



🏠 **Melbourn Parish Council**
Melbourn Community Hub
30 High Street
Melbourn
SG8 6DZ

👤 **Abi Williams, Clerk**
👤 **Alex Coxall, Deputy Clerk**
✉ parishclerk@melbournparishcouncil.gov.uk
☎ 01763 263303, ext 3
🌐 melbournparishcouncil.gov.uk

MELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL – MAYD JOINT COMMITTEE (District of South Cambridgeshire)

A meeting of the MAYD Joint Committee was held on Friday 7 August 2026 at 2pm in the Austen Room of the Community Hub, 30 High Street, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire SG8 6DZ

Present: Cllrs Barnes, Clark, Davey, Garner (Meldreth Parish Council), Kyprianou (Chair), Pankhurst (Shepreth Parish Council)

Absent:

In attendance: Abi Williams (Clerk), Shelley Coulman (Mix Music (MM)), District Cllr Hart (South Cambridgeshire District Council), Cllr Bostanci (Cambridgeshire County Council), Alan Webb (The Connections Bus Project), Kathy Shaw (Community Coordinator (Youth – South Cambs for Cambridgeshire County Council))

MINUTES: MAYD JOINT COMMITTEE

Meeting started 14:02

MAYD01/2627 To receive nominations and elect the Chair of the MAYD Joint Committee.

Nominations were received for Cllr Kyprianou to be elected Chair of the MAYD Joint Committee. No other nominations were received.

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Kyprianou as Chair of the MAYD Joint Committee.

Proposed by Cllr Clark, seconded by Cllr Davey. All in favour.

MAYD02/2627 To receive nominations and elect the Vice Chair of the MAYD Joint Committee.

Nominations were received for Cllr Garner to be elected Vice Chair of the MAYD Joint Committee. No other nominations were received.

It was **RESOLVED** to elect Cllr Garner as Vice Chair of the MAYD Joint Committee.

Proposed by Cllr Pankhurst, seconded by Cllr Davey. All in favour.

MAYD03/2627 To receive any apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllr Campbell with acceptable reasons.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies of absence from Cllr Campbell.

Proposed by Cllr Barnes, seconded by Cllr Clark. All in favour.

MAYD04/2627 To receive any declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests and reasons from members of the Joint Committee on any item on the agenda.

None received.

MAYD05/2627 To consider approving the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 February 2026

Correction to item MAYD15/2526 noted – incorrect allocation of votes noted on draft version – Cllr Pankhurst abstained from Chair vote and not Vice Chair vote.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 5 February 2026 as an accurate record, noting correction as stated.

Proposed by Cllr Davey, seconded by Cllr Barnes. All in favour.

County Cllr Bostanci joined the meeting 14:06

MAYD06/2627 To confirm current members of committee and consider signing agreements as required.

Committee members confirmed – both Meldreth and Shepreth happy to proceed with one member each at this time. Agreements signed.

Alan Webb of The Connections Bus Project joined the meeting 14:17

MAYD07/2627 To receive report of previous actions and consider any actions.

A verbal and written report was received.

Concern around behaviour attributed to the Connections Bus discussed – further meeting to be held with Melbourn Sports Centre and Melbourn Village College to assess the best course of action. It was noted that the Futures Working Party would progress the project to add 'multigoals' to public spaces and look at suitable planting to improve the areas.

Signed..... Date.....

The Clerk noted meetings that had been attended, the huge success of the Generation Game course provided by The Connections Bus Project, positive interactions at the Melbourn Fete and the opportunity of the Firebreak Course and Babysitting Course. ACTION: Office to gather information about the Firebreak Course, including possibility of joint funding through Community Safety Partnership and share with Committee and schools. *A copy of the report is included in the supporting documents for this meeting.*

It was RESOLVED to proceed with the offer from The Connections Bus Project to host a Babysitting Course in Melbourn from September 2026 at a cost of £1,637.
Proposed by Cllr Pankhurst, seconded by Cllr Clark. All in favour.

MAYD08/2627 To receive the MAYD accounts and consider any actions.

To review spend on suggested projects the accounts were considered during agenda item MAYD07/2627.

The accounts were received. Funds remain healthy with opportunities to provide additional services discussed. No application for Community Grant Funding suggested at this time.

MAYD09/2627 To receive introduction of Communities Service, Cambridgeshire County Council by Kathy Shaw.

Kathy Shaw provided a verbal introduction to the committee of the services and work that the Communities Service undertake. Kathy spoke of the work we have been doing to access Melbourn and areas needs and how they can support us through signposting opportunities for service providers, training and support in communicating with the schools. More information can be found here: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/communities-service>

MAYD10/2627 To receive update on the Connections Bus project and consider any actions.

Alan Webb provided a verbal update.

Alan shared the termly and annual update from The Connections Bus Project. It was noted that the service supports up to 105 local young people – offering a safe space, information, entertainment and interventions as required. Cllrs commented on the important service that is being provided for our young people and offered thanks to the team. ACTION: Connections Bus to provide breakdown of locations for attendees. ACTION: Office and stakeholders to discuss possibility of bus parking moving / running youth service from pavilion.

MAYD11/2627 To receive update on the MixMusic(MM) project and consider any actions.

Shelley Coulman provided a verbal update.

MM continue to provide service for several young people – sessions and opportunities reduce over the holiday periods. Availability of the Youth Community Coordinator is essential for MM to continue to support local young people. Funds are available for an event that needs to be arranged.

MAYD12/2627 To update on strategic review of Melbourn assets.

A strategic review of Melbourn community assets was completed in July and will be reported to Full Council in September.

MAYD13/2627 To update on Community Coordinator (Youth) role for Melbourn Parish Council and consider any actions.

A request to stall the advertising of the role until Cllrs reviewed was noted. Cllrs reviewed the previously approved job specification and agreed to proceed with advertising the role due to the obvious need for action. The Job will be limited to a three-year fixed term initially with the role specifications being confirmed during this time.

Proposed by Cllr Clark, seconded by Cllr Pankhurst. All in favour.

