

# Young Riding Mill

More a concept than an organisation, Young Riding Mill is a focus on future investment and an expression of trust in the potential of young people.

Children and young people are happier and healthier when they are engaged, involved and given responsibility

They enjoy being with friends, working together and sharing a common bond. They are also much better educated, much more aware of real issues and increasingly determined to be involved in tackling these issues than previous generations. They are not just about having fun - important though that is to all of us!

Your Parish Council has designated two Councillors to focus on how we might engage and develop children and young people in the parish and what support the Parish Council might give.

This is not simply about providing diversionary activities and keeping young people occupied, although clubs and societies play a pivotal role in bringing them together in a common bond. Nor is it about encouraging academic progress. That is a focus for educational professionals.

It is their world which is under threat as our current children move into adulthood. It is crucial that they are properly equipped to face the challenge. This is about politics in the purest sense, but certainly not narrow party politics.

**As a Parish Council we are concerned about the development of young people as local, national and international citizens. We are tasked with helping young people find their voice in society, enabling them to facilitate change through discussion and consensus. We are all involved in helping young people move from receivers to enablers. What might we as a Parish Council do to take this agenda forward? Or is this an area which is too controversial to consider...?**