increased opportunities and support for local young people.	Delegated Committee Members to continue to attend relevant forums and networking events to develop relationships with agencies/charities.	Ongoing	Attendees to report back to committee	April 2025		CLlr time	
	Promote/develop youth activities at Court Bushes.	Ongoing	Youth offer to be highlighted during devolution talks.	April 2025		CLlr Time Staff Time	
			Explore opportunities with Holy Trinity Youth Worker.	April 2025	EMR – Youth Provision		
	Offer Work Experience/ Opportunities directly to local Students	Ongoing	Work experience to be offered again to Downlands for 2025	April 2025		Staff Time CLlr Time Other Volunteer Time	
			Work experience being offered to student from Plumpton College	April 2025			
			Hurst College Community Action Day	April 2025			
	Engage with new heads of schools	January 2026	St Lawrence and Downlands will have new head teachers in January 2026 and September 2025 respectively, to be approached re: grants/continued support at community events such as Remembrance Sunday etc	April 2025		Staff Time	

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3. Support Important Parish Events	Support, publicise and attend (where appropriate) local community events	July 2025	St Lawrence Fair: Grant application, publicity and purchase/staff Parish Council stand	April 2025	5630 & 5600	Cllr Time Staff time	
		September 2025	Hurst Festival: Grant application & publicity	April 2025	5630	Staff Time	
		November 2025	Hurstfolk Grant application & publicity	April 2025	5630	Staff Time	
		December 2025	Santa Sunday – Grant application and publicity	April 2025	5630	Staff Time	
		January 2026	Orchard Wassail: Date to be fixed Jan 2026 – fix date, liaise with Hurst Rethink for volunteers & lighting, Brighton Folk Choir for workshop and evening event – query workshop at school? Arrange workshop inc. advertising, hall hire, refreshments. Advertise evening Wassail	April 2025	5660	Staff Time Cllr Time Multi-Agency Hall Hire	
4. To improve the health and wellbeing of residents especially those who are vulnerable.	Publicising and signposting to local services.	Ongoing	Promote local groups at the Annual Parish Meeting and, on Parish Council noticeboards, in Hurst Life on social media and our website	April 2025	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
	Revive Dementia “Safe Spaces” project	Ongoing	Dementia / safe spaces training – look to get this delivered, Promedica24 indicated at Community Forum may be able to deliver, enquiries to be made venue/date and then offered out to local organisations inc. pharmacy/shops/library	April 2025	5600		
	Encouraging/facilitating groups/services to have a presence in the parish and work more effectively	Ongoing	Promoting networking at Community Forum and Annual Parish Meeting	September 2025		Staff time Cllr Time	
			Delegated members to attend relevant forums /networking meetings and events and report back to committee				
			Promoting and awarding relevant grants				

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Ctd...	Hold a Community Forum to increase networking between wellbeing services.	November 2025	DTBF – Court Bushes Function room to be used again.	April 2025	5660	Staff time Cllr Time	
	Support local groups for older people.	Ongoing	Support groups such as Knit & Natter and Age UK Memory Café when potential grant applications come in and with publicity			Grant funding	
	Promote and lobby for active travel	Ongoing	Further improvements to 273 Bus service following ongoing lobbying, promoted in June HL			Cllr time Communications Staff time	
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5. Work closely with local businesses and promote the High Street as an attractive place to visit.	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 to try and encourage footfall. Link added to the Parish Council Website in respect of Hurstpierpoint Society's "Now & Then" project. Intermittent promotion in Hurst Life. Ongoing pressure to MSDC and publicising re: parking charges consultations	April 2025	5600		CE24/25.010.4
		December 2025	Santa Fun Sunday will be promoted via the usual channels by the Parish Council.	April 2025			CE24/25.008.2b
	Promote Hurstpierpoint High Street as a destination to visit	Ongoing	Liaise with Metrobus regarding their "days out on the metrobus" page on their website.	April 2025			

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6. Ensure sufficient funds available throughout the year for Communications and planned Parish Council events	Budget Monitoring	Ongoing	Income & Expenditure and Nominal Ledger (year to date) documents presented at each meeting	April 2025	301		CE24/25.043
	Budget Setting	November 2025	Review half year budgeting reports to assist with budget setting recommendations to Council for Committee budget 2026/27	November 2024	301		CE24/25.027

Completed Actions

Objective	Planned Action	Status	Completed date	Budget & Code if applicable	Resources	Notes