

Partner Update

Update from	Corsham Town Council
Date of Area Board Meeting	18 May 2016
Headlines/Key Issues	

- Corsham Summer Fete takes place on Saturday 11 June, from 12-4pm, at Springfield Rec, in celebration There will be music, dancing, Disney Princesses, all the fun of the fair, lots of animals, including birds of prey, stalls run by local groups and organisations and lots of fun and games. There will also be lots to do at the Campus as well!
- Free Parking Fridays in April proved very successful. The Town Council would like to thank Martingate for their help in jointly sponsoring the initiative and we will look to repeat the project later in the year.
- The Town Council presented four Town Council Community Awards at its Annual Town Meeting on 21 April. These were presented to Ben Hayday, student leader from The Corsham School; Jackie Stanley from Corsham Hockey Club; Eileen Mitchell for her work with Corsham Bowls Club and the group of parents behind the Scoop the Poop/Keep Corsham Tidy Campaign. Congratulations to all them. The scheme will run again in 2017.
- Corsham in Bloom's Best Garden competition will launch at the beginning of June. Last year saw more entries than ever before so we are expecting another blooming success this year. The town has also re-entered – after taking a year's break – Britain in Bloom South West, in the Pennant category. Judging for both competitions will take place in July.
- Neighbourhood Plan – Work is progressing well with the Neighbourhood Plan and further consultation on the findings to-date is due to be carried out over the next couple of months. This will include work on character studies of 22 distinct areas of Corsham which were recently carried out by trained volunteers.
- The Future of Arnold House - As part of the Town Council's Strategic Plan 2014-18 (Asset Management), the Town Council has decided to sell Arnold House on Corsham High Street. The Council considered several options for the future of the property as it is underutilised and, as an old listed building, will require difficult and costly maintenance over the next five years. The current and potential income which the Town Council could generate is less than the projected running costs. The space required by the grounds team is set to increase as the Town Council takes on more services from Wiltshire Council and as the number of amenities that require maintenance increases. The current facilities used by the grounds team will not be suitable in the medium term and alternative storage and welfare facilities are being sought. The property was left to the parish council by the late Joan Pictor who passed away in 1959. There are no covenants restricting the sale of the property. A large part of the garden was sold in the 1970s and now forms part of the long-stay car park. It may be several months before any significant changes are made.

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- As part of the Centres of Excellence strand of its Strategic Plan, the Town Council will be launching an Arts Survey at the end of this month to find out more about the cultural and creative industries – and the people taking part in them – in our area, and how we can best support the Arts in Corsham.