

MINUTES

Meeting: Corsham Area Board
Place: Selwyn Hall, Valens Terrace, Box, Wiltshire, SN13 8NT
Date: 25 June 2024
Start Time: 19.00pm
Finish Time: 20.30pm

Please direct any enquiries on these minutes to:

Max Hirst,(Tel): 01225718215 or (e-mail) max.hirst@wiltshire.gov.uk

Papers available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

In Attendance:

Wiltshire Councillors

Cllr Ruth Hopkinson,
Cllr Dr Brian Mathew,
Cllr Derek Walters

Wiltshire Council Officers

Ros Griffiths – Strategic Engagement & Partnership Manager
Max Hirst – Democratic Services Officer
Dominic Argar – Assistant Multimedia Officer

Partners

Wiltshire Police – Inspector Pete Foster
Box Parish Council
Colerne Parish Council
Corsham Town Council

Total in attendance: 26

<u>Minute No..</u>	<u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u>
1	<p><u>Election of Chairman</u></p> <p>The Democratic Services Officer sought nominations for the position of Chairman of the Corsham Area Board for the 2024/25 municipal year.</p> <p><u>Decision</u> Councillor Ruth Hopkinson was elected Chairman of the Corsham Area Board for the 2024/25 municipal year.</p>
2	<p><u>Election of Vice-Chairman</u></p> <p>The newly elected Chairman sought nominations for the position of Vice-Chairman of the Corsham Area Board for the 2024/25 municipal year.</p> <p><u>Decision</u> Councillor Derek Walters was elected Vice-Chairman of the Corsham Area Board for the 2024/25 municipal year.</p>
3	<p><u>Chairman's Welcome and Introductions</u></p> <p>The Chairman, Cllr Ruth Hopkinson, welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p>
4	<p><u>Apologies for Absence</u></p> <p>Apologies were received from:</p> <p>Cllr Helen Belcher OBE</p>
5	<p><u>Minutes</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2024 were presented for consideration and it was:</p> <p><u>Resolved:</u></p> <p>To approve and sign as a true and correct record of the minutes of the meeting held on 11 January 2024.</p>
6	<p><u>Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>There were no declarations of interest.</p>
7	<p><u>Chairman's Announcements</u></p>

	<p>The Chairman provided information about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Area Nature Recovery Strategy • Draft Licensing Policy 2024-2029 • Highways Matters Q&A • Area Board Delivery Officer • Five to Thrive
8	<p><u>Information Items</u></p> <p>The Board noted the following information items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiply • AGE UK • Healthwatch Wiltshire • BSW Together • Community First
9	<p><u>Partner Updates</u></p> <p>The Board noted the Road Safety update attached to the agenda.</p> <p>Police - A PowerPoint was noted, with input from Inspector Pete Foster, and is attached to the minutes.</p> <p>Box Parish Council – A written update was presented by Tim Walton and is attached to the minutes.</p> <p>Colerne – A written update was presented and is attached to the minutes.</p>
10	<p><u>Area Board Funding</u></p> <p><u>Community Area Grants</u></p> <p>Cotswolds National Landscapes Voluntary Wardens requested £2000 towards Colerne Rights of Way Improvements.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Ruth Hopkinson and seconded by Cllr Dr Brian Mathew</p> <p>It was:</p> <p><u>Resolved</u> To award Cotswolds National Landscapes Voluntary Wardens £2000 towards Colerne Rights of Way Improvements. <u>Reason</u> – The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2024/25.</p> <p>Box Preschool Group requested £2000 towards playground resurfacing.</p>

Proposed by Cllr Ruth Hopkinson and seconded by Cllr Dr Brian Mathew

It was:

Resolved

To award Box Preschool Group £2000 towards Rights of Way Improvements.

Reason – *The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2024/25.*

Box Tennis Working Group requested £5000 towards Tennis Court resurfacing.

Proposed by Cllr Ruth Hopkinson and seconded by Cllr Dr Brian Mathew

It was:

Resolved

To award Box Tennis Working Group a reduced amount of £2500 towards Tennis Court Resurfacing on the provision of further investigation.

Reason – *The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2024/25.*

Box Public Rights of Way Network requested £2500 towards phase 3 of improving the rights of way network.

Proposed by Cllr Ruth Hopkinson and seconded by Cllr Derek Walters

It was:

Resolved

To award Box Public Rights of Way Network £2500 towards Rights of Way Improvements.