MAYD14/2627 To accept notices and matters for the future agendas.

Cllr Clark noted interest in proceeding with the Youth Council. County Cllr Bostanci noted that Melbourn Village College had introduced a Youth Council and should help align with the Youth Parish Council. ACTION: Office/Cllrs to contact both College and Primary schools to progress.

MAYD15/2627 To confirm the date of the next meeting.

Proposed Friday 20 November, 2pm

It was noted that the date of the next meeting is proposed as 20 November 2026 – confirmation to be sent prior to the meeting date.

Meeting closed 15:03



🏠 **Melbourn Parish Council**
Melbourn Community Hub
30 High Street
Melbourn
SG8 6DZ

👤 **Abi Williams, Clerk**
👤 **Alex Coxall, Deputy Clerk**
✉ parishclerk@melbournparishcouncil.gov.uk
☎ **01763 263303, ext 3**
🌐 melbournparishcouncil.gov.uk

MELBOURN PARISH COUNCIL – MAYD JOINT COMMITTEE
(District of South Cambridgeshire)

A meeting of the MAYD Joint Committee was held on Thursday 5 February 2026 at 7.30pm in the Austen Room of the Community Hub, 30 High Street, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire SG8 6DZ

Present: Cllrs Barnes, Davey, Pankhurst (Shepreth Parish Council), Kyprianou

Absent:

In attendance: Abi Williams (Clerk), Shelley Coulman (Mix Music(MM)), Jason Coulman (Mix Music), District Cllr Hart (South Cambridgeshire District Council)

Meeting started 19:30

MAYD15/2526 To receive nominations and elect the Chair of the MAYD Joint Committee.

Nominations were received for Cllr Kyprianou to be elected Chair of the MAYD Joint Committee. No other nominations were received.

It was RESOLVED to elect Cllr Kyprianou as Chair of the MAYD Joint Committee.

Proposed by Cllr Davey, seconded by Cllr Barnes.

For: Cllrs Barnes, Davey, Kyprianou

Against:

Abstain: Cllr Pankhurst

Nominations were received for Cllr Garner to be elected Vice Chair of the MAYD Joint Committee.

No other nominations were received.

It was RESOLVED to elect Cllr Garner as Vice Chair of the MAYD Joint Committee.

Proposed by Cllr Davey, seconded by Cllr Barnes. All in favour.

Shelley and Jason Coulman, Mix Music joined the meeting 19:32

MAYD16/2526 To receive any apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllrs Clark and Garner and County Cllr Bostanci all with acceptable reasons.

It was RESOLVED to accept apologies of absence from Cllrs Clark and Garner and County Cllr Bostanci.

Proposed by Cllr Barnes, seconded by Cllr Davey. All in favour.

MAYD17/2526 To receive any declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests and reasons from members of the Joint Committee on any item on the agenda.

None received.

MAYD18/2526 To consider approving the Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 November 2025.

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2025 as an accurate record.

Proposed by Cllr Pankhurst, seconded by Cllr Davey. All in favour.

MAYD19/2526 Report on actions from or after the meeting held on 20 November 2025.

A verbal and written report was received.

Action to promote the Connections Bus to other parishes were recorded.

The Clerk noted meetings with the South Cambs Youth Forum and Practical Solutions Group indicated support from Cambridgeshire County Council and Melbourn Village College, among other agencies, in the development of youth provision in the area. Clerk and Cllrs to continue momentum with project to address the needs of young people in and around the area. *A copy of the report is included in the supporting documents for this meeting.*

MAYD20/2526 To confirm current members of committee.

Latest committee membership list was shared. ACTION: Cllrs to be confirmed at next Full Council meeting – new members recruited if required.

MAYD21/2526 To receive the MAYD accounts.

The accounts were received. Funds remain healthy due to underspend on Connections Bus.

MAYD22/2526 To receive update on the Connections Bus project.

The Connections Bus project provided a term report. ACTION: Connections Bus to provide flyers to allow other areas to advertise the service. It was noted that Cllr Garner was applying for a contribution from Meldreth Parish Council towards costs.

MAYD23/2526 To receive update on the Mix Music DJ project.

A verbal report was provided by Mix Music.

It was noted that the DJ Workshops continue to provide support for up to 10 young people.

Summer festival project is looking for support from the Melbourn Fete to combine the events.

Meeting with Fete committee arranged. ACTION: MM to look at targeted funding for SEN activities.

MAYD24/2526 To consider actions and project scope related to motion to support commitment to understanding our community by progressing with a project to review assets with a view to develop and improve resources for younger people (PC156/2526).

It was decided to accept the offer from Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) Communities team through South Cambs Youth Forum to look at Melbourn Parish assets and activities and identify gaps in youth provision.

It was RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council to proceed with parish wide strategic review as laid out in the quote from Council HR and Governance Support to produce an all-encompassing strategic review – using the CCC youth specific review as supporting documentation.

Proposed by Cllr Barnes, seconded by Cllr Davey. All in favour.

MAYD25/2526 To consider approval of job specification for Community Coordinator to join Melbourn Parish Council.

It was RESOLVED to recommend the job specification as written to Full Council for review. Proposed by Cllr Davey, seconded by Cllr Barnes. All in favour.

MAYD26/2526 To accept notices and matters for the future agendas.

Cllr Davey raised the idea of providing a multigoal (football / cricket) on an area of Parish owned land in the village. ACTION: Office to look at costs and land suitability and report to committee.

MAYD27/2526 To confirm the date of the next meeting.

Date to be confirmed when timeline for CCC report is known. ACTION: Office to communicate to committee and book meeting.

