

Partner Update

Update from	Corsham Town Council
Date of Area Board Meeting	21 January 2016
Headlines/Key Issues	

- Christmas in Corsham was a great success, with more wishes than ever on the Wishing Tree and more people than ever at the Christmas Lights Switch On. The feedback from everyone who came along – local residents, stallholders and entertainers – was great, and many are already enquiring about taking part in the Summer Fete, which is on Saturday 11 June 2016 at Springfield Rec. More details about that next time.
- The free parking in town from 5-12 December, sponsored by the Town Council and the Martingate Centre, proved very successful, with a definite increase in footfall in the town. We are waiting for reports from the retailers to see if their takings increased during that week. The Town Council would like to thank Martingate for their generous help.
- The Town Council is, once again, supporting Corsham Chamber of Commerce's Corsham Means Business Show, which takes place on Wednesday 16 March, from 10am-4pm, at Hartham Park. For more details visit www.corshammeansbusiness.co.uk.
- Do you know a local hero? Nominations for the Town Council's Community Awards are now open, until 11 March. We are looking for those people who make a big difference to Corsham and the lives of people who live here. The Awards will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting on Thursday 21 April, at the Town Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm. Nomination forms are available from the Town Hall or can be downloaded at www.corsham.gov.uk.
- Neighbourhood Plan – Good progress is now being made towards the Corsham Neighbourhood Plan. Consultants are currently being engaged to help the Town Council and Steering Group with the more technical parts of the project and volunteers are currently being recruited to carry out Character Assessments across the parish area. These Character Assessments describe the character of different neighbourhoods identifying features such as topography, views, vegetation, patterns of development and building details and are an important part of the Neighbourhood Plan as they influence future policy.
- Budget – The Town Council budget for the next financial year has been set. Following no increase in 2015/16, there will be an increase in 2016/17, principally to enable Wiltshire Council to transfer its responsibility for the public conveniences to the Town Council. The overall increase will be 5.64%, of which 3.69% relates to the public conveniences. The overall increase is just under 15 pence per week on a Band 'D' equivalent property (£7.71 per year).
- Corsham Town Council has achieved the Local Council Award Scheme's top Quality Gold award for the way it works and communicates with residents. It is the highest level of award available under the National Association of Local Councils scheme and the Town Council is the first council in Wiltshire to receive the award at this level.