

RUSTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

LEISURE AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE

MINUTES: of the Meeting held on 3 March 2025

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs A Cooper (Chairman), Mrs V Allen, J Bennett,
J Ceiriog-Hughes, A Cooper, G Lee, Mrs S Partridge, D Rogers and P Warren

In attendance: Ms R Costan (Deputy Clerk), Mrs C Ward (Clerk of the Council), Ms T Smithers
(Museum Manager) and Mr J Burch (Leisure and Amenities Officer)

1/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs Gregory (Previously approved Leave of Absence). This apology was accepted by the Committee.

2/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest by Members.

3/25 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 November 2024 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

4/25 RUSTINGTON MUSEUM

Councillor Mrs Cooper welcomed the recently appointed Museum Manager, Ms Tamlyn Smithers, to the Meeting. Following a brief introduction, Ms Smithers gave a detailed overview of her first month in post and explained that the Museum had hosted a Public Talk and a Children's Craft Activity in February. She then outlined the Exhibition and Activities Programme for Spring and confirmed that an "At Home in Rustington" Exhibition would be open to the public as from 24 March to 15 June 2025. She explained that the Exhibition would utilise objects from the Museum and Heritage Association's own Collections. Ms Smithers added that she hoped to develop greater links between the Museum and local Schools and Education establishments in the coming months.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information and the Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, expressed her thanks and appreciation to Ms Smithers for attending the Meeting and providing a most interesting report.

5/25 WOODLANDS RECREATION GROUND

(a) Redressing of the Football Pitch

The Deputy Clerk referred to a Quotation, previously circulated, from the Council's Ground Maintenance Contractor Barcombe Landscapes Limited. She explained that the football pitch had last benefitted from this treatment in July 2022 (Full Council Minute 112/22 refers). The Leisure and Amenities Officer added that the wet weather across the 2024/2025 Football Season had led to the deterioration of the pitch, resulting in multiple matches being cancelled from November 2024 through to February 2025.

The Quotation was as follows:-

- To top-dress the football pitch with 40 tonnes top-dressing sand, and work into the sward/grade level
£3,400.00 plus VAT.

Following a brief discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that the Quotation for the redressing of the football pitch at the Woodlands Recreation Ground be accepted from Barcombe Landscapes Limited in the sum of £3,400.00 plus VAT.

The Committee further RECOMMENDED that the works should be undertaken as early as practicably possible in the new financial year.

(b) Rustington Football Club

The Deputy Clerk explained that the following update, had been received, regarding matters relating to the Club:-

- *The First Team, had by the end of February, remained unbeaten this Season. The Team sit top of the League and are hopefully on course for a 4th League Title in six years. They reached the semi-finals of the Intermediate Cup and League Cup. With challenges facing us everywhere, this level of success is something everyone can be proud of. Nothing is won yet of course as things can change rapidly*
- *The Reserves, in their first season, sit fourth in their respective league, a good return so far and this season, being the first, was always going to be of bedding in*
- *The Veterans team made it to the County Cup semi-final*
- *The Youth Section, for both boys and girls, is going from strength to strength, and have been hugely successful which has been great to see. Boys and girls of all ages are enjoying their football and providing the much-needed solid foundation that is needed for the future of the Club.*

The Deputy Clerk then referred to the Club's Plan, which had been previously circulated. She reported that the Club had been successfully re-accredited with The Football Association (FA). She explained that FA Accreditation is awarded to clubs who can meet a variety of criteria including coaching qualifications and the provision of development football. She said that despite this positive news the Club had mentioned its disappointment that it had not been able to meet all of the set targets, partly in the Club's opinion, due to the Council's restrictions regarding the expansion of the provision of youth football at the Woodlands Recreation Ground.

The Committee NOTED this information.

6/25 WOODLAND PARK SPORTSFIELD

(a) Rustington Otters Football Club

The Deputy Clerk explained that the following update, had been received, regarding matters relating to the Club:-

- *Compound ground works completed, matting and stones have been put in after scraping the mud and green waste away. Looks very tidy now. They filled some holes in the car park too.*
- *The company HGS will also look to increase the bund size to make it more secure, topsoil and seed*
- *U18 sadly lost in the final of the League Trophy. They are top of the League and if they continue to do well they may win it*
- *U11 Green who were built from training only have a League Final in the coming weeks*
- *The "only for girls" and mixed training sessions continue to grow. Many of the players integrate to playing teams*
- *U6 numbers are now at 20 so we will have 2 new U7 next season*

- *The U8/9/10/11 are becoming so popular we will be looking to have 4 new teams next season*
- *The predicted number of Teams for the 2025/26 Season will be 20 playing teams and 3 training only*
- *The girls teams are doing really well. The U11's remain unbeaten and the U12's are top of the League with only 1 loss. The Club is hopeful of becoming the winners of a couple of Leagues this season*
- *End of season event is 17th May.*

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

(b) Pitch Use at Woodland Park Sportsfield

The Deputy Clerk referred to correspondence, previously circulated from representatives of Rustington Football Club (RFC) and Rustington Otters Football Club (ROFC), regarding pitch use and the individual Club's requirements for the 2025/2026 Season.