Meeting closed 20:21

Joint Committee Members

Extract from MAYD Joint Committee ToRs

*This joint committee will consist of **representatives from the participating Parish Councils** at the time and **representatives from principal authorities**. In the event that a parish council withdraws from the MAYD Agreement, membership of the joint committee shall be made up of representatives from participating parish councils at the time.*

*There will be up to **5 councillors from Melbourn** and up to **2 each from the other participating councils**. **The Chair, appointed at the first meeting, must be a Melbourn parish councillor**. In the event of a vacancy by death, resignation or from any other cause other than the expiration of the term for which the member was appointed, the committee will co-opt new members drawn from the council from which the vacancy has originated. Majority voting will apply for all decisions, the Chair having a second and casting vote in the event of a tie.*

Melbourn	Meldreth	Shepreth	District / County
Cllr Barnes Cllr Campbell Cllr Clark Cllr Davey Cllr Kyprianou	Cllr Garner VACANCY	Cllr Pankhurst VACANCY	District Cllr Hart County Cllr Bostanci

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR
MAYD JOINT COMMITTEE**

1. MAYD is a joint committee (as defined in the Local Government Act, 1972 s101(5)) consisting of serving parish councillors from Melbourn, Meldreth and Shepreth Parish Councils.
2. This joint committee will consist of representatives from the participating Parish Councils at the time and representatives from principal authorities. In the event that a parish council withdraws from the MAYD Agreement, membership of the joint committee shall be made up of representatives from participating parish councils at the time.
3. The joint committee shall operate under the following Terms of Reference:-
 - (a) **NAME:** The joint committee will be known as Melbourn Area Youth Development (MAYD)
 - (b) **PURPOSE:** To provide activities for young people up to the age of 19 in order to promote their well-being and development delivered through structured youth work provided by qualified youth workers.
 - (c) **AUTHORITY:** There will be up to 5 councillors from Melbourn and up to 2 each from the other participating councils. The Chair, appointed at the first meeting, must be a Melbourn parish councillor. In the event of a vacancy by death, resignation or from any other cause other than the expiration of the term for which the member was appointed, the committee will co-opt new members drawn from the council from which the vacancy has originated. Majority voting will apply for all decisions, the Chair having a second and casting vote in the event of a tie.
 - (d) **FINANCE:** The joint committee will be financed by contributions from each of the participating authorities, as provided for in LGA, 1972 s103. The money is to be held by Melbourn Parish Council for the exclusive use of MAYD. Melbourn Parish Council will invoice participating parish councils annually for their agreed contribution. Contributions to MAYD may be precepted by participating parish councils or secured through other funding sources. See Financial Agreement attached as Appendix 1.
 - (e) **MAYD/PARISH COUNCILS' AGREEMENT:** The relationship between the participating councils and between the committee and the youth service providers will be governed by the MAYD/Parish Councils' Agreement attached as Appendix 2.

Appendix 1

MAYD / Parish Councils' Financial Agreement

Agreement between MAYD (Melbourn Area Youth Development) funding partners:

Melbourn Parish Council, Meldreth Parish Council and Shepreth Parish Council.

Background

1. MAYD was established in 2010 at the initiative of the aforementioned Parish Councils. Its aim is to provide youth recreational services for young people aged 11-18 from the parishes of Melbourn, Meldreth and Shepreth. Attendance of the youth activities is not exclusive to young people from the group villages, any activity is open to all young people.
2. MAYD is a joint committee resulting from the collaborative approach to the provision of youth recreational services by the member parish councils.

Financial arrangements

3. MAYD's activities are financed through an annual contribution made by each of the parish councils named in this agreement.
4. Contributions for funding will be reviewed annually based on the previous year's attendance such that funding is distributed as equitably as possible. Where there has been a gap in delivery of the service, contributions will be based on the most recent attendance figures available.
5. Melbourn Parish Council holds a dedicated account to receive and administer these funds.
6. Any funds unspent which have not been utilised for the purpose agreed can be ringfenced to fund future sessions or items such as materials for activities and/or to improve the facilities for the benefit of youth club.

Melbourn Parish Council
Councillor

_____ Date: _____

Meldreth Parish Council _____ Date: _____

Councillor

Shepreth Parish Council _____ Date: _____

Councillor

MAYD _____ Date: _____

Chair

Melbourn Area Youth Development (MAYD)

c/o Melbourn Parish Council

November 2025

Appendix 2

MAYD / Parish Councils' Agreement

Agreement between MAYD (Melbourn Area Youth Development) funding partners: Melbourn Parish Council, Meldreth Parish Council and Shepreth Parish Council.

Background

1. MAYD was established in 2010 at the initiative of the aforementioned Parish Councils. Its aim is to provide youth recreational services for young people aged 11-18 from the parishes of Melbourn, Meldreth and Shepreth. Attendance of the youth activities is not exclusive to young people from the group villages, the club is open to all young people.
2. MAYD is a voluntary community organisation resulting from the collaborative approach to the provision of youth recreational services by the member parish councils.

Financial arrangements

3. MAYD's activities are financed through an annual contribution awarded by each of the parish councils named in this agreement.
4. Contributions for funding will be reviewed annually based on the previous year's attendance such that funding is distributed as equitably as possible. Where there has been a gap in delivery of the service, contributions will be based on the most recent available attendance figures.
5. Melbourn Parish Council holds a dedicated account to receive and administer these funds.
6. Any funds unspent which have not been utilised for the purpose agreed can be ringfenced to fund items such as materials for activities and/or items to improve youth facilities..

Governance arrangements

7. The activities of MAYD will be overseen by a joint committee comprised of parish councillors from the participating parish councils, and District and County Councillors, or a non-councillor but authorised by their designated member representative. The group will be chaired by a Melbourn Parish Councillor as the over-arching Council with the fiscal responsibility. The vice chair can be drawn from the remaining group.
8. The Parish Clerk for Melbourn will provide the secretariat for this joint committee.
9. At the invitation of the joint committee, representatives from parish/town councils or other organisations who are not signatories to this agreement may attend

meetings of the MAYD Joint Committee.

10. The joint committee will endeavour to meet at least quarterly and the minutes disseminated to participating parish councils via the Parish Clerk for Melbourn.
11. Complaints regarding any element of this agreement or the service provided through this agreement are to be directed to the joint committee via the secretariat.
12. A member parish council, should it choose to withdraw from this agreement, should provide the joint committee with at least six months' notice prior to the annual renewal date of 1 April.
13. Following the departure of a member parish council the remaining members of the joint committee will determine the future of the partnership and reframe this agreement accordingly.

