

Update for Corsham Area Board

Update from	Corsham Town Council
Date of Area Board Meeting	20 November 2014

- **Health and Wellbeing**

Health and Wellbeing play an important part in both the Neighbourhood Plan, with a group looking specifically at Health, Education and Wellbeing, and the Town Council's Strategic Plan, where we will be looking at creating a Safe and Healthy Community. The Town Council, following the support of the Youth Council for the scheme, is looking to bring in smoke-free play areas, backed by Wiltshire Council's work with SmokeFree South West. The Town Council has given a number of grants this financial year to help local organisations particularly involved with Health and Wellbeing, including the MS Therapy Centre, the 60 Plus Clubs in Neston and Corsham, Corsham Town FC, Corsham Centre FC and Splitz.

- **Hidden Britain Workshop**

Members of the Town Council, Visit Britain and local stakeholders met to discuss Tourism in Corsham, as part of the Strategic Plan's Destination Corsham development. The workshop was facilitated by the Hidden Britain charity.

- **WW1 Life in the Trenches**

With the help of WW1 expert Steve Williams, the Town Council ran a two-day event on 5 and 6 October at The Batters, which, in 1915/16, the Scots Guards used for trench-digging practice. More than 200 people came along on the Sunday to discover what took place at The Batters and find out what life was like in the trenches once the soldiers reached the Front. On the Monday, groups from St Patrick's Primary School and Corsham Primary – over 240 children in total – came along, in the pouring rain, to hear Steve talk about a soldier's life, and see some of the items that would have been part of each man's day-to-day existence. The weapons, rats and corned beef caused the most interest. We are grateful to the Area Board for the grant funding towards this successful event.

- **Corsham in Bloom Presentation Evening**

On 9 October, Corsham celebrated winning Gold at South West in Bloom, its ninth It's Your Neighbourhood Awards, and the achievements of our local winners in our in-town competitions at a special awards presentation at the Town Hall. Over 100 people came along to enjoy the ceremony.

- **Remembrance Sunday**

The town's Remembrance Parade took place on 9 November. More and more people come to watch the wreath-laying ceremony every year, and pay their respects, which takes place after a church service at St Bart's. This year the Town Councillors took part in the parade from the Royal British Legion to St Bart's and then from St Bart's to the War Memorial, and Corsham Youth Council was represented at the wreath-laying. Two new benches have been installed at the War Memorial as part of the WW1 commemorations, and the War Memorial has been cleaned and renovated. The Town Council would like to thank the Area Board for its match-funding grant to help pay for the works.

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- **Christmas in Corsham**

The Wishing Tree will be open for wishes from 10am-1pm on Saturday, 29 November. Come along and make a wish to hang on the High Street's tree. And then, on Friday 5 December, Corsham's Christmas Lights will go on at our family-friendly, entertainment-filled evening. We have everything from reindeer and donkeys to a Christmas Market to an excerpt from Corsham Pantomime's Dick Whittington to an 80s-style rock band, courtesy of the students at Bath Spa Uni. The fun starts at 5.15pm, with the lights being switched on at 6pm, outside the Town Hall.