She then referred to Minute 26/24(a) and reminded the Committee that an arrangement had been made between the two Clubs for the 2024/2025 Season that had permitted RFC to utilise a pitch at the Woodland Park Sportsfield (WPSF) for one Youth Team.

She explained that RFC had once again approached the Parish Council regarding the Club's need for additional facilities to support the growth of the Club's Youth Section. She confirmed that RFC would be playing ten youth teams and ROFC playing 19 youth teams in the 2025/2026 Season.

She referred to RFC's specific request for a dedicated 9v9 pitch at the WPSF, to support the growth of the Club's Youth Section. She explained that ROFC had stated that the schedule of matches, to be played by the Otters, would not have the capacity to accommodate this. She added that changes to be implemented by the Football Association for the 2026/2027 Season would put further pressure on the limited amount of Youth Pitches available.

During a detailed discussion the Committee recorded its admiration and appreciation of the ambition of both Clubs in respect of their tireless work to promote Youth Football.

Following a comprehensive debate regarding the lack of capacity in terms of pitches, the Parish Council's existing and historic extensive commitment to Youth Football and the fact that Rustington was incredibly compromised and restricted in terms of Green Spaces to meet the needs of all residents, the Committee RECOMMENDED the following:-

- (a) No additional pitches to be considered for Rustington Football Club at either site
- (b) Rustington Football Club be confirmed as the priority user at Woodlands Recreation Ground, (Home Ground), and in turn that Rustington Otters Football Club be confirmed as the priority user at Woodland Park Sportsfield, (Home Ground)
- (c) Rustington Football Club be encouraged to seek alternative pitches for its Youth Section Matches that cannot be accommodated either at the Woodlands Recreation Ground or the Woodland Park Sportsfield, with the Council awarding a grant of £1,000.00 towards the pitch hiring fees at alternative sites for the 2025/2026 Season
- (d) Consideration be given to continuing with the above-mentioned grant on an annual basis, once the benefit of the financial support to the Club's Youth Football Section could be assessed, towards the end of the 2025/2026 Season
- (e) Rustington Football Club be reminded that neither Training Sessions nor "warm ups" were

permitted, under any circumstances, on the Cricket Outfield or the area between the main pitch and the fence line to the south of Rawson Villas.

(c) Extension of Lease

The Clerk referred to Minute 66/24(b) and reported that following the return of the draft Lease to the County Council, the Council's Solicitors had produced a draft Licence for the Rustington Otters Youth Football Club's Changing Room/Toilet Unit, together with the security fencing surrounding it. She said that this had been sent to the County Council at the beginning of February, for any amendments it might wish to make, and for its subsequent approval.

She advised that a response from the County Council had yet to be received but it was hoped that the new Lease with the County Council and Licence with the Rustington Otters Youth Football Club would be finalised in the very near future.

The Committee NOTED this information.

7/25 THE WOODLANDS CENTRE

(a) Current Lettings

The Deputy Clerk gave a progress report on the Lettings against Budget and said that the income for the period from 1 April 2024 to 31 January 2025 was currently above the 2024/2025 Revised Estimate of £62,000.00 at 104%.

She said that the total income to the aforementioned date was £53,575.65 which represented 86% of the Budget.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

(b) Rustington Short Mat Bowls Club - Hall Hire Charges 2025/2026

The Deputy Clerk referred to Minute 5/24(b) and reminded the Committee that the Rustington Short Mat Bowls Club had been a regular Hirer of the Village Memorial Hall for over twenty years and that the Club continued to meet three times per week. She confirmed that the Club also booked additional hirings for League Matches.

She stated that despite the many challenges presented by the cost-of-living crisis, the Club had always been very committed to its continuation.

She added that income received from the Club in 2023/2024 totalled £7,811.05 and that income for 2024/2025, to 31 January 2025, currently stood at £9,064.16. She also confirmed that a discount of 25% was currently in place for one evening session per week only.

Following a brief discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that the Concessionary Rate for Hall Hire by the Rustington Short Mat Bowls Club should be continued at the existing rate of 25% (£60.00 per session), for one evening session only, for a further year, with effect from 1 April 2025.