Safeguarding

14. In order to ensure the safety of its client group MAYD will be bound by the safeguarding procedures of Melbourn Parish Council, which are:
 - appropriate to MAYD's work
 - reviewed annually
 - ensure a rigorous recruitment and selection process is in place for staff and volunteers
 - involved in MAYD activities who work with children and young people, and shall include the checking of criminal records via the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and the taking up references. DPS will be carried out every 3 years.
 - statutory or best practice guidance will be followed on appropriate ratios of staff or volunteers to children or young people
 - child protection and health and safety training or guidance for staff or volunteers will be provided
 - activities will be risk assessed as appropriate
 - appropriate insurance cover will be in place
 - Or it will be ensured that any third-party contractor hired to deliver youth recreational services on its behalf complies with these requirements

Service Delivery/ Function on MAYD

- To provide Governance, resolving any issues raised from any source
- To set Aims of any youth provision
- To receive and discuss any service provider's assessment of whether the programs are meeting the aims.
- To review performance of the appointed service provider against agreed programs and other criteria

- To finance the activities of youth provision adequately
- To promote the activities of youth provision and encourage participation from the local communities

15. Any additional service provision must be agreed and separately funded by the parish councils via the MAYD joint committee.

Term of the agreement

16. This agreement shall run from November 2025 to November 2028.

Melbourn Parish Council
Councillors

Date:

Meldreth Parish Council
Councillors

Date:

Shepreth Parish Council
Councillors

Date:

MAYD Chair

Date:

Melbourn Area Youth Development (MAYD)
c/o Melbourn Parish Council
November 2025

Report on actions from 5 February 2026

MAYD22/2526 Connection Bus Project

Contribution from Meldreth Parish Council received with thanks.
It was noted that flyers should be provided to other villages advertising the Tuesday night visits to Melbourn Village College – this has not been actioned. MPC asked MVC to advertise the offering but due to ongoing complaints and the risk of losing the parking area flyers have not been requested. A meeting with the school and talks with Connections Bus to look at alternative provision is needed to address the issues.

MAYD24/2526 Review of assets

Continued to work with Cambridgeshire County Council Communities team to look at opportunities to develop the youth offering.
MPC agreed to proceed with a strategic review of assets to report on possible improvements/actions. The review has been undertaken, and the report will be presented to Full Council in September.

MAYD25/2526 Community Coordinator

Job spec approved by MPC.
Delay in advertising the role due to information gathering by Cllrs.
Action is needed to progress.

MAYD26/2526 Multigoals

MPC Futures Working Party investigating the installation of multigoals on public land.
Possibility of utilising s106 funding for public open space.

Activities since February

25 February 2026 South Cambs Youth Forum (Histon)

Cllr Kyprianou and Clerk attended.

15 April 2026 Melbourn Village College – introduction session.

Multi agency introductions to Melbourn Village College.

April – June Generation Game Course (provided by Connections Bus)

<https://www.connectionsbusproject.org.uk/courses>

This is a tailor made course to help you gain a basic level of knowledge, understanding and learning to be an excellent visitor to the elderly. look at and discuss topics such as how to be a good visitor to the elderly; what it's like to live with dementia; how we can help people who live in care homes; how similar/different our hobbies and interests are compared with an older person.

See report attached (Appendix A).

20 May 2026 Practical Solutions Group

Clerk and Cllrs attended Practical Solutions Group at Melbourn Village College. Topics included:

- Interest in Youth Council.
MPC to progress with project involving MPS and MVC.
- Concern over youths accessing the railway line.
Community Rail Partnership offered information sharing via assemblies.

- Concern raised over misuse of Melbourn Sports Centre (Connections bus).
Ongoing discussion over future of Connections Bus.
- Road safety around Primary School – potential ‘school street’ and implementation of LHI project.
Ongoing discussions with Cambridgeshire County Council to look at the impact on the LHI project (Meeting booked for 17 August 2026).
- Increase in ASB including false 999 calls and fire incidents, Evidence of fire-setting by a student shared with school/police.
MPC to promote how to report incidents.

13 June 2026

Melbourn Fete

Youth engagement focus – see report attached (Appendix B).

7 July 2026

South Cambs Youth Forum (SSYI)

Clerk attended.

14 July 2026

Involving Young People (webinar)

Clerk attended.

Future considerations

Firebreak Course <https://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/community-safety/children-young-people-and-education/firebreak/>

Promoted by Cllrs Hart and Bostanci.

The intervention course offers a unique opportunity for participants to engage with operational firefighters who are given additional training to become Firebreak Instructors. As positive role models they support the participants and help them to build positive and trusting relationships. The course culminates at the end of the week with a pass out parade where participants demonstrate their practical achievements and are awarded their certification in front of invited guests and dignitaries.

Through the Firebreak approach, individuals who may be struggling to achieve within the traditional education framework benefit from the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge they need to succeed. By challenging themselves in this supportive environment, participants can develop skills around team work and relationship building, focusing on reaching their potential and becoming an active and contributing member of their community.

- Referrals must be made by those working with young people.
- Would need input from College or Primary School and Connections Bus.
- Cost £5,000 (possible 50% funding available)

Connections Bus Babysitting Course <https://www.connectionsbusproject.org.uk/courses>

A tailor-made course to help you gain a basic level of knowledge, understanding and learning in looking after other people’s children (babysitting). As well as offering practical and hands-on experience, you will complete a portfolio of your work and receive a certificate on successful completion of the course, including Basic First Aid.

Connections Bus have offered to run the 10 week course in Melbourn from September at the cost of £1637.40.

THE GENERATION GAME

HELPING TO BUILD
RELATIONSHIPS ACROSS
THE GENERATIONS



Tuesday 23rd June 2026

The Generation Game Team Visit to Melbourn Springs Care Home

Despite it being one of the hottest days of the year, and with many other activities cancelled at Melbourn Springs, The Generation Game Team remained committed to their visit. Their willingness to attend and spend time with residents demonstrated dedication, compassion, and a genuine desire to connect with others. Before entering the care home, the young people met to discuss how they were feeling and to prepare for their conversations with residents. Everyone expressed excitement about meeting new people and making a positive contribution to the residents' day. Students considered ways to begin conversations, including asking residents about their day, their interests and hobbies, introducing themselves, and even discussing the exceptionally hot weather.

