

Potential Ridge CSR Projects for the coming year

I have contacted Ridge regarding potential projects for them to undertake during the coming year. Below are the four outline projects I sent them together with their responses. We need to decide if we wish to proceed with these projects and who will lead each from the Parish Council perspective.

For the newer members of the council Ridge are a Consulting Engineering practice. As part of their social commitment, they allow each employee three days to take part in projects that benefit the local community. We have previously used this to our advantage to plant the hedging at the allotments, project managing the installation of the Adult Exercise Equipment and maintenance work at the Burial Ground.

Proposed Projects

October 2025: Work on our allotment plot where you kindly planted the hedge for us has been slowly moving forward but the prolonged hot spell has prevented us from laying the turf pathways. We are now looking for possible assistance with laying around 135 turfs to form the pathways. We have turf provisionally ordered with no firm delivery date. Turf is cut on a Monday and delivered on a Tuesday. Tuesday or Wednesday would be the preferred day for the final raking and laying. If you could help you could pick the actual day in October to undertake the work.

Response: Happy to try and provide additional labour, if possible, to assist councillors/volunteers.

PC Lead: Cllr Cossburn.

January/February 2026: In January 2026 we take on full responsibility for the Tubbs Hall Community Centre from the current Trustees. We have a programme of refurbishment that is required but having seen your painting skills at both St Mary's church and chapel we were wondering if you would like another hall painting project in the village? This period is generally quite in terms of bookings so timing is very much your choice.

Response: Happy to appoint a staff member to organise and lead this project.

PC Lead: The Clerk.

May 2026: Following the success of the work you undertook in September 2024 at our burial ground in refurbishing the benches and the painting of the main gates we would like to repeat the project again next year to ensure these fixtures remain in good condition. Once again, the actual timing would be your choice if you could help.

Response: Happy to appoint a staff member to organise and lead this project.

PC Lead: To be decided by R&A Committee.

May 2026: Following the work at the burial ground last year we felt that the seating at Eversley Park and the gates at Broadview open space would benefit from the same treatment given to the benches and gates at the burial ground. Again, timing would be entirely your

choice if you wanted to be involved in this project. (The gates referred to are the galvanised field gates at Broadview in order that they match the new fencing.)

Response: Happy to appoint a staff member to organise and lead this project.

PC Lead: To be decided by R&A Committee.

Decision Required:

Simply do we wish to take advantage of these offers of free labour to help improve the facilities we have, paying only for the materials required. The only other costs being tea, coffee and biscuits.