

# Rural Young People

Empowerment &  
Local Democracy

## Background

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***Action in rural Sussex***, working with the ***Sussex Association of Local Councils***, and identified Parish Councils to:

- Engage with Young People in their community
- Enable participation in the local democratic services
- Promote active Empowerment of children and young people in their community, with their Parish Council.
- Create a tool kit from the research and delivery which could then be used in other locations.

## Promotion

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- **Invitation to event sent with attached back ground information of programme (including time scales) to all Parish Councils in Wealden and Rother**
- **Launch event, including presentation on what active participation is and finding out about what is happening currently in other parishes**
- **Parish Councils invited to self nominate for active participation in programme**

2 February, 2010

## Identifying Communities

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- We actively sort to work with 2 communities in lower Wealden District and 2 communities in Rother
- We actively sort the participation of Parish Councils at different stages of engagement with young people
- We actively sort to identify differing village structures and service provision
- We actively sort to identify different provision for young people within communities

## **Camber**

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- **Camber is a sea side village, in south east Rother, with a seasonal tourist appeal of 2 large holiday camps.**
- **There is one After School Club in the village operating one day a week from the Village Hall.**
- **The nearest Primary and Secondary School's are in Rye.**
- **The village is currently in the process of developing a Local Action Plan but have done no consultation with children and young people as of yet.**
- **For recreational and services young people access Folkstone and Hastings.**

2 February, 2010

## The Plan

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- Working with the Parish Clerk, 2 Parish Councillors have been identified to act as main contacts for development of process
- Involving the After School Club, Rye College, and consultation to identify current provision and need for young people
- A representative group of young have been identified to look at the process of how a Parish Council operates to identify need and will participate in the process as consultants.
- 3 visits to Camber so far taken place.

2 February, 2010

## Crowhurst

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- **Crowhurst is situated within surrounding farming communities in the south west of Rother.**
- **There is an active youth club, part funded by the Parish Council, who also edit the parish newsletter and have been involved in the design and research of recently installed play equipment.**
- **The village has it's own primary school, which feeds into nearby Claverham Community College in Battle**
- **There is already a recent action plan completed**
- **A good train service operates enabling access to Hastings and Bexhill but limited bus service for Battle**

2 February, 2010

## The Plan

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- Working with the Parish Council a sub group for children and young people interests has already been established.
- The youth club members and primary school pupils (years 5 to 6) will be invited to participate in a consultation ( meet your Parish Council day) We will be using our mobile youth provision.
- There are well established links with the Parish Council and Youth Club. We have instigated a youth led “question time” event where the Parish Council make regular visits, enabling cross consultation on various issues which include all young people and not just an identified group.
- 1 visit and numerous emails so far with Parish Council, and detailed arrangements discussed with youth club.

2 February, 2010

## Westham

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- **Westham is a village in south east Wealden, neighbouring Pevensey**
- **The village has no secondary school and currently has limited youth provision.**
- **The Parish Council have a strong relationship with Stone Cross Primary School and supports an activity club.**
- **For services and recreation young people access Bexhill, Eastbourne and Pevensey.**

## The Plan

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- **The Parish Council have established links with the primary school and an invite to present what a parish council is.**
- **The year 6 group will be the aimed target age with possible links with the Activity Club.**
- **As the primary school feeds into 3 secondary schools, it will not be possible to proved the same with an older age group.**
- **Due to Parish commitments, first meeting has been arranged for early December**

2 February, 2010

## Willingdon and Jenvington

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- The parish of Willingdon and Jevington, consists of 2 villages, bordering the borough of Eastbourne.
- Willingdon has a primary school and secondary school.
- A recent youth club opened at Willingdon Community School in partnership with the Parish Council, Polegate Town Council and East Sussex County Council (Children and Young People's Services)
- A consultation group has already been established within the secondary school
- 2 meetings attended, at which Parish Council representatives were elected for the project.

2 February, 2010

## The Plan

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- **The youth consultation group is actively supported by the secondary school and now they would like to engage with the primary school**
- **A joint event will be held with the consultation group and Parish Council representatives to identify what services are provided in Willingdon and Jevington, with the involvement of the Parish Council.**
- **The consultation group will arrange to attend a session at the primary school, with the Parish Council representatives to engage with years 5 and 6**
- **With the parish a youth representative formal forum will be established.**