A range of resources had been prepared to support interaction, including chess, word searches, conversation bags, puzzles, Connect 4, Uno, card-making materials and scratch art activities. Students hoped to learn more about residents' lives and experiences, develop their communication skills with older people, and bring enjoyment and companionship to those living at the care home.

On arrival, some residents were completing a puzzle and playing Scrabble. Students quickly joined in, helping with the puzzle, keeping score, and striking up conversations. Others pulled up chairs alongside residents in the lounge, engaging in meaningful discussions and sharing stories.

The group spent approximately 40 minutes socialising in the lounge before joining residents for tea in the dining room. Students were warmly welcomed and offered sandwiches, crisps, drinks and, for some, a hot meal. Sharing a meal together provided an excellent opportunity for further conversation and relationship-building. The impact of the visit was evident in the smiles, laughter and positive atmosphere throughout the afternoon. Both residents and students clearly enjoyed the experience, and many expressed a strong desire for future visits. Several students were so inspired by the experience that they are now considering completing the volunteering section of their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award at Melbourn Springs.

Student Reflections

What did students enjoy most?

- Meeting new people.
- Talking with residents and learning about their lives.
- Hearing stories and memories from the past.
- Sharing a meal with residents.

How did students feel?

- "Very comfortable and inspired."
- "Happy – really happy we did it. It was fun!"
- "Amazing!"

APPENDIX A

What did students learn?

Students learned that:

- People of different generations often have common interests.
- Everyone has unique life experiences and stories to tell.
- It is important to respect and value older people's experiences.
- Some residents stay in care homes for respite rather than permanent care.
- Family, childhood experiences and careers play an important role in shaping people's lives.
- Listening carefully and communicating respectfully are essential skills.

Challenges

Students identified several challenges, including:

- Hearing residents who spoke quietly.
- Maintaining conversations when communication was difficult.
- Adapting their communication styles to different individuals.
- Speaking French with one resident!
- Leaving at the end of the visit because they had enjoyed it so much.

Skills Developed

Throughout the visit, students demonstrated and developed:

- Communication
- Active listening
- Patience
- Confidence
- Kindness
- Empathy
- Teamwork

What surprised students?

- How welcoming and talkative the residents were.
- How easy it was to start conversations.
- The strong connections that developed in a short time.
- The delicious food provided by the care home!

Looking Ahead

By the end of the visit, every student reported feeling more confident when interacting with older people. The experience highlighted the value of intergenerational connections and the positive impact that simple acts of companionship can have on wellbeing. The team is already looking forward to returning to Melbourn Springs and hopes to spend time with residents in Memory Lane during a future visit, further developing their understanding of dementia care and strengthening relationships within the community.

The overwhelming message from both residents and students was clear: this was a memorable and rewarding experience, and everyone is eager for the next visit.



APPENDIX A



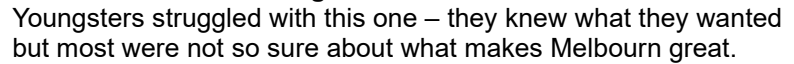


At the recent Melbourn Fete the Parish Council stand posed two questions to the young people that stopped by (the offer of a lucky dip sweet helped!!). The youth in our community shared some great ideas.

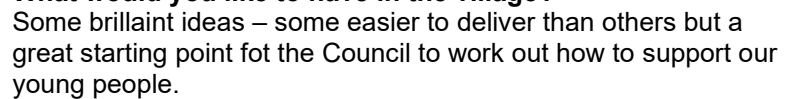


The questions have been shared on social media and we will continue to collect responses – this information will be shared with the Communities Team at Cambridgeshire County Council who are helping us look at how we can make our community more welcoming to young people and offer them services and activities that will engage and inspire them.

On the day I was so impressed with the thoughtful responses given by our young people – often thinking of the wider community before their direct needs!



- The Park / Clear Crescent Park (10)
- The River Mel (4)
- The Community / friendly people / the people (4)
- The Moor (3)
- The space (2)
- The Co-op (2)
- The Premier shop (2)
- Football pitch (2)
- Village Fete
- School
- Stockbridge Meadows
- The Hub
- The village



- A café for kids / bakers / ice cream shop (11)
- A splash park / water squirters (6)
- Youth club / space to go / a safe space (6)
- Pump track (5)
- Skate park (5)
- Traffic warden (4)
- More parks / Multi sports area / football pitches (4)
- Boxing Club (2)
- Sensory garden (2)
- No pot holes (2)
- Police station / person (2)
- Wider pavements (2)
- Stadium
- A gymnastics club
- A lollypop person
- More bike racks
- DJ booth
- Tesco's
- Public toilets
- History club
- Scavenger hunts around the village
- Sainsbury's
- More buses
- Tree house
- Gym
- Cat show
- Community litter pick days
- More gathering of the community

Mayd - Reserve to support the provision of youth services in the the village and surrounding

MAYD accounts at 31st July 2026

Date	Amount	Description	Provision
01/04/2026	17,913.19	Balance B/Fwd	MAYD
21/05/2026	6,500.00	2026/27 Precept	
09/06/2026	(2,196.00)	Connections Bus	CB

£22,217.19

Items not yet paid/received:

£0.00

£22,217.19 Forecast balance

Breakdown of balance at 31 July 2026

Ringfenced		
Ringfenced	£658.10	MM Equipment 4K agreed remaining balance
Ringfenced	£364.28	MM CBF £5,479 Given per cashflow
General	£21,194.81	

£22,217.19

Youth Services

There have been 13 sessions run this term, and we have seen 105 young people.

