

VILLAGE PLAN : IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

1. 12 to 18 year olds

Weekly youth activity from 6.30 pm to 8.30pm currently provided by KCC Youth Services.

Cost: £4, 500 approx. for 3 year contract.

Mr Rivers is applying for Grant funding to enable this service to continue.

2. 5 to 10 year olds

*Extended school day activities provided by KCC and so far funded by KCC but funding for academic year 2009 /2010 will need to be found.

*Holiday activities. Funding will be required.

Mrs Whittington has approached Mr King and requested help with funding.

3. Children's Play Area.

Cost: £60,000+ Grant funded but fund will need topping up.

A meeting is to be held, with ABC to discuss this. It is hoped that work will start on 9 October.

COMPUTER COURSES

Grant funding for any such courses will be required. Providers could be

- The Training Highway who provide excellent courses for adults. Approx. cost for 3 sessions per day over 10 weeks is £3,200.
- KCC Adult Education

The Clerk was asked to contact Training Highway and ask a representative to attend a Parish Council meeting.

SENIOR CITIZENS

- Support through CROP and CILK (Centre for Independent Living in Kent) on availability of benefits for the elderly.
- Help with the completion of benefit forms and reading mail
- Work with housing to organise events which encourage people to socialise. For example
 1. Summer river trip. Cost £8
 2. Entertainment.(NOT bingo). Approx £5 3.Exercise classes. Cost unknown.

These costs would probably need to be subsidised.

- Work with Health Centre to ensure the elderly can make both hospital and doctor appointments. Investigate if necessary.

Further discussion necessary.

TRAFFIC

- * Criteria for installation of flashing lights – see attached sheet

- * Speed Watch. Volunteers needed. Cost: equipment would either have to be bought or borrowed •
NB Speed bumps are impossible to fund and install in my view.

Further discussion needed.

TRANSPORT

Subsidise where possible hire of minibus to permit children, families and senior citizens to take part in activities outside the village. Cost is difficult to assess.

A donation will be considered when we prepare next year's budget

ENVIRONMENT

- * Litter / rubbish bins. We need better equipment for the removal of litter and clearing rubbish.
- * Maintenance of field. This should be responsibility of ABC and KCC. Do we want the field to remain overgrown?
- * New dog bins needed. Cost unknown.

Councillors unanimously agreed to install a larger dog bin at a cost of £190 where the existing bin stands. The existing bin will be moved to a site which will be discussed with ABC.

SOCIAL LIFE

Form an "events" group to

- * reinstate the village fete in say 2010 but work will need to start now
- * run a pilot cinema club
- * organise family events such as a Christmas pantomime, Halloween party for both children and their parents

The Village Hall Committee are looking to arrange various events.

RESOURCES

1. Finance

Hothfield precept
Cllr King's fund
Hothfield Education Trust
Community Grants

2. Human

Personnel from Bluebells Children's Centre
Parish Councillors
Village Hall Committee
Friends of St Margaret's
Community Warden
AB Councillor
Village volunteers

Site selection criteria

1. Signs should be located between 100m and 250m from the start of the speed limit. Care should be taken to ensure that the sign is not triggered before a vehicle enters the lower speed limit.
2. There should be sufficient verge or footway width to accommodate the sign ideally a minimum of 1.4 m.
3. These signs are triggered by a radar beam and so the section of road leading to the sign should therefore be straight, which also allows for good visibility of the sign.
4. The sign needs to be free of vegetation, so sites where extensive annual clearance would be needed should be avoided.
5. Consultation with house owners is necessary if the sign is to be installed close to a private dwelling.
6. The sign should not face the windows of nearby properties.
7. The sign should not be installed near any natural or engineered feature that already acts as a "speed reducing" feature.
8. Electrical supply should be available although advancing technology may mean that solar powered signs can be considered in the future

In addition to the site criteria being met, when assessing the sites we put forward for consideration each year, the crash records are taken into consideration and an additional score is given to each request depending on the number of personal injury crashes recorded. The higher the crash frequency, the higher the scoring will be. The current assessment will be for implementation in financial year 2011/2012.