

Are you interested in becoming part of the Community Volunteer Team?

Hi, I'm Darren Rolfe, Senior Community Solutions Officer in the Partnerships & Communities Team at West Sussex County Council. I work throughout West Sussex with local councils, charities, local people and community groups to solve issues in their local environment. We undertake a huge variety of tasks from building bus shelters to widening footways, from improving village halls and community centres to building community gardens. In partnership with the local community we draw up plans and turn community ideas and aspirations into project days, at which point I bring in my Community Volunteer team and, working alongside local residents, we bring ideas to reality.

The Community Volunteers are various ages and come from a range of different backgrounds and all are welcome to join. Whilst pre-existing practical skills are an advantage, enthusiasm and a 'have a go' attitude are far more important. Most tools that we use are fairly easy to master and specialist training is given if you wish to move on to using any of the power tools such as hedge trimmers, strimmers and brush cutters. The type of activities carried out are:

- Working alongside local and national groups and charities to undertake conservation and habitat creation projects
- The design, building and the installation of specialist garden areas and community spaces.
- The construction of community facilities such as improvements to village buildings, the design and construction of bus shelters, pavilions and barns and classrooms,
- Undertaking work beside the county's highways network in order to improve access and safety with projects such as widening footways, clearing back pathways, installing traffic calming measures and solving anti-social or dangerous parking issues
- Working with West Sussex schools to improve outdoor facilities for learning.



- Working with West Sussex Childrens Services to improve facilities for alternative provision.
- Working with West Sussex Adults Services to help our older residents to remain happy and healthy in their own homes.

If you would like to know more about Community Volunteers contact Darren Rolfe on Mobile: **0779318793 or email:** Darren.Rolfe@westsussex.gov.uk