(c) Woodlands Table Tennis Club - Hall Hire Charges 2025/2026

The Deputy Clerk stated that the Table Tennis Club had been a regular Hirer for nearly 20 years, doubling their sessions from one to two evenings from 2018. She referred to Minute 5/24(c) and explained that the Club currently received a concession of 12.5% per Hiring. She confirmed that this amount had been increased from 10% in 2022. She added that income received from the Club in 2023/2024 totalled £6,304.99 and that income for 2024/2025, to 31 January 2025, currently stood at £6,646.11.

Following a detailed discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that the Concessionary Rate for Hall Hire by the Woodlands Table Tennis Club should be continued at the existing rate of 12.5% (£70.00 per session) for each of the two weekly hirings, for a further year, with effect from 1 April 2025.

8/25 SAMUEL WICKENS CENTRE - CURRENT LETTINGS

The Deputy Clerk gave a progress report on the Lettings against Budget and said that the income for the period from 1 April 2024 to 31 January 2025 was currently above the 2024/2025 Revised Estimate of £15,000.00 at 90%.

She said that the total income to the aforementioned date was £11,275.17 which represented 75% of the Budget.

The Committee NOTED this information.

9/25 RUSTINGTON YOUTH CENTRE

(a) Current Lettings

The Deputy Clerk gave a progress report on the Lettings against Budget and said that the income for the period from 1 April 2024 to 31 January 2025 was currently above the 2024/2025 Revised Estimate of £11,800.00 at approximately 132%.

She said that the total income to the aforementioned date was almost £13,007.50 which represented over 110% of the Budget.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

(b) Youth Club - Arun Youth Projects

The Deputy Clerk referred to the Arun Youth Projects Annual Report, previously circulated from Mr Matt Pollard, Arun Youth Projects (AYP) Youth Service Manager for the period February 2024 to January 2025.

She explained that she had requested an Annual Report format in order to illustrate and give greater context to the attendance and impact of the Youth Club Sessions funded by the Parish Council. She added that the average attendance per week saw ten young people from a sporadic cohort of 50 and that the Service had operated for a total of 100 hours.

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the existing Service Funding Agreement between the Council and Arun Church is due to expire on 30 April 2025.

Following a detailed discussion regarding the existing Senior Youth Club provision, the Committee RECOMMENDED that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee, along with the Clerk and the Deputy Clerk should meet with representatives of the Senior Management Team of Arun Church, to review the existing provision.

The Committee NOTED the Report, a copy of which is attached and forms a part of these Minutes.

10/25 2025 GARDENS COMPETITION

The Committee considered arrangements for the 2025 Gardens' Competition and RECOMMENDED that:-

- (i) The Competition should be divided into six Classes:-

- Class 1 - Window boxes, balconies, patio tubs etc. (residential)*
- Class 2 - Window boxes, balconies, patio tubs etc. (commercial)*
- Class 3 - Front Gardens of any size (including paved Gardens with Patio Tubs) (residential)*
- Class 4 - Front Gardens of any size (commercial)*
- *(All entries to be clearly visible from the road)
- Class 5 - Schools' Competition
- Class 6 - Community Gardens

- (ii) Entries should be invited from members of the public, with nomination forms being available from local shops, the Parish Council Offices, the Samuel Wickens Centre, plus the Council's Website and Facebook Page
- (iii) It is anticipated that the Judging Panel would, as in 2024, comprise of three individuals namely the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council and a representative from Ferring Nurseries
- (iv) The prizes should be:-

Class 1 Winner	£ 50.00 plus The Brand Trophy
Class 1 Runner Up	£ 25.00
Class 2 Winner	£ 50.00 plus The Taylor Trophy
Class 2 Runner Up	£ 25.00
Class 3 Winner	£100.00 plus The Championship Cup
Class 3 Runner Up	£ 25.00
Class 4 Winner	£ 50.00 plus The Menage Trophy
Class 4 Runner Up	£ 25.00
Class 5 Winner	£ 50.00 plus The Michael Harwood Cup
Class 5 Runner Up	£ 25.00
Class 6 Winner	£ 50.00 plus The Rustington Resident's Association Trophy
Class 6 Runner Up	£ 25.00

In addition, each prize winner to receive a small shield for retention

- (v) The closing date for nominations to be set as 27 June 2025, with the judging taking place during week commencing 7 July 2025 (subject to the availability of judges)
- (vi) The Cups and Trophies to be awarded on an annual basis and returned each year to the Council for the next Competition. The Presentations of the Awards to be made at the Reception following the Annual Civic Thanksgiving Service, in the Autumn.

