

Update for the Corsham Area Board

**Name of Parish/Town
Council**

Corsham Town Council

Date of Area Board Meeting

21 January 2021

Update for the Corsham Area Board

Headlines/Key successes

- The Town Council continues to be available to offer support to local residents during the lockdown. Calls for support with shopping, etc, are being referred to NHS responders as they have the systems and people in place to respond quickly and safely, but there have been very few requests so far. The Town Hall is closed to the public but staff are on site, or working from home, and the grounds team are continuing to work in a Covid-secure way.
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- Support for people's mental health, across all ages, is going to be the focus of much of the Town Council's health and wellbeing work in the weeks and months ahead. A working group has been formed; information on organisations and initiatives that can help has been collated and is in the process of being distributed both online and in print, and a stakeholder meeting is planned so that the Town Council can gather information on what is already in place and where they can help.
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- 'Together' the art installation at the Town Hall, which ran through December and into the New Year, proved a great success. Underlining the Town Council's support for the Arts, local artists and The Pound, the public artwork featured a quote from Kahlil Gibran: 'Kindness is like snow, it beautifies everything it touches' in the ground floor windows, with an animated story celebrating Corsham and the unlikely friendship between a fox and a squirrel in the upper windows. The message was particularly apt given the random acts of kindness carried out by local businesses – donating free shopping, leaving bouquets on footpaths, giving out free toys – in the build-up to Christmas.

Projects

- The Town Council's commitment to celebrating Corsham's artistic heritage and supporting local artists continues in 2021 with the installation of two major public artworks due to take place in the first half of the year. 'Peace Feathers' by sculptor Jane Rickards will be installed at the Cross Keys junction. Based on a 'plug and feathers' design known to the stonemason trade, Peace Feathers will feature two blocks of stone supporting two stainless steel feathers stretching into the tree canopy. The other work, by artist Anