

Baydon Young People's Association

Venice/Chair of BYPA for last 7 years

Cover 3 areas: Little bit of history/Youth Club Ethos /Coming Changes & challenges we're facing

A few Facts.

- The BYPA Hall belongs to the Youth Club – it is not a village amenity, though we are happy for it to be used in that way.
- It's run completely on a voluntary basis
- Regular parent helpers are CRB cleared and we're all first aid trained
- BYPA does not have charitable status

Recent History

- No Youth Club when I moved into the village 7 years ago – it had been dormant for years
- I rounded up some willing parents and we started it up again.
- Quickly grew to a size we couldn't cope with on one evening (over 35) so we split the groups into 8-11yrs and Secondary school age children and ran 2 clubs on different nights.
- Over the 7 years we've lost most of the original parents that volunteered –
- we've also lost the older youth club – lack of interest from the young people
- But We still regularly have more than 20 children turn up every Friday evening

Ethos

- Run to give the young people in the village an opportunity to meet up, play and develop friendships outside an educational setting
- It's about encouraging community cohesion, respectful behaviour towards each other and adults, developing listening and communication skills and it's all about being inclusive
- It's about giving them something to do in a village that has very little provision for young people
- It's about developing their self confidence through fun and activities and giving them opportunities to learn about themselves and others
- It provides a friendly, welcoming, supportive environment that has supervision but not too many rules
- **What do we do:** In the summer we're out side as much as possible – organising rounders matches or football out on the cricket pitch – also do walks – encourage them to notice the nature around them through quizzes and competitions. Trips out occasionally - we'll be heading off to do the scarecrow trail around Wanborough
- Inside – indoor games, table tennis, pool, creative stuff, cooking. We make up our own games, or they do and we aim to have a lot of fun.
- There's a fantastic bunch of young people in this village

Ahead

- Changes & challenges we're facing.
- This year we're going to lose the only other person who's been here since we started it up, David Price Goodfellow –Thank you David, Fantastic at organising team games and endlessly patient. Has turned out every Friday Evening for 7 years when most of us would rather be home with a glass of wine after a hard week! You'll be missed. He's also been our treasurer.
- Leaves 2 of us - who can't run BYPA without extra help.
- Both myself and Kim Austen will be standing down at the end of next summer. So over the next year a whole new committee is needed if the Youth Club is not to fold again.
- The Hall itself needs completely refurbishing to bring the facility up to today's standards.
- It needs basics such as double glazing and proper roof insulation to make it economical and environmental
- It needs disabled facilities such as a toilet and better access,
- it needs new flooring and more storage.
- The grounds need a major overhaul.
- All of that needs time to organise, fundraise and do. It's time I don't have.
- Good time to be asking questions about the value of the facility and the future use and management of it.
- If there's anyone here that could help.....