Age	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18+
Number Female		5	12	24	9	4		
Number Male		3	8	19	14	4	2	1

Week Commencing	Number	Notes
13 Apr	38	A busy evening with lots of coming and going, enjoying food and chatting with the youth workers about school, relationships, hair colours, making up after arguments, medical condition and effect on sleeping, parents arguing at football training. Some one-to-ones about vaping and use of snus. Visit from Parish Councillor.
20 Apr	40	busy session including some new members from Generation Game. All a bit wild and had to be told to calm down and to clear up litter. Enjoyed Toastie wraps. Conversations about problem with emetophobia and seeking medical help, self-harm, seeking support for mental health.
27 Apr	47	Again, very busy session with waffle making popular. Some YP appeared to be under the influence of a substance, kept them safe and made sure they left with others. Conversations about a fight over the weekend, care plan reviewed and support offered at school. One-to-ones: 1. trouble with peers at school, possibly being followed at school, disappointed by lack of action from school but not wanting parent to know or support from us – gave advice. 2. YP admitted to carrying razor blades with intent to harm themselves later, emergency services were called and followed up with call to parents – YP went home with support of friend and parents grateful for call, ambulance said they would probably call in at home anyway.
04 May	46	Busy session enjoying toast and noodles and playing football and tabletop games. Some did craft and several did the sun awareness quiz. Conversations about feeling faint, career choices, volunteering, parent meeting at school and possible mental health referral, home life (not good), relationship struggles. Had to confiscate alcohol from group of males.
11 May	38	Sunny evening enjoying biscuit decorating and toast plus lots of singing along to music, and boys a bit rowdy. Also played some tabletop games. Conversations about starting counselling worries, family situation, difficulties with siblings, issue with treatment by other girls at school.
18 May	36	calmer session this week with pasta being very popular along with nail painting and facials. 2 YP appeared to be under the influence of something and had been seen vaping outside earlier, kept a safety eye on them and they left with friends. Conversations about school wanting to take family issue further, favouritism at home, sharing bedroom issues, bedtimes.
25 May		Half-term
01 Jun	26	Muggy session with football rounders, games, and social time on/off the bus. Conversations included friendship issues, social media incidents, health concerns, and hospital treatment delays. Some young people are fundraising for a dementia charity.
08 Jun	33	Lively session with good attendance, several new sign-ups and strong engagement with activities and refreshments. Conversations focused on

		education, future career plans and employment opportunities, with young people discussing GCSEs, college aspirations and work experience. Staff managed some concerns around smoking and vaping, responding appropriately. A welfare concern regarding a young person not attending the session was discussed, and it was subsequently confirmed that they had returned home safely with family support.
15 Jun	38	Very warm, busy session. Free food enjoyed. A few new members. Some yp appeared to be 'stoned' on arrival. Sports Centre staff visited to request yp not to use their facilities (on-going issue). Safe relationships, sibling rivalry and parental response to fighting at home. Worry for a female who has ongoing health issues – but parents aware. Father day cards and quiz completed.
22 Jun	30	Very hot and sunny. YP's on and off all evening, PlayStation used alongside yw, concerns for mental health welfare of yp, holidays, red balloon, MVC, medications and how they make you feel, yp feeling upset with dad who makes excuses not to host them on the agreed day each week – yp believe dad has a new girlfriend. Chatted through safe sex with a couple.
29 Jun	37	Warm, dry evening, many enjoyed the fruit salad on offer. Conversations about school, cadets, party at weekend, nasty things being said and leading to a fight at school, being bipolar and on medication, Facebook post referring to the young people and who was involved, being drunk, homelife, not being at school, not wanting to take medication as does not like, sexual relationships and precautions, stick n poke tattoo and dangers (advised blood test). Finishing mocks.
06 Jul	25	Dry and very hot evening. Vice principle from school came on to get managers contact details due apparently to an incident last week after the session involving long blade knife – this did not involve YP from the youth bus. Also said that Snus had been offered to someone. Youth workers have previously warned young people about having or using this. One-to-one about seeming under the influence of drugs and general warnings. Conversations about physical contact with others, leaving college and working for Dad.
13 Jul	28	Warm evening enjoying ice creams! Long one-to-one following request from parent: ADHD diagnosis, not in school, difficulties at home – appropriate referrals have been made. Other conversations about being adopted, being grounded due to carrying Snus, struggles with school, autism diagnosis, use of weed and dangers.

Youth Services

There have been 8 sessions run this term, and we have seen 79 young people.

Age	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18+
Number Female		3	5	17	7	6		
Number Male		2		18	14	6	1	

Week Commencing	Number	Notes
05 Jan	15	Very cold and wet so stayed on bus more. Enjoyed games consoles, doing the quiz and chatting. Conversations about young person who had been drunk before Christmas who was not allowed to come tonight because serious issue with his drinking, also about school, Christmas and reminder about not using inappropriate language. YP with additional needs seemed to be enjoying session but then had falling out with parent and staff supported both in trying to alleviate tensions.
12 Jan	26	A busy evening with lots of drama between different groups needing to be monitored. But enjoyed biscuit decorating, listening to music and computers games. Conversations about relationships (some upset about being rejected), drinking alcohol at weekends (obtained from 15 year old in Cambridge!), inappropriate comments to each other, not having eaten because of broken oven.
19 Jan	23	Busy session with cheesy nachos and dips on offer! Lots of chats about the weekend (YP down rec drinking), trying to get drunk. One-to-one conversations about CAMHS assessment with potential diagnosis, bad relationship experience (possible safeguarding follow-up being reviewed).
26 Jan		cancelled, no driver
02 Feb		cancelled, no driver
09 Feb	26	busy session with wet weather. Enjoyed having waffles and using the usual equipment. Conversations about mock exams, relationships, food. One-to-one follow-up on relationship issue, no one in danger of harm. Also about psychosis diagnosis being downgraded to bad anxiety.
16 Feb		Half-term
23 Feb	42	busy session with a few new rowdier ones, had to monitor some behaviour but used all the usual activities and equipment. Some important one-to-ones tonight, follow-up on possible safeguarding concern regarding previous relationship (additional information given by YP meant referral to police) and concern over use of self-harm require contact with parent. Also another conversation about being bullied at school that will be followed up next time.
02 Mar	15	bus not operational last minute so staff visited and spoke to young people that arrived to explain. Good conversations about surprise that bus wasn't working, getting safely home, follow-up on issues from last week, spam texts, mock exam results and future plans.
09 Mar	45	a busy session with lots of conversations about school, relationships, mock results, vaping, piercings, activities with explorers, being controlling. One-to-one about referral regarding abuse (happy that police now aware but concerned about what might happen).
16 Mar	35	Nachos were thoroughly enjoyed! Bit of squabbling with larger group outside (staff attended and helped disperse). Most of time taken with this and then some one-to-ones about being mistreated by boys and situations have been

		reported to police. Also visit from CCC Youth Team surveying young people about activities for them in the area.
23 Mar	32	busy rowdy session with some issues around litter. Had to spend most of session helping to resolve relationships and friendship issues. Also conversations about appropriate language, respect for others, avoiding gossip.

