



## **Kinver Parish Council Youth Café Case Study – March 2025**

**Kinver Parish Council have developed a regular youth provision for their village and here's how.**

Providing a youth club or place for young people to meet can initially come with thoughts of uncertainty, a huge list of considerations and resource constraints. However, Kinver have demonstrated that it can be delivered at parish level, with the right support in place and without the need to employ additional staff.

The idea started, as many do, with a desire from members to provide a level of local youth provision. However, after considering the potential costs of employing a youth leader and the formal structure of running a club, it was quickly quashed. It seemed too onerous a task for the Parish Council to deliver on.

Despite this the PC still undertook a consultation with local young people to discover what they wanted; a place just to 'be', to hang out with friends and play games.

Following this feedback and the local enthusiasm for the initial idea, a more simplified Youth Café was proposed. A term time, weekly safe place for young people to play, explore and have fun. The café is run by volunteers, with the council covering the cost of room hire and a small contribution from attendees helping with activity costs. Staffordshire Council of Voluntary Youth Services (SCYVS) were a huge support and helped with things such as the DBS checks for volunteers.

The cafe runs every Tuesday in terms time at the Edward Marsh Centre (a local charitable community centre run by volunteers) with themed weeks such as the recent Valentines Disco. During sessions, a tuck shop is provided, again supported by volunteers, with a number of volunteers having been attendees at the café some years prior.

It has been a tremendous success, with a good number of young people attending each week. Although one cannot shy away from the time, effort and resources that go into such an activity, Kinver have shown with the right set up and volunteer support, a youth club does not have to be as onerous a task as might initially seem.

For more information on the Kinver Youth Café you can visit their Facebook page here - <https://www.facebook.com/KinverYouthCafe>