

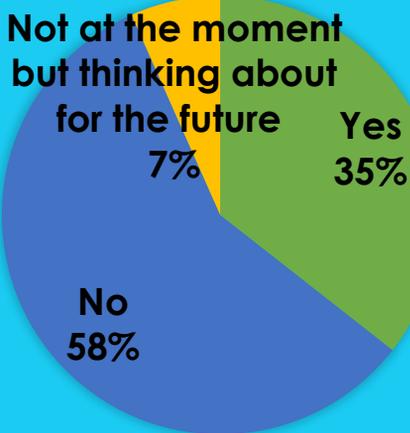
Parish Councils in Kent Activity Mapping

To find out what activities Parish Councils support for the benefit of their community we produced a short survey and emailed it to the Parish Council Clerks and general email addresses.

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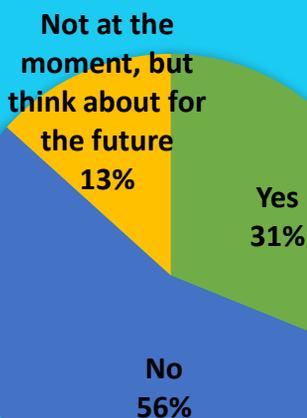
Parish councils responded to the survey

Do you support or run any groups or activities for children ages 0-10?



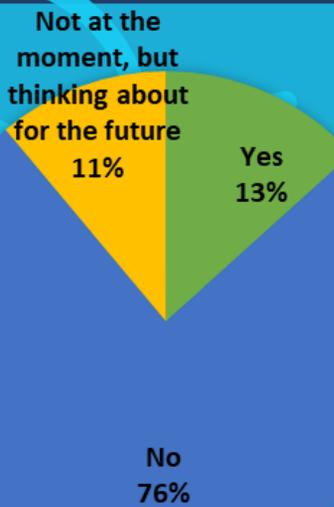
- Running children's clubs or activities in the school holidays
- Supporting sports clubs and teams financially or with use of parish grounds
- Leasing land or rooms to groups
- Providing play areas

Do you support or run any groups or activities for young people aged 11-18



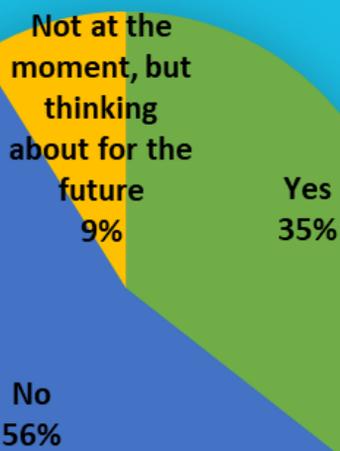
- Youth clubs (run locally or commissioned)
- Events in the school holidays
- Supporting sports clubs and teams financially or with use of parish grounds
- Leasing land or rooms to groups

Do you support or run any groups or activities for Parents/Carers?



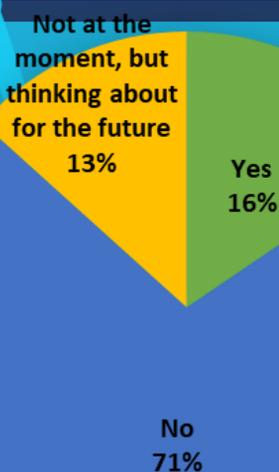
- Community coffee mornings
- Maintaining play areas, village greens and recreation grounds

Do you support and activities or projects to support your community with the cost-of-living crisis?



- Food banks
- Funding to support families
- Drop-in advice sessions with Citizen's advice etc
- Warm hubs

Do you support or run any intergenerational projects in your community?



- Community gardens
- Allotment plots provided for free for community groups to use
- Coffee mornings open to all

What the Parish Councils said they would like to do in the future and other comments:

Children 0-10

Several Parish Councils said they are currently considering running activities for younger children during the holiday periods.

Although one respondent said that Parish residents in general have objections to children's activities although the councillors are keen to have something.

Young people 11-18

A Parish Councils expressed interest in setting up young council previously, but the Councillor who was getting it going left the area.

Several respondents spoke about hopes to set up some sort of youth club or activities in the area to fill gaps where provision has been cut locally.

We are hoping to appoint a Youth & Community Worker. Other ideas include recruiting a Youth and Community worker and linking in with residents who run groups for young people already, e.g. Scouts to look at what more could be offered.

Parents and Carers

Numerous Parish Councils said that they were currently renovating or planning to make halls and community spaces available for parent and baby/toddler groups.

Some spoke about stay and play activities not continuing to run, but would be happy to support these again in the future

“We want to support parents/carers within the village, and offer as many groups and activities for them and their young children. Not only will it offer support, advice, companionship for the adults, but the children will love playing together too.”

Cost of living crisis

“Last winter the parish council along with a local charity offered pasta after school once a week for primary age children. It was not well attended - now considering funding free school meal for families who are struggling but do not currently receive free school meals.”

The Parish Councils that support these activities, do so by providing buildings or supporting organisations locally. Several Parish Councils told us that they had previously run food banks or provided venues for Food Bank charities to use for free. The majority of these have stopped since covid. These Parish Councils would be interested in continuing to have/host food banks in the community, but do not have the funding or people to run it.

Intergenerational Activities

“We occasionally get requests for DofE volunteering and link with our local litter pickers and conservation groups to find them placements.”

A range of Parish Councils shared their plans for Community Gardens and Community Allotments, that are currently in the initial planning stages, through to nearing completion and opening soon.

Several Parish Councils expressed an interest in undertaking intergenerational activities if the right idea comes along, if a relevant organisation was interested or suitable funding was available.

This survey and resulting report ran during Spring 2024. Produced by the Kent Youth Research Network for more information www.kent.gov.uk/kentyouthresearchnetwork. If you have any questions about anything in this report, please email youthresearch@kent.gov.uk