THE CONNECTIONS BUS PROJECT

YOUNG PEOPLE'S USER SURVEY

May 2026

Survey of young people using the charity's youth facilities in
17 communities across Cambridgeshire



207 young people completed a survey in one of our youth work sessions from 11-22 May 2026.

Of those that completed the gender question, 40% identified as female, 57% as male and 3% identified as other. This is a switch from last year when more attendees identified as female.

The majority of our attendees are aged 12 to 13 years olds (65%) as we see the young people getting older and staying with us.

Attendance

100% of young people said they enjoy coming to our youth clubs and buses.

95% of young people said they attended every or fortnightly sessions

56% said that the youth clubs/buses are the only youth activities that they attend (a slight increase to previous years).

Safety

98% of young people said that they feel safe attending our sessions.

10% of young people said bullying was problem at our sessions. This represents 25 young people However, only 3 of these said that they feel safe, and all said that they enjoy coming. Our Youth workers continue to keep a close eye on behaviour at our sessions and challenge any form of bullying.

Outcomes

97% of young people said that our youth workers are approachable and easy to talk to.

87% of young people said that attending helped to improve their mental health and wellbeing (a slight increase on last year).

An additional question was included in villages where we replaced the youth buses with a building-based session while we waited for the new buses. This asked if the young people preferred the building or bus sessions. 7% said building and 93% said bus.

The 2026 survey shows that The Connections Bus Project is highly valued, trusted, and enjoyed by young people across Cambridgeshire. The service provides a safe, supportive environment with strong relationships between staff and young people.

Finally, the young people were asked about the biggest issues facing young people today, with the top 3 being: Bullying, Vaping, Drugs/Alcohol.

Full Survey Results

Number of Surveys Completed

Age	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	None	Total
Burwell	2	3	6	1	0	0	0	0	12
Cottenham	0	5	1	0	0	0	0	1	7
Eversden	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Fenstanton	1	6	2	4	1	0	0	0	14
Gamlingay	3	7	1	0	0	0	0	7	18
Girton	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Haddenham	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	5
Haslingfield	4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Histon	2	2	8	1	0	0	0	1	13
Melbourn	0	3	11	11	5	0	0	1	30
Milton	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	3	9
Oakington	1	5	0	0	1	0	0	2	9
Sawtry	1	5	6	3	0	0	3	5	23
Soham	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Somersham	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	5
Warboys	2	4	6	4	0	0	0	0	16
Willingham	0	10	3	10	0	0	0	1	24
Total	20	70	50	35	8	0	3	23	207

Gender	Female	Male	Other	Not completed
Burwell	3	7	0	2
Cottenham	0	7	0	0
Eversden	1	0	1	1
Fenstanton	1	13	0	0
Gamlingay	5	6	0	7
Girton	7	0	0	0
Haddenham	3	2	0	0
Haslingfield	9	2	0	0
Histon	5	8	0	1
Melbourn	14	17	0	1
Milton	2	4	0	3
Oakington	6	3	0	0
Sawtry	5	13	0	5
Soham	1	0	0	0
Somersham	0	3	0	3
Warboys	4	11	1	0
Willingham	10	11	2	0
Total	76	107	4	23

How regularly do you come to the youth club/bus?

	2026	2025	2024	2023
Every session	85%	75%	83%	72%
Fortnightly	10%	21%	11%	24%
Once a month	1%	2%	4%	4%
Less	4%	2%	2%	1%

70 young people did not answer this question

The youth club/bus is the only youth activity or club I attend?

	2026	2025	2024	2023
Yes	56%	52%	54%	52%
No	44%	48%	46%	48%

76 young people did not answer this question

I enjoy coming to the youth club/bus.

	2026	2025	2024	2023
Yes	95%	96%	94%	93%
Sort of	5%	4%	6%	7%
Not really	0%	0%	0%	0%
No	0%	0%	0%	0%

I feel safe at the youth club/bus.

	2026	2025	2024	2023
Yes	86%	88%	82%	85%
Sort of	12%	10%	17%	12%
Not really	1%	1%	1%	3%
No	1%	1%	0%	0%

2 young people did not answer this question

Bullying is a problem at the youth club/bus.

	2026	2025	2024	2023
Yes	5%	2%	5%	8%
Sort of	5%	4%	10%	7%
Not really	16%	17%	16%	11%
No	74%	76%	69%	74%

The youth workers are approachable and easy to talk to.

	2026	2025	2024	2023
Yes	87%	87%	83%	84%
Sort of	10%	12%	12%	12%
Not really	2%	0.5%	1%	2%
No	1%	1%	4%	2%

4 young people did not answer this question

I use the youth club/bus as a source of information about things (vapes, mental wellbeing, careers, drugs, alcohol and other topics).

	2026	2025	2024	2023
Yes	15%	10%	7%	12%
Sort of	21%	18%	17%	11%
Not really	36%	33%	30%	33%
No	28%	39%	46%	44%

2 young people did not answer this question

I believe attending youth club/bus improves my mental health and wellbeing.

	2026	2025	2024	2023
Yes	43%	35%	36%	43%
Sort of	44%	49%	41%	34%
Not really	8%	12%	16%	15%
No	5%	4%	7%	8%

6 young people did not answer this question

I have talked to youth workers about something personal (family, friends, relationships, school, bullying, mental health, futures or any other topic).

