

WEST MONKTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

24th March 2026 at 7pm

Welcome and Overview of the Meeting

- Maidenbrook Country Park and The Somerset Wood.
 - a. Progress in the Park
 - b. Grand Opening of the Park on 9th May (Spring Shindig on Somerset Day)
 - c. 2026 Events
- Youth Provision in our Community.
- Hyde Park Sports Ground progress update including Pump Track installation.
- Brittons Ash Community Hall update and planned activities.
- Questions, thank you and close.



MAIDENBROOK
COUNTRY
PARK
AND
THE SOMERSET
WOOD

Progress in the Park: overview of Lottery project

£188,803.33 of lottery funding secured to support...

Volunteers

- training, enabling volunteers to manage and maintain the Park

Accessibility

- clear signage at key entrances

Facilities

- Volunteer Hub, benches and picnic benches, litter bins, improvements to grassed area for community events



Progress in the Park: what we've done...

- **Recruitment** of Volunteer Coordinator, Candy Sully
- **Training** provision to volunteers and Volunteer Coordinator:
 - First aid, tree care, strimmer and ride-on mower operation, dead hedging and scything
- **Branded uniform** for volunteers - jackets and polo shirts, with gilets on order for summer use
- **Logo** created with associated brand pack
- **Facebook** page created with ~1K in followers
- **Website** created (www.maidenbrookcountrypark.org.uk) with *Photo of the Month* and monthly subscriber newsletter
- **Welcome** signage designed and in place
- New **maintenance equipment** acquired, along with mulching ride-on mower and trailer
- New **Park equipment** (benches, picnic benches, dual-use bins) and fenced **Volunteer Hub** now in place
- Sculpted **waymarkers** across key habitat locations with informative noticeboards installed
- Community events area **reseeded**.



The Grand Opening!

Schedule

2pm	Dog show
2-3pm	Open mic for children
3pm	First hog roast service
3pm to 5pm	The Britones
4pm	Tea party
5.30pm to 7.30pm	Chrystal Bliss
6pm	Second hog roast service
8pm to 9.45pm	Bird Dog
9.45pm to 10pm	Beacon lighting and fireworks

West Monkton Parish Council

Spring Shindig

MAIDENBROOK
COUNTRY PARK &
THE SOMERSET WOOD

Grand Opening

OF MAIDENBROOK
COUNTRY PARK
on Somerset Day

9TH MAY 2026 2-10PM
LIVE MUSIC | BAR | HOG ROAST | DOG
SHOW

Free Entry

BEACON LIGHTING AND FIREWORKS TO
CONCLUDE THE EVENING

2026 Events

April	2026
Easter Egg Hunt	4th April

May	2026
Somerset Day Shindig	9th May

July	2026
FunFest	11th July

August	2026
St Giles Dog Show	23rd August

November	2026
Remembrance Service	6th November



Volunteering at the Park

- Planting and tree care
- Weeding, pruning & grass cutting
- Memorial maintenance
- Practical habitat management
- Photography and promotion
- Conservation care and wildlife watching
- Content preparation for web blogs and social media
- Equipment maintenance
- Event support
 - setup/down, parking, marshalling
- Litter picking and general tidying

Contact:

Candy Sully – *Volunteer Coordinator*

maidenbrookcountrypark@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk



Volunteering at the Park

What it represents...

Special
Pride
Invigorating
Environmental
Helping others
Teamwork
Learning
Inspiring
Social
Accepting
Grounding
Relaxation
Friendship
Worthwhile
Mental health
Motivational
Exercise
Varied