The Deputy Clerk confirmed the necessary arrangements for notices to be placed in the participating shops, advertising the fact that a Gardens' Competition would be being held later in the year to encourage participation had been completed in February.

The Committee further RECOMMENDED that each Member of the Council be again asked to nominate an entry for the 2025 Competition, to ensure a good response in respect of nominations received.

11/25 UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND (UKSPF) - REPLACEMENT MUGA AND FITNESS EQUIPMENT

The Deputy Clerk referred to Minute 65/24 and confirmed that the installation of the Outdoor Fitness Equipment had been completed on 23 December 2024.

She explained that the works to install the new Basketball Court/Multi-Use Games Area began on 10 February 2025 and were due for completion by the end of March 2025.

She confirmed that monthly monitoring reports, required as part of the terms of the Funding, had been submitted to Arun District Council throughout the duration of the project and that a total of £48,000.00 had successfully been reclaimed.

The Committee were pleased to NOTE this information.

12/25 PUBLIC SEATS - PROGRESS REPORT

The Deputy Clerk reported on the current situation in respect of donated and replacement seats as follows:-

- 6 x Seats - Greensward - Donor requests currently on hold
- 1 x Seat - Greensward or Broadmark Lane - Donor request currently on hold
- 1 x Seat - Greensward - Replacement seat - under discussion with current donor family
- 1 x Seat - Broadmark Lane - Possible replacement seat - under discussion with potential donor
- 1 x Seat - Holmes Lane Triangle (junction with Milton Avenue) - Replacement seat - progressing with Rustington In-Bloom Committee
- 1 x Seat - Outside The Quill - New seat - Progressing with private land owner

The Committee NOTED this information.

13/25 BUS AND BEACH SHELTERS

(a) Beach Shelter Renovation

The Clerk referred to Minute 70/24(b) and reminded the Committee of its decision to accept the Estimate received from Company A in the sum of £11,500.00 at the last Meeting, for a major renovation of the Beach Shelter at the junction of Sea Lane and Sea Road.

She said that the works had commenced, and it was anticipated that these would be completed by the end of the current financial year, or very early in the next financial year, if the works were delayed due to adverse weather conditions.

She then advised that whilst undertaking the works, the Contractor had contacted her to advise her that whilst cleaning off the roof, it had been noticed that the north side was in particularly poor condition whilst they had quoted to replace any slats as required, the roof overall only had a couple of years of life left in it, which the Council should have in mind to address over the next few years.

She had obtained a quotation for the replacement of the roof which was likely to be in the region of between £8,000.00 and £9,000.00. She said that she could either obtain two further quotations now, or postpone any further action until it became imperative to replace the roof of the Shelter completely.

Following a further discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that two further quotations should be obtained with a view to replacing the roof, possibly in the next financial year.

(b) Bus Shelter Refurbishment

The Clerk referred to Minute 70/24(a) and said that following a number of reports that the felt on the roof of the Bus Shelter at the junction of Park Drive and Station Road was in a very poor condition, with a large section missing, the roof had been re-felted and the whole Shelter had been repainted at a cost of £475.00.

The Council was pleased to NOTE this information.

14/25

SHOWTIME AMUSEMENTS - FAMILY FUN FAIR VISIT 22-28 APRIL 2025

The Deputy Clerk reported that a request had been received from Peter Shayler of Showtime Amusements, to once again hold a Family Fun Fair on the North Field at the Woodlands Recreation Ground on the following dates and times:-

Friday 25 April	6.00 pm - 10.00 pm
Saturday 26 April	2.00 pm - 10.00 pm
Sunday 27 April	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Following a further discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that:-

- (a) The request received from Showtime Amusements to use the North Field for a Family Fun Fair be AGREED in principle, subject to the Council's current Terms and Conditions, and all required documentation being received, in respect of such an event, on the following operational days:-

Friday 25 April	6.00 pm - 10.00 pm
Saturday 26 April	2.00 pm - 10.00 pm
Sunday 27 April	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm

- (b) The hiring charges should be:-

£300.00 per operational day
£100.00 per non-operational day, from date of arrival
(excluding Tuesday 22 April and Monday 28 April 2025 which will be Free of Charge)
£200.00 refundable deposit

- (c) That Showtime Amusements should be requested, as far as practicably possible, to park any heavy vehicles associated with the Fun Fair on the perimeter of the North Field in an effort to minimise the damage caused to the ground
- (e) The use of the Recreation Ground, for the above-mentioned period, is subject to the Council being satisfied that the ground is in a suitable condition for Showtime Amusements to enter the Council's land at the requested time
- (f) No vehicle movements should be permitted to take place in the surrounding residential streets between the hours of 8.00 pm and 8.00 am, unless pre-arranged with the Parish Council. All vehicle movements must be undertaken with respect to the surrounding residential properties.