Reason – *The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2024/25.*

1st Neston and Box Scout Group requested £3619.17 towards Scout Group activity equipment.

Proposed by Cllr Ruth Hopkinson and seconded by Cllr Dr Brian Mathew

It was:

Resolved

To award 1st Neston and Box Scout Group £3619.17 towards Scout Group activity equipment.

Reason – *The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2024/25.*

The Pound Arts Trust Ltd requested £5000 towards new toilets.

	<p>Proposed by Cllr Ruth Hopkinson and seconded by Cllr Dr Brian Mathew</p> <p>It was:</p> <p><u>Resolved</u> To award The Pound Arts Trust Ltd requested £5000 towards new toilets. <u>Reason</u> – The application met the Community Area Grants Criteria 2024/25.</p> <p><u>Older and Vulnerable Adults Grants</u></p> <p>Wiltshire Scrapstore and Resource Centre requested £4765.80 towards volunteer placements for older people.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Ruth Hopkinson and seconded by Cllr Dr Brian Mathew</p> <p>It was:</p> <p><u>Resolved</u> To award Wiltshire Scrapstore and Resource Centre a reduced amount of £2500 towards volunteer placements for older people. <u>Reason</u> – The application met the Older and Vulnerable Adults Grants Criteria 2024/25.</p> <p><u>Youth Grants</u></p> <p>Corsham Running Club requested £1040 towards their Youth Section.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Ruth Hopkinson and seconded by Cllr Dr Brian Mathew</p> <p>It was:</p> <p><u>Resolved</u> To award Corsham Running Club £1040 towards their Youth Section <u>Reason</u> – The application met the Youth Grants Criteria 2024/25.</p>
11	<p><u>Area Board End of Year Report</u></p> <p>The Board received the Area Board End of Year Report and presentation from Ros Griffiths (Strategic Engagement Partnerships Manager). The full report was attached to the agenda pack.</p> <p><u>Resolved:</u></p> <p>To note the achievements of the Area Board over the last year</p>
12	<p><u>Area Board Looking Forward</u></p>

	<p>The Board received a report from Ros Griffiths (SEPM) which looked ahead to the coming municipal year and beyond. As part of this item, The Chairman, Cllr Ruth Hopkinson moved the following motion, which was seconded by Cllr Derek Walters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the following priorities be adopted by the Corsham Area Board for 2024/2025 as well as the respective Lead Councillors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth engagement and positive activity opportunities (Cllr Helen Belcher) • Addressing climate change (Cllr Derek Walters) • Promoting wellbeing and reducing social isolation in older and vulnerable people (Cllr Dr Brian Mathew) • Supporting the local economy (Cllr Ruth Hopkinson) 2) That Cllr Ruth Hopkinson be re-appointed as Councillor Representative for the Corsham Local Highways and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG), with it noted that all other members were welcome to attend meetings. <p><u>Resolved:</u></p> <p>To accept the motion and the appointments within.</p>
13	<p><u>Local Highways and Footpath Improvement Group (LHFIG)</u></p> <p>The Board considered the notes and recommendations from the recent meeting of the Local Highways and Footways Improvement Group (LHFIG) which took place on 24 April 2024.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr Ruth Hopkinson and seconded by Cllr Dr Brian Mathew it was:</p> <p><u>Resolved</u></p> <p>To approve the recommendations from the meeting of the Local Highways and Footways Improvement Group on 24 April 2024.</p>
14	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>The next meeting will take place on 10 October 2024.</p>