Get in touch

www.maidenbrookcountrypark.org.uk

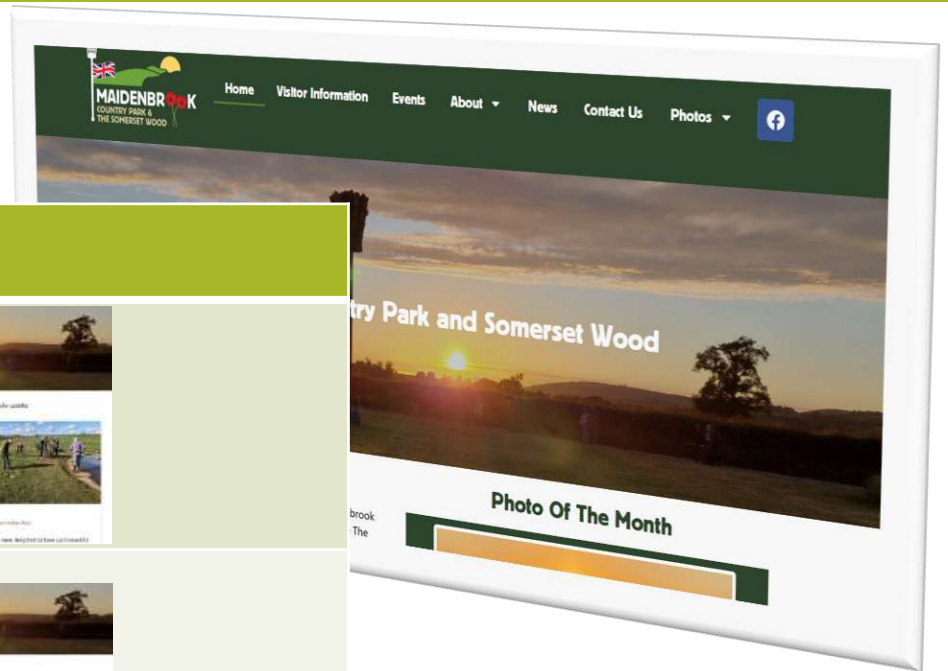
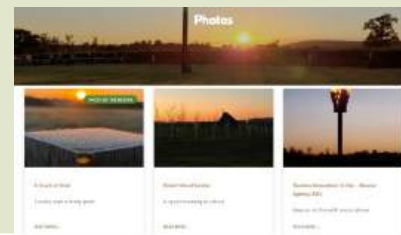
Subscribe for regular news and events



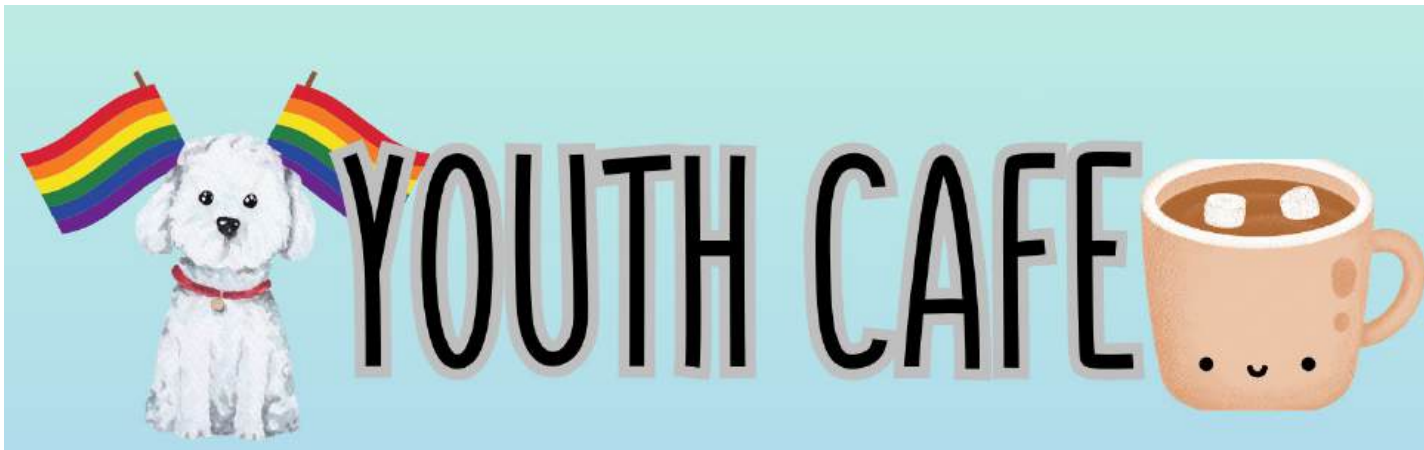
Contact with queries or for info



Photo of the month



Find us on Facebook



YOUTH
PROVISION
IN OUR
COMMUNITY

Youth Cafe

- The Youth Café continues to be a central hub for youth activities weekly from 3.30pm until 5.30pm for young people in years 7 to 11
- 46 young people are officially registered (registration is necessary to participate in the activities).
- In addition, around 60 other young people drop in for a drink and snack each week.
- The Youth Café benefits from Community Fridge donations, offers hot drinks, structured activities, and provides a space for informal interactions.
- Around Easter we will welcome Year 6 students from West Monkton Primary School to ease their transition to Monkton Wood.