15/25

LOO OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The Clerk referred to Minute 67/24 and advised that, in addition to the success previously reported, the Council had also recently been notified that it had achieved fourth position in the National Category Award Winners Premier League and the same position in the Local Authority Public Toilet Awards Roll of Honour 2024. She said that the Churchill Parade Toilets had also received the National Category Local Authority Non-Attended Public Toilets Award.

The Committee was pleased to NOTE this information.

16/25

MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING OF FIRE AND INTRUDER ALARM SYSTEMS, EMERGENCY LIGHTING, FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT REVIEWS CONTRACT - 1 APRIL 2024 - 31 MARCH 2025

The Deputy Clerk explained that Quotations for a one-year Contract had been sought from four local companies. She then referred to Minute 16/24 and a Report, previously circulated, from the

Finance Manager/RFO. She confirmed that the existing one-year Contract valued at £4,138.02 plus VAT would expire on 31 March 2025.

She then advised that, accordingly, the Finance Manager/RFO had produced a Report which included a Specification, together with details of the following Quotations received:-

Company A	£3,972.50 excluding VAT
Company B	£4,861.50 excluding VAT
Company C	£2,567.85 excluding VAT
Company D	£1,180.48 excluding VAT

In her Report, the Finance Manager/RFO stated that Companies C and D had not provided full Quotations as per the Specification.

Following a further discussion, the Committee RECOMMENDED that the Estimate received from Company A in the sum of £3,972.50 be ACCEPTED.

17/25 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Chairman reminded the Committee that the dates for future Meetings had been agreed at Full Council (Minute 258/23 refers) and were as follows:-

- 2 June 2025
- 4 August 2025
- 20 October 2025

There being no further business the Meeting concluded at 7.25 pm.

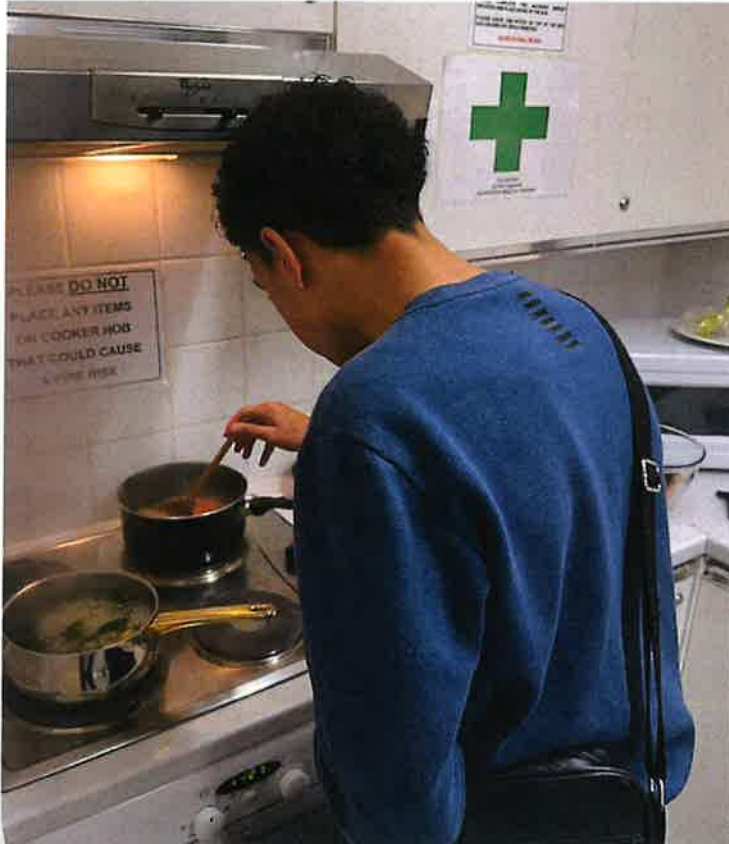
Chairman: Date:

arun church



arun youth projects Annual Report

Feb 24
Jan 25



Funded by UK Government



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INTRODUCTION

Arun Youth Projects is committed to providing a safe, engaging, and supportive space for young people in Rustington to socialise, develop new skills, and access positive opportunities. Over the past year, the Rustington Youth Club has continued to be a valuable resource for local young people, offering a welcoming environment where they can connect with peers, engage in meaningful activities, and receive guidance from trusted youth workers.

This report outlines the impact of Rustington Youth Club over the past year, including attendance figures, key successes, and challenges addressed. We remain grateful for the ongoing support from Rustington Parish Council, which enables us to provide a safe, enriching space where young people can learn, grow, and feel part of their community.

