

Draft Minutes of the Corsham Area (4) Committee held on Tuesday 22nd May 2007 at 7.00pm in the Town Hall, Corsham

Present

Councillor E. Marston (Chairman)

Councillors J.M. Hartless, H.T. Jones, S.B. Meadowcroft, S.G. Parker and R.L. Tonge.

County/Town/Parish Council Representatives

Councillor A. Bosley	Corsham Town Council
Mr D. Martin	Corsham Town Council
Councillor P.R. Davis	Corsham Town Council / Wiltshire County Council
Councillor J. Singh	Corsham Town Council
Councillor T.J.A. Northey	Box Parish Council
Councillor R. Hopkinson	Corsham Town Council
Councillor P. Anstey	Corsham Town Council

Officers Present

N. Appleby (Temporary Policy and Democratic Services Assistant), D. Burbidge (Chief Executive), C. Major (Senior Parking Officer), V. Welsh (Community Partnership Officer) and J. Whittleton (Policy and Democratic Services Assistant)

CO3. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors C. Berry and C. Reid.

CO4. Public Questions/Receipt of Petitions

There were no public questions nor petitions received.

CO5. Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13th March 2007 (circulated with the Agenda) were considered.

Resolved that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th March 2007 be approved and signed as a correct record.

CO6. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman, Councillor E. Marston, welcomed Councillors and members of the public to the meeting. She stated that the main topics on the Agenda would be Car



Parking, and Community Area Funding Awards and that there would be an opportunity for Councillors and members of the public to ask questions. She asked members of the public to try to not repeat questions and to raise their hand if they wished to speak.

CO7. Declarations of Interest

Name	Application /item	Type of Interest	Nature of Interest	Action
S.B. Meadowcroft	Report 9	Personal	Involvement with Ecolerne	Spoke and did not vote.
R.L. Tonge	Report 9	Personal	Ward Member for Colerne	Spoke and did not vote.

CO8. The Pound Arts Centre

A presentation was received from Mr A. Walton and Mr D. Jones on construction work and future events at the Pound Arts Centre.

Points raised included:

- That the Centre is due to re-open in September following improvement works;
- That a wide range of activities and events will take place, including theatre, exhibitions, workshops and concerts;
- That the Centre should help to bring people into the Town; and
- That the support of the community would be needed to keep the Centre running and that fund raising schemes would be taking place.

CO9. Car Parking

Representations were received from Councillor A. Bosley, Chairman of Corsham Town Council, Councillor R. Hopkinson of Corsham Town Council, Councillor P. Anstey of Corsham Town Council, Councillor J. Singh of Corsham Town Council, Mr M. Ross, Mr B. Ross, Mrs A. Brown, Mr M. Perry, Mr I. Storey President of the Wessex Chamber of Commerce, Ms R. Hall, Councillor P.R. Davis of Corsham Town Council, Mrs C. Awlack and Mr J. Methuen-Cambell.

Issues raised included:

- That Corsham Town Council, the Chamber of Commerce, local traders and residents were opposed to the removal of 1st hour free parking;
- That over 5,000 people had signed a petition opposing the removal of 1st hour free parking;
- The impact of 1st hour parking on traders in the town;
- How much revenue is being raised by the charges and software to analyse parking trends;

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- That charging could create traffic problems with people parking on-street;
- That Corsham is competing with supermarkets who do not charge for parking; and
- Whether market towns should be considered separately when setting charges.

CO10. Project Feedback – Community Funding Awards

The Committee received a brief update from representatives of the Corsham Youth Shelter, including Mr H. Davies-Ball.

Points raised included:

- The Shelter offers a place for young people to congregate, rather than the streets;
- The Police have commented that instances of antisocial behaviour have fallen since the Shelter was set up;
- The graffiti competition and the contribution of graffiti boards;
- Mr Davies-Ball thanked the Committee for its contribution.

The Committee received an update from Mr A. Turnbull on the Ecolerne project.

Points raised included:

- The recycling awareness campaign;
- Funding from the Area Committee;
- The recent sustainability festival;
- Chipping Christmas trees; and
- Eco Ernie.

CO11. Corsham Area (4) Community Area Funding Distribution 2007/08

Consideration was given to Report No. 9 asking Councillors to consider 3 applications seeking 2007/08 Community Area Award Funding and to advise Councillors of the Community Area Award Funding criteria and budget for 2007/08.

Representations were received from Mr Mr A. Turnbull on behalf of Ecolerne and from Mrs A. Lock on behalf of the Corsham Railway Station Campaign.

Issues discussed included:

Lacock Evergreens

- That this is the first application from Lacock;
- The activities undertaken by the group; and
- That the application does not require match funding as the application is below £500.

Corsham Station Campaign

- The number of trains which might stop in Corsham; and
- That there is another group working to open Corsham station.

Ecolerne

- The cost of producing the Eco Ernie costume.

Resolved that

- (1) Lacock Evergreens be awarded £309 from the revenue budget towards the purchase of games and activities for the over 55s club;
- (2) Consideration of the Corsham Station Campaign application be deferred in order to invite the applicant to speak to the other Group concerned with the Station, with a view to working together;
- (3) Ecolerne – Award £1565 from the revenue budget for a recycling campaign to engage children and young people, conditional upon the balance of funding being in place.

Note – The Committee were concerned at the cost of producing the Eco Ernie costume. They advised that the applicant try to seek a reduced price and if successful, inform the Committee of where the additional funds will be spent.

CO12. Community Planning Update

A verbal update on Community Planning in the Corsham Area was provided by Mrs J. Stacey.

Issues raised included:

- The purchase of display boards and IT equipment to help community groups to promote themselves; and
- That the Partnership Steering Group could be contacted through the Town Hall.

CO13. Parish Council Update

No updates were received.

CO14. Outside Bodies

Consideration of this item was deferred to await confirmation of the required appointments.

The meeting started at 7:00pm and finished at 8.50pm.

There were 51 members of the public present.