COME ALONG TO THE
WEDNESDAY AFTER SCHOOL

YOUTH CAFE

A CAFE AND YOUTH CLUB FOR Y7S TO Y11S
RUNNING EVERY WEDNESDAY DURING THE SCHOOL TERM

FROM 3.30 UNTIL 5.30
AT BRITTONS ASH COMMUNITY HALL

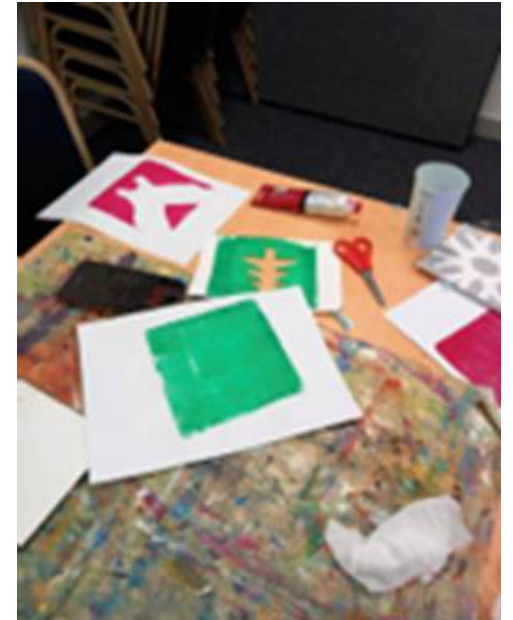
HANG OUT WITH FRIENDS
FREE HOT CHOCOLATE AND SNACKS
POOL/TABLE TENNIS
ART/CRAFTS
MUSIC/DANCE
A SAFE SPACE
AND MORE...

CONTACT KATE AT COMMUNITY@WESTMONKTONPARISHCOUNCIL.GOV.UK FOR MORE INFORMATION

Youth Café Activities:

Each week, young people can choose from a variety of activities, including pool, table tennis, various crafts, board games and sports (weather permitting).

Additional activities have been provided by HYPE, the Hestercombe LCN project including art activities, dance sessions and spoken word sessions.



YOUTH CAFE RAP created by Youth Café with support from TYCA

Welcome everybody to the Youth Cafe, this is our place, this is where we play,
Table tennis, darts and there's room for arts, the Youth Cafe is stealing
everybody's hearts.

Occasionally doors off hinges, when Ronnie's around but nobody whinges,
The roof is getting moved by the ping pong dudes, Mandy's here if you're in a bad
mood.

Toast goes down like its fast food, brought to you faster than Deliveroo,
Our own little garden growing potatoes, cooking up storms just like tornadoes.

David he's the master of pool, makes all the rest of us look like fools.

From the very first moment, I walked through the door, I could tell I wanted to
come back for more,
All of the staff are so inspiring, I hope none of them plan on retiring.

Daisy is the dog that greets us here, She loves a little scratch behind the ear,
When you come here, you find that everybody's kind, everybody leaves at 5:30 at
night.

If you're a fan of hot chocolate and cake, Kate is the one to save the day.
Ian is your man if you're into sports, table tennis, cricket and all sorts.

Lovely food, friendly people, brilliant staff, we're all treated equal.
A place to chill, place to speak, we want it open 5 days a week.



A BIG THANK YOU to our volunteers and staff that make the Youth Café possible:



Mandy Cooper - Volunteer

Completed Level 2 Youth Work and Level 3 Youth Work accredited training with over 140 hours of dedicated study. Mandy has been instrumental in supporting the development of youth policies and strategies aligned with National Youth Agency standards. Mandy was presented with an award at Christmas for her outstanding contribution to the Parish Council for her dedication to the young people of West Monkton Parish



Mary Onukem (D'LOUMMMIES CIC) - Volunteer

Provides trauma awareness and emotional wellbeing support, strengthening the café's ability to respond to young people's needs.



Ian Bishop – Youth Coach

Employed initially as a Youth Coach, to support the development of sport activities within the parish. Ian is currently undertaking his Level 2 Youth Work accredited training.

All volunteers and staff assist Kate who manages the Youth Café as part of her overall role in supporting and developing the West Monkton community.



Progress so far:

- Groundworks to install drainage and seed the pitches took place during 2024.
- Application to vary planning permission submitted in July 2024, and permission received in February 2026.
- Entrance road works completed by Persimmon
- Access gates, bollards and height restriction bar.
- Fencing around the boundary of the site.
- Cricket nets and artificial cricket square works completed.
- Rugby pitch marked out ready for junior matches to be played.



Next Steps:

- Flood lighting contractor appointed and column locations marked. Work expected to commence in April.
- Grant applications have been submitted for the pavilion and other elements of the project.
- Quotations for car parking and drainage have been obtained. This work is expected to commence in April / May.
- Pump track contractor appointed, work commenced on 9th March.

The track will consist of :-

- Start ramp, rider waiting zone, no more than 2metres in height at a width of 2meters
- 3 x 180 and 2 x 90-degree berms, 0.8m in height
- 4 rhythm sections 1.8m riding width, consisting of x number of rollers
- All berms to have entry and exit rollers
- All berms have a rest platform and also a lower pavement to allow inexperienced riders to ride around the base of the berms on a more level surface.
- The track has approximately 150m of rideable surface.



Progress on the Pump Track





BRITTONS ASH COMMUNITY HALL UPDATE AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES.

COMMUNITY CAFE

WEDNESDAYS 2PM TO 3.30PM

AT THE BACH
BRITTONS ASH COMMUNITY HALL
BRIDGWATER ROAD
(NEXT TO WEST MONKTON PRIMARY SCHOOL.)

Discover more about the projects and events organised by West Monkton Parish Council, and find out about ways to get involved!

FREE COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS

Weekly / Monthly Events

STAY AND PLAY

AT BRITTONS ASH COMMUNITY HALL, MONKTON HEATHFIELD

EVERY THURSDAY FROM 10.30-12PM

FREE TO ATTEND

COME AND MEET OTHER FAMILIES FROM THE COMMUNITY

FOR 5 YRS AND UNDER

FREE TEA/COFFEE AND BISCUITS AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT JESS AT:
ADMINEVENTS@WESTMONKTONPARISHCOUNCIL.GOV.UK

West Monkton Parish Council

Drop In Bereavement Cafe

First Wednesday of the month 2-4pm

Britttons Ash Community Hall, Bridgwater Rd, TA2 8FT

If you would like talk about your feelings and experiences in a safe, non-judgemental space with other people in a similar situation, then we would love you to come along.

There is no charge for this drop in cafe, nor for refreshments.

West Monkton Parish Council

Monthly **REPAIR CAFE**

Have something that needs repair or attention? Join us on the third Wednesday of every month at Britttons Ash Community Hall from 2pm.

ARE YOU GREAT AT FIXING THINGS? WHY NOT VOLUNTEER TO HELP OUT!
EMAIL: COMMUNITY@WESTMONKTONPARISHCOUNCIL.GOV.UK
CALL: 07505984006



West Monkton Parish Council

West Monkton Parish Council

SWISH

WHY BUY NEW? SWAP OR DROP INSTEAD!

Join us for a fun exchange—reduce waste,
save money & live sustainably!



WHAT TO BRING:

- Clothes
- Shoes
- Bags
- Accessories
- Children's Clothes

Items can be dropped at
the BACH on 15th April to
17th April between 9am
and 3pm

SATURDAY 18TH APRIL | 12:00PM - 4:00PM
AT BRITTONS ASH COMMUNITY HALL
BRIDGWATER ROAD, TA2 8FT

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT KATE ON 07505 984006
OR EMAIL
COMMUNITY@WESTMONKTONPARISHCOUNCIL.GOV.UK

Upcoming Events



£6.00 PER BOOK

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

CHARITY BINGO AFTERNOONS

AT BRITTONS ASH COMMUNITY HALL
ON TUESDAYS BETWEEN 2-4PM
ON THE FOLLOWING 2026 DATES:

3RD FEBURARY	4TH AUGUST
7TH APRIL	6TH OCTOBER
9TH JUNE	8TH DECEMBER

NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST TURN UP AND HAVE FUN!



For more information contact Kate:
community@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk
or call on 07505984006

Other BACH updates

- Grant to Primary School (from BACH funds) to enable the installation of solar panels on the school hall roof to reduce the carbon footprint of both buildings
- Grants available for young people to support their educational advancement, (approximately £1500.00 per year from BACH funds) during 2025/26 this has supported four young people to:
 - Attend a college nursing trip to Vietnam.
 - Obtain IT equipment needed for their college course.
 - Attend a year 6 residential trip.
 - Attend a year 10 history trip.

Questions, thank
you and close

Contact details for the Parish Council:

Amy Shepherd, Clerk –
clerk@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Kate Welsh, Assistant Clerk Community –
community@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Candy Sully, Country Park Volunteer Coordinator -
maidenbrookcountrypark@westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Website:

www.westmonktonparishcouncil.gov.uk