The year began with some challenges, as a small group of individuals presented disruptive behaviour, impacting the atmosphere of the sessions. Recognising the importance of early intervention, we worked closely with the ASB team and engaged parents at the earliest opportunity to address concerns and encourage positive choices. By May, this group had either turned 18 or moved out of the area, allowing the youth club to refocus on fostering a safe and inclusive space for all attendees.

Following consultations with young people across all of AYP's sessions at Rustington, Angmering and Littlehampton and with students at The Angmering School, we believe that adjusting the session time to 6:30–8:30pm would be beneficial in encouraging more young people to attend, particularly those in Year 7 who may find the current timing a barrier. To raise awareness and increase participation, we plan to promote the session on social media throughout February and run regular social media campaigns to inform parents about the offer as well as attend The Angmering School again to promote the session.

One of the highlights of the past year has been our Cook and Eat sessions, where young people have had the opportunity to learn new skills, grow in confidence, and develop healthy habits in a fun and supportive environment. It has been fantastic to see their enthusiasm and engagement in these sessions, and we look forward to continuing to offer meaningful opportunities that equip them with lifelong skills.

Matt Pollard
Youth Service Manager
Arun Youth Projects



WHATS ON

Day	Location	Time	Age Group
Monday	Angmering Community Centre	5-6:30pm	Year 7-13
Tuesday	AYP Connect Drop-in	3-5:30pm	Year 7-13
Tuesday	Southfields Jubilee Centre	7pm-9pm	Year 7-9
Wednesday	K2 Youth & Community Centre	4-5:30pm	Year 5-6
Wednesday	AYP Connect Drop-in	3-5:30pm	Year 7-13
Wednesday	K2 Youth & Community Centre	7-9pm	Year 10+
Thursday	AYP Connect Drop-in	3-5:30pm	Year 7-13
Thursday	Rustington Youth Club	7-9pm	Year 7-13
Friday	AYP Connect Drop-in	3-5:30pm	Year 7-13
Friday	K2 Youth & Community Centre	6-8pm	Year 7-9
Friday	Littlehampton Wave	8-9:30pm	Year 7-10

AYP run sessions across Arun and are run in partnership with Littlehampton Town Council, Rustington Parish Council, Angmering Parish Council, Arun District Council and Million Hours Lottery Funding.

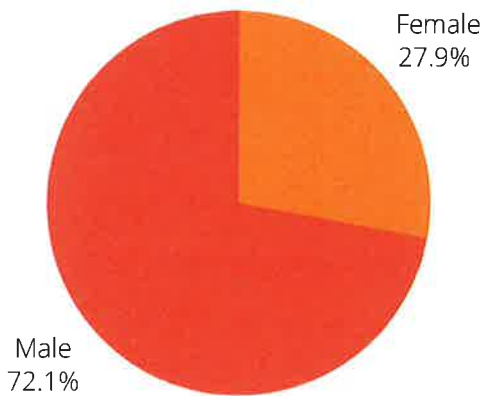
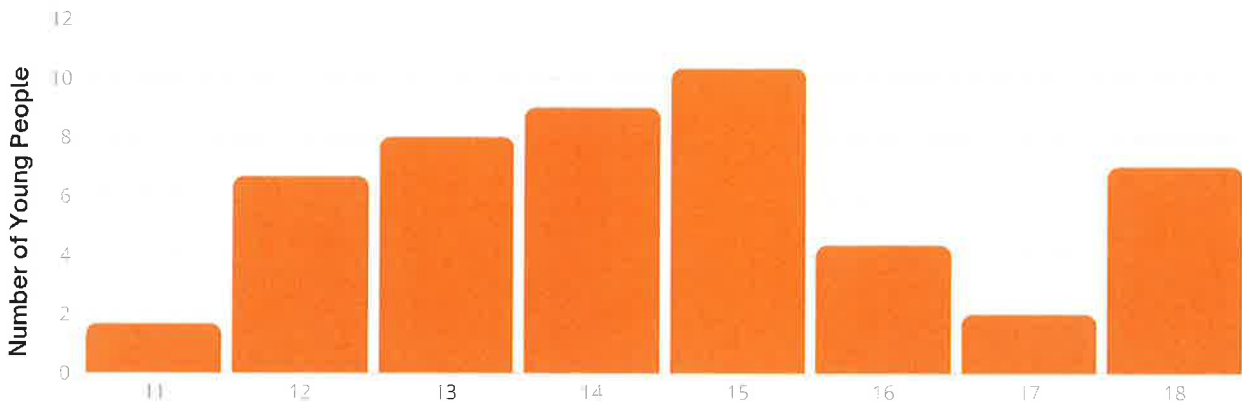
TARGETED PROVISIONS