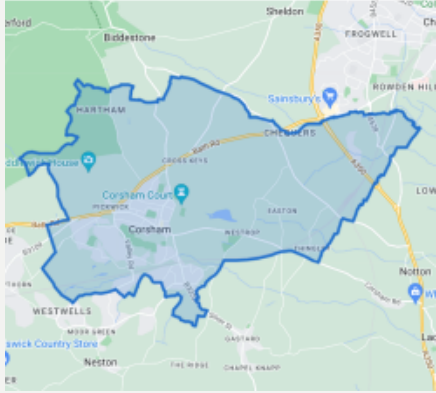
Area Board Update

25th June 2024

Proud to serve and protect our communities



Your Community Policing Team – Corsham



Corsham Town Centre



PCSO Shaun Redmond

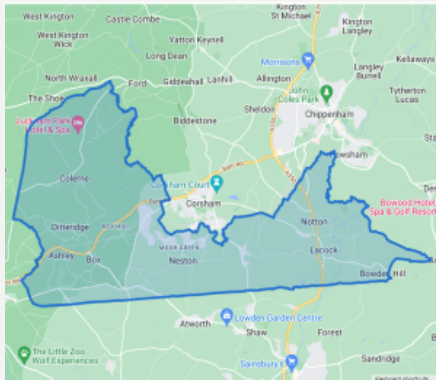


PC Adam Neish

Inspector Pete Foster



Sergeant Michael Tripp



Corsham Rural



PCSO Jamie Moore



PCSO Corey Mapp



PC Kev Golledge



Our Community Commitment

ENGAGE REGULARLY WITH COMMUNITIES BY HOLDING FACE TO FACE EVENTS

- We will hold at least one public meeting / surgery per month, giving you a chance to meet your local team and find out more information on local policing priorities, crime stats and engagement opportunities
- We will advertise our public meetings and surgeries on the **Your Area** section of the Wiltshire Police website, on local Neighbourhood Policing Team social media channels and Community Messaging
- Every engagement opportunity will be recorded so we can ensure we are meeting our commitment to you
- We will hold regular face to face meetings and events with a wide range of community groups such as businesses, faith groups, youth groups and residents' associations
- We will bring policing out to your community, through the proactive use of the Neighbourhood Engagement Vehicles.

ENGAGE REGULARLY THROUGH ONLINE CHANNELS

- We will actively use local Neighbourhood Policing Team social media channels to engage with our communities
- Every Neighbourhood Policing Team will host quarterly Facebook Live events
- We will exchange information with those signed up to our Community Messaging alert system via email, text or phone and continue to promote this free service to new members.

INCREASE AND BROADEN OUR ENGAGEMENT ACROSS NEED TO REACH COMMUNITIES

- We will build Community Beat Profiles for each of our Neighbourhood Policing Team to help us better understand the specific communities within our local areas
- We will engage with specific community groups and those living and working in particular geographical areas about those issues that are important or impacts most upon them
- We will work with young people and our partners in education settings to help improve safety, reduce reoffending and, along with relevant other agencies, offer support to those who need it.

PUBLISH INFORMATION ON YOUR LOCAL TEAM, LOCAL PRIORITIES AND UPDATE ON ACTIVITY

- We will provide you with information so you know who your local Neighbourhood Policing Team is by publishing this on the **Your Area** section of the Wiltshire Police website
- We will publish monthly local priorities on the **Your Area** section of the Wiltshire Police website and, through our regular engagement with you, we will consult you when we are setting them
- We will provide community updates on activity being carried out to help tackle local priorities
- We will ensure intelligence-led visible patrolling in local communities, at least once a week, responding to local policing issues and concerns
- We will publish local policing updates, wherever possible, in community magazines / newsletters or bulletins.

CONSULT AND ENGAGE WITH COMMUNITIES ON KEY DECISIONS

- We will ask the public to take part in questionnaires and surveys to build information and improve our policing service
- We will provide visibility at Parish Council meetings and, in the absence of physical attendance, will provide a written update. We will also support a programme of additional meeting attendance through Area Boards or Community Safety Groups
- We will action feedback, concerns or complaints – and tell you what action has been taken. If we cannot help, we will help signpost the public to who can
- We will work closely with our partners, such as local authorities and parish and town councils, and community representatives i.e. businesses, faith groups, schools to tackle community issues
- We will work closely alongside local watch schemes to enable strong partnerships between the police and communities
- We will consult regularly with our Independent Advisory Groups (IAGs) to ensure they have a voice as a critical friend to help shape our policing service.

Our mission: Keeping Wiltshire Safe

Our priorities:

Safer public spaces

Violence

Burglary

Keeping Wiltshire Safe



Our Engagement Vision

Community Engagement impacts on everything we do

- We will use a range of techniques and channels to best connect with our communities to obtain their views on policing in the county, and ensure these techniques and channels are visible and accessible
- We will work collaboratively with a variety of partners to engage with communities where it makes sense to do so
 - We will actively encourage and enable people to be part of our policing conversations to help shape our approach, response, policy, and delivery
 - We will ensure our diverse and under-represented communities have a voice and are represented in conversations
 - We will demonstrate where we have listened and where we have changed our service as a result of what our communities are telling us
 - We will evaluate the success of our engagement activity and learn lessons to improve future engagement



Since we last met

Monday 13th May - To kick start [#OpSceptre](#) - a national operation to help tackle knife crime, Chippenham, Corsham and Calne Neighbourhood Teams worked alongside the Neighbourhood Harm Reduction Unit and our Police Cadets to perform a knife **Test Purchasing Operation** over the three towns. Three out of nine shops visited failed the test and sold knives or other bladed articles to the cadet volunteers who were aged 15 and 16 (none in Corsham). Meetings have been held with Store Managers since this date and feedback passed to staff regarding the dangers of selling bladed articles.