	2026	2025	2024	2023
Yes	24%	17%	20%	19%
Sort of	18%	13%	10%	8%
Not really	19%	19%	20%	18%
No	33%	48%	47%	55%
Not applicable	6%	3%	3%	

Conversations about personal issues with youth workers have helped me.

	2026	2025	2024	2023
Yes	43%	49%	51%	50%
Sort of	31%	42%	29%	32%
Not really	16%	5%	14%	11%
No	10%	3%	6%	7%

This is only those that said they had had a conversation (yes or sort of)

What is the biggest issue facing young people today.

Most common issues raised were

1. Bullying
2. Vaping
3. Drugs / alcohol (older groups)
4. Peer pressure
5. Mental health
6. Social media pressure
7. Boys being annoying / behaviour issues
8. Judgement / exclusion / prejudice
9. School stress

Are there any activities you would like at the youth club/bus sessions?

The requests cluster into clear categories:

Sports & physical activities

- Football (by far the most common)
- Dodgeball / benchball
- Outdoor activities
- Badminton
- Ping pong
- Rackets / rockets
- Volleyball

Creative activities

- Art supplies
- Free drawing
- Crocheting
- Knitting
- Badge making
- Slime making
- Painting
- Sticker making

Competitions & games

- Gaming competitions
- Escape room challenge
- Talent shows
- Quiz nights
- Murder mystery
- Switch games
- Pool / snooker
- Sim drifting

Food-based

- Pizza
- Doughnuts
- Dr Pepper
- "More food"

Social events

- Disco
- Movie night
- Hanging out with friends

Extra Comments when asked about things to improve the service

"I think it's good already" - Fenstanton
"I think it's great" - Burwell
"It is perfect" - Burwell
"More of what we already do" - Sawtry
"Like it as it is" - Sawtry
"No, it's great already" - Cottenham

Update

MIX MUSIC





WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

We have continued to run our regular Monday night sessions, which are still going strong. Although we have lost a couple of attendees this year, we have potentially gained a new starter, which is encouraging.

We are also currently looking at introducing sessions for younger children, with half-hour sessions planned for one term as an initial trial.

Over the past year, we have provided a range of exciting opportunities for the young people involved. Last year, we organised an outing to the We DJ Expo in London, which was an amazing experience. One of our DJs got to perform at Kool FM.

In December, we took the group ice skating in Cambridge for our Christmas outing, which was a great success.

In addition, we delivered three Day Discos for MACS, and we are planning to do the same again this year.



We have many ideas for the future of the project. We had planned to organise a music event following the village fete in June. However, due to a particularly busy start to the year for us personally, and as the project is currently run by just the two of us, we have decided to postpone this until summer 2027. This will allow us to dedicate the time, effort and funding required to organise the event properly and to work more closely with the fete organisers from an earlier stage.

We both give our time on a voluntary basis and are very happy to do so. We are coming into our 4th year of running the sessions and supporting young people in the village.

The start of this year has been a little slower than usual, with many of our regular attendees currently focusing on their GCSE studies. We also tend to find that attendance naturally slows during the winter months, although participation consistently increases again as the year progresses.





Looking ahead, we remain very hopeful that the youth community organiser may become available to help strengthen and expand youth provision in the village and support us with what we need in order to gain access in the schools. In the meantime, we will continue to run our sessions and provide this positive opportunity for young people in the community.

Discussion document for Community Coordinator job spec – youth focus

Job Role:	Community Coordinator (Youth)
Hours:	Between 10 and 25 (Initial three-year fixed contract with option to make permanent if initiative is successful)
Responsible to:	Clerk / MAYD Joint Committee
Job Purpose:	To be responsible for the development, funding, delivery and review of activities and projects aimed at young people in Melbourne. To build positive and supportive relationships with young people and help them fulfil their potential. Developing and implementing strategies to secure funding to allow Council to deliver projects and services, reducing the burden on local taxpayers.
Salary:	SCP 14 - 19 (£15.31 - £16.52) depending on experience

Key Activities:

- Research the needs and gaps for youth provision in the area – build a plan and work with Council to develop strategy for delivery.
- Researching and applying for grants and funding.
- Recruiting, training, and supporting volunteers and service providers.
- Developing marketing materials and raising awareness of council initiatives.
- Maintaining accurate records providing timely reports to committee and full council.
- To lead the development of specific programmes of youth work aimed at promoting and ensuring the personal and social educational needs of young people are identified and met.
- Manage, co-ordinate and support sessional youth work staff and volunteers.
- Work with Community Coordinator to develop and deliver community wide activities and projects that have the potential to benefit all.
- Support other community initiatives and identify ways in which these could benefit young people in the area.
- Provide support to other team members as needed.

Discussion document for Community Coordinator job spec – youth focus

Personal specification

You are an ambitious individual that is looking to make change for good – investigating and experimenting with activities to better the opportunities for young people in the area. You are not

fazed by **BIG** projects and can promote the end goal to bring stakeholders on the journey with you. You work well in a team and will collaborate to ensure the best result across the community. Your strengths will include:

- A strong desire to improve the opportunities of young people in our community.
- Demonstrable experience in managing successful fundraising projects and meeting targets in a not-for-profit organisation.
- Experience or knowledge of grant applications.
- Creating and delivering successful campaigns.
- Budget management.
- Delivery of a building project would be preferred but not essential.
- Strong organisational and time-management abilities.
- Ability to work independently, be self-motivated, and manage a varied workload.
- A passion for the local community.
- Creativity and entrepreneurial approach to finding new funding opportunities.
- Empathetic and professional approach to engaging with diverse stakeholders across the community.
- Adaptability and resilience to work under pressure.
- A flexible approach to working hours, including occasional evenings and weekends for events.
- A successful Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check will be required.
- Experience of practical youth work – delivering successful activities – desired but not essential.
- Knowledge of safeguarding and child protection procedures (full training will be given as required).
- Willingness to undertake relevant personal development.