What	Why	Location
Mentoring	<p>We want all young people to thrive in their communities. During mentoring, a youth worker will support a young person to develop their social and emotional language, to be more confident and aware of their support networks and where to go for specialist support.</p>	Community / School-based
Young Leaders Programme	<p>Through the Young Leaders Programme, we support young people to grow as role models, develop their leadership and communication skills, and build their confidence. Young Leaders will gain a deeper understanding of teamwork, responsibility, and how to positively influence their peers and communities, while also learning where to access further support and opportunities for personal growth.</p>	AYP Connect / K2 Youth & Community Centre
Small Groupwork	<p>Through small group work, we engage young people who may be displaying antisocial behaviour (ASB) in a supportive and structured environment. These sessions focus on building trust, developing positive communication, and strengthening relationships with our team. By fostering mutual respect and a sense of belonging, we aim to empower young people to make positive choices and confidently reintegrate into wider youth sessions.</p>	AYP Connect / School-based

ABOUT THE YOUNG PEOPLE

The graph below shows the average age of the young people that accessed our Rustington Youth Club session across the year. The graph highlights the highest level of engagement comes from the 15 year olds.

We have begun seeing more young people aged 12-14 who have become regular attendees this year. We continue to be visited by young people aged 18 when they are passing by, wanting to check-in and share updates with the team which is nice.

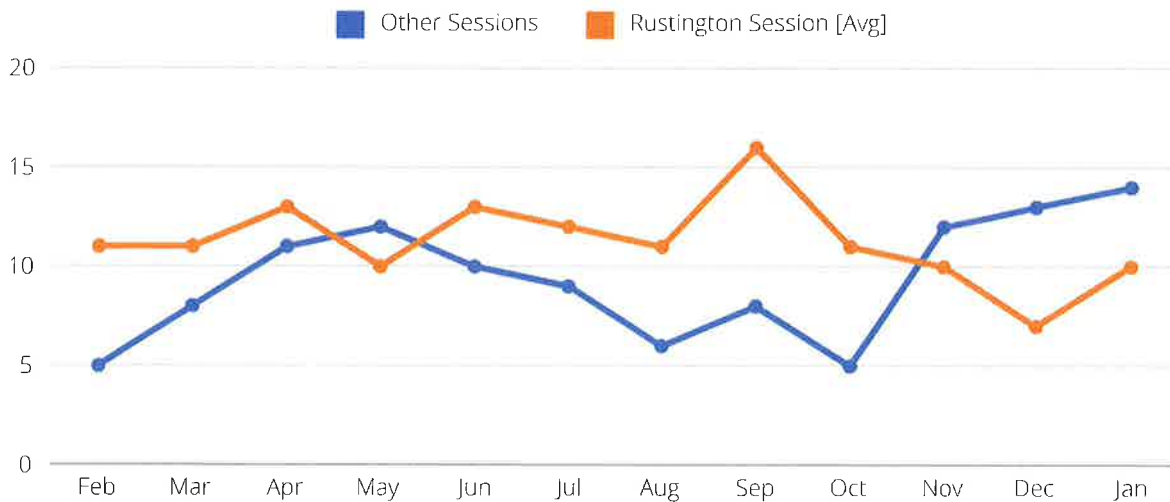


The chart shows the gender breakdown of the young people attending the session at Rustington Youth Centre throughout the year. The data aligns with our quarterly reports showing us a consistent majority of young people attending, identify as male.



The graph above provides insights into our average weekly attendance figures at Rustington Youth Centre. We've had a tricky year with behaviour from one small group of individuals who moved on around May 2024. After this period we have worked hard to try and offer the regular attendees more autonomy about activities, cooking and use of the space.

AYP IN NUMBERS

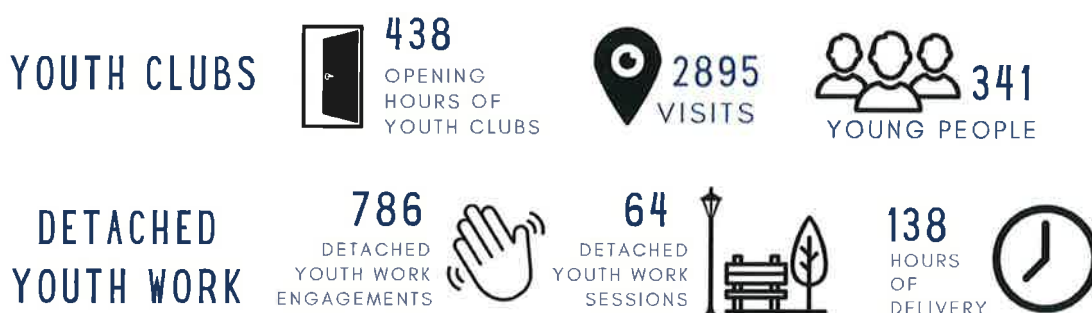


The graph above provides valuable insights into our monthly attendance figures at Rustington Youth Centre, compared against the average attendance across all four sessions in Littlehampton and our drop-in in Angmering over the past year.