22nd – 26th April - A total of 68 road related offences were detected in Chippenham and Calne during **Project Zero** this week. Project Zero is a roads policing operation held every week at a different location in the county. Officers target drivers committing any of the fatal five offences in a bid to reduce the number of casualties on our roads. The project sees the Traffic Department intensify resources to target those who are driving at excess speed, drink/drug driving, using a phone while driving, not wearing a seatbelt or driving in a careless or dangerous manner.

April - Neighbourhood officers joined forces with police cadets to test safeguarding procedures and raise awareness of child sexual exploitation at local hotels. Working alongside the Neighbourhood Harm Reduction Unit (NHRU), plain clothes officers attempted to book a room with an underage cadet at a number of hotels in the area as part of the **Hotel Watch Test Purchasing Operation**. This was carried out to test the safeguarding procedures at the hotels. Follow up visits were carried out with the hotel managers of several hotels who failed to challenge room bookings (2 out of 3 tested in Corsham failed). An emphasis was placed on education around exploitation and the signs to look out for.

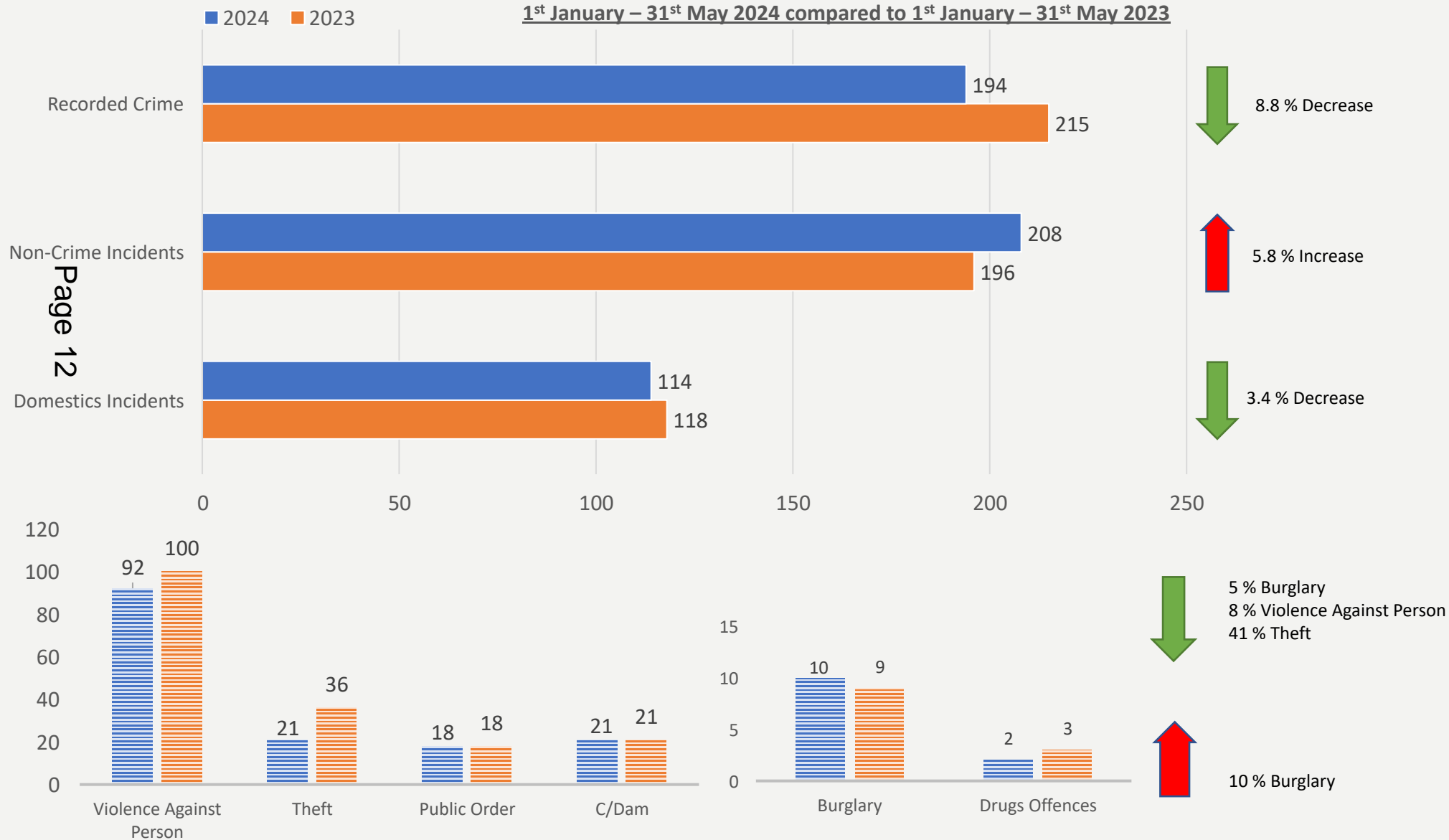
22nd June - In partnership with Sold Secure, the Neighbourhood Policing Team held a push bike/motorcycle safety event at the Springfield Campus. The event focussed on both the safety of riders and the security of motorbikes and push bikes.

- Officers / Staff provided bike marking sessions to push-bike owners as a theft deterrent.
- Members from the Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service 'Biker Down' campaign / Biker Charities were present

As there have been keyless car thefts in the Chippenham, Calne and Corsham areas - 60 faraday pouches, funded by Wiltshire Police, were handed out to people with keyless cars as a crime prevention solution.



Corsham Town Crime and Incident Statistics



Corsham Rural - Crime and Incident Statistics

1st January – 31st May 2024 compared to 1st January – 31st May 2023



Operational Priorities – 1st January – 31st May 2024

Corsham Town Beats – Town and Rural Parishes

Safer Public Spaces

Violence

Violence against person

Burglary

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36

Corsham ASB Reports

2.1 %

of force figures

141

Corsham VAP Reports

2.1 %

of force figures

17

Corsham Burglary Reports

2.3 %

of force figures

1653

Force Wide ASB Reports

4 %

REDUCTION

6557

Force Wide VAP Reports

32 %

REDUCTION

720

Force Wide Burglary Reports

2023 ASB Reports

33

Jan – May

2023 VAP Reports

147

Jan – May

2023 Burglary Reports

25

Jan – May

Get Involved / Get to know



Get to know Your Community Policing Team

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Wiltshire Police

YOUR FORCE, YOUR AREA



SCAN HERE

- Meet your local Community Policing Team (CPT) police officers and PCSOs
- Find out about crime stats in your area
- Learn about local policing meetings and events
- Read the CPT priorities
- Contact us



Chippenham CPT
<http://bit.ly/46vT8kt>

We are inviting you to get to know your Community Policing Team even better. Over the past few months, the communications team and your local officers have been working hard to create new areas on the Force website entitled 'Your Area.' If you've not discovered them yet, the Your Area pages will give you a considerable amount of information about the area in which you live including who your neighbourhood officers and PCSOs are, how to contact them, crime statistics for your area including the top reported crimes and a crime map showing hot spots. If you are interested to know what the local police priorities are you will find them on the pages along with an up-to-date list of meetings and events the team will be attending. You can even find out if there will be speed checks in your area.

Keep up to date with the latest news and alerts in your area by signing up to our Community Messaging service via the QR Code.

Alternatively you can register online via www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk



Get to know Community Messaging

Alerts from Wiltshire Police

YOUR FORCE, YOUR AREA



SCAN HERE

- Receive alerts from your local Community Policing team and partners
- Reply directly to alerts from officers
- Receive alerts by email, text or voicemail
- Over 15,000 subscribers in Wiltshire and Swindon
- It's FREE to subscribe



Wiltshire and Swindon
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Community Messaging
www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk

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Box Parish Council – Report to Corsham Area Board 25th June 2024

Box Parish Council welcomes the Corsham Area Board to Box.

1. The threatened eviction by Green Square Accord of Rev. Clair Southgate from her home of 20 years has caused huge concern across the Parish.

Clair is a pivotal member of the community in Box.