THE WIDER SERVICE

Sessions include those funded by Littlehampton Town Council, Rustington Parish Council, Angmering Parish Council & Arun District Council

ACROSS 2024



We'd like to highlight that some young people from Rustington are participating in sessions across the wider area. Above is an overview of our activities which shows the following data:

- The total number of hours our youth clubs have been open across the four centres (Rustington Youth Centre, Keystone/K2 Youth & Community Centre, Southfields Jubilee Centre and Angmering Community Centre).
- The number of visits from young people.
- The number of detached work sessions and engagements had with young people across Littlehampton, Angmering and Barnham.

The above data does not include AYP Connect or Friday Night Project @ The Wave

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Free Hot Meals

1 in 3 children in the UK were living in poverty prior to the cost of living crisis and we have continued to provide a free, hot meal at every youth club session over the past year. We were successful in gaining additional funding from Sainsburys to support us to cover these costs for six months.

Friday Night Project

AYP have worked closely with Arun District Council and Freedom Leisure to help bring this offer back to young people after it closed earlier in the year. We are excited to support Freedom Leisure in delivering an opens space that previously welcomed an average of 40 young people each week.



Cook & Eat sessions

We are encouraging our young people to take part in all of the cooking at sessions and sitting down together to eat, moving from serving food to learning life skills and how to use a kitchen safely. This has had a positive impact on behaviour over recent weeks since introduction.

So far young people have enjoyed making sausage, mash and veg, pasta meatballs, cheesy chips, kebabs and burgers. We're looking forward to making our own pizzas, chicken curry and lasagne.

AYP Connect Youth Drop-in

This year, we successfully secured a grant from the **National Lottery Million Hours Fund**, which enabled the launch of our new Youth Drop-In Centre, **AYP Connect** in Littlehampton. The centre provides a safe and welcoming space where young people can access support from our team, engage in various recreational activities with their peers, and participate in mentoring or group sessions. The space is open four afternoons each week after school



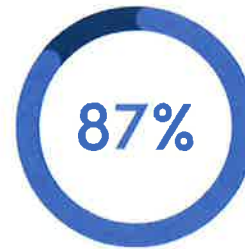
SERVICE USER FEEDBACK



Has AYP had a positive impact on your mental health/wellbeing?



Has AYP helped you build positive relationships with other adults & Young People?



Has AYP taught or helped you develop a new skill?

AYP IS SOMEWHERE I FEEL SAFE AND WELCOME.

I've made so many new friends through AYP.

The youth workers really listen and support us.

"Coming here has helped me deal with things going on at home."

"We're allowed to share our views about how things work and what the building needs"

"I FEEL LIKE I CAN BE MYSELF AT AYP"

"I've had the chance to try new things"

PARTNERSHIPS

It is crucial for AYP to strengthen its existing partnerships and collaborate with local organisations to fully understand the holistic needs of our community's most vulnerable young people and provide them with meaningful support. Offering the best possible assistance is only achievable through collaboration with other agencies.

Our current partnerships include:

Local Councils:

- Littlehampton Town Council – supporting the Littlehampton AYP Offer.
- Rustington Parish Council – supporting the Rustington offer.
- Angmering Parish Council and Angmering Community Centre – supporting the Angmering offer.
- Arun District Council – Supporting ad-hoc projects and information sharing.
- Arun Peer Group Conference.
- West Sussex County Council – supported by the Violence Reduction Partnership.

Other agencies:

- Local Schools
- Sussex Police – Information sharing.
- Children's Social Care & Early Help – Joined up working regarding individual young people..
- National Lottery – Supporting the AYP Connect drop-in
- ArtsWork Charity – supporting us to bring out the creativity within young people.
- Community Wardens – Information sharing and attending Youth Club Sessions.
- Relational Hub – supporting youth workers with supervision, training and annual events

FIND US



Website

arunchurch.com/ayp



Bursary Applications

arunchurch.com/bursary



Social Media

[@arunyoungprojects](https://www.instagram.com/arunyoungprojects)



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