She is:

- a Foundation Governor at Box School
- a Teaching Assistant in the school
- an Ordained Priest
- an Associate Minister in the Lidbrook Group of Churches

Clair is unable to drive due her medical condition.

Consequently, if she has to move from Box she would not be able to travel to fulfil the invaluable contributions she makes in all these roles listed above.

It would be devastating not just for Clair but for the whole community in Box.

The school would lose a hugely important member of staff.

The Church of England would lose the person who, although nominally one of a team, is in practice the person who holds together the village church.

A petition protesting the removal of Clair from her house attracted over 1000 signatures in less than 3 days.

The Parish Council appeals to the Area Board to assist in anyway possible to help with this situation.

The Parish Council also recognises that this predicament is not exclusive to Clair, and that many others are in a similar situation as GSA sells off properties, but fails to meet Social Housing demands in both quantity and quality of homes in this area.

2. This is the first year that Box joined up to be part of a national initiative, the **Great Big Green Week**.

We published leaflets detailing self-guided walks with suggestions on what species might be identified in differed habitats around the parish.

We had four very successful guided nature walks led by our Daniel Part our local independent arborist & Managing Director of Tree Parts UK Daniel and active member of the Wessex Ancient Tree Forum, Steering Group Committee, who has worked extensively around the Parish alongside the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens and the Community Payback Team

We also had two immensely enjoyable visits to our cemetery from groups from the two primary schools in the parish linking in with the Great Big Green week, and our cemetery biodiversity plan.

We are also continuing with our **Carbon emissions data study** with our provider, Bloom esg.

Box has recently elected to become an ambassador for the **Great West Way** – the touring route between London and Bristol, to attract visitors and enhance our local economy.

We have set up a working group to liaise with the Great West Way team to put content and photos on the website and explore additional ways to promote our area.

Box is delighted to come 2nd in the Local North Wiltshire Round of the CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) **Best Kept Village Competition** 2024 and received an excellent report from the judges.

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Report back to Corsham Area Board – Update for Colerne Parish Council (Jane Mellett, June 2024)

1. **Outstanding Highways Issues:-**

The size and increase farm machinery traffic around and out of the parish has caused the PC to take a serious look at risks around this. To that end the parking in Vicarage Lane and the footpath access around the school need urgent attention. Cllr Clarke has had a visit from Sarah Dearden to address both issues.

The following need to go to the next LHFIG – Dropped kerbs at exit from Forrester green and possibility of extending the path on the South side
Solution to improve safety around the Old School on Vicarage Lane
Notice for Top of Tutton Hill – “Single Track Road with passing places”

2. The PC has recently reviewed and **updated the Climate Action Plan** and implemented some important changes to support increasing areas of biodiversity. Of particular note has been the impact of bringing mowing back in house and enlarging the role of our Parish ranger. We also purchased a thermal imaging camera last autumn. This was used by residents to learn more about how their home loses heat and explore DIY responses or building repairs needed.

This will be used again from October. There has been some very positive repair and upgrading of the Market Place making it a valued meeting place for the whole parish.

3. In response to the Big Green Week, our local nature charity – Wild Colerne held a Nature Day last weekend and prior to that a very well attended meeting re water matters – exploring causes and impact of pollution as well as the positive impact of otters and beavers. The Bath and Avon River Trust pointed out the the Avon is the second most polluted river outside London!

4. The Parish Council has had a detailed survey of all trees relating to community facilities so that risks can be addressed and good care taken of our important trees. We also have volunteer teams including the Cotswold Wardens, the Scouts and our Tree Wardens who are helping us with planting and care of food hedges, coppicing and new tree planting. Meanwhile, the Cotswold Wardens have been increasing accessibility to our local rights of way with appropriate gates, and we hope to continue this process further.

5. We recently facilitated a community meeting at Pinewood Estate in North Colerne. The young families there, and the older residents are all supportive of the PC taking control of the Local Green Space which is currently managed as a play are by WC. The community group which formed earlier in the year is already exploring designs for all ages and ability, and the need for some more sheltered areas for both sun and wind. We look forward to the WC intention to pass over responsibility together with some funds towards development of a new play area.

6. We have seen the positive impact of our Neighbourhood Plan in a current Planning Appeal, and look forward to the completion of Local Plan Review with the increase in Rural Exception sites for the delivery of rural housing needs. The PC is engaged in a detailed review of land ownership and boundaries around our recreational facilities. This is an important piece of work to secure and expand community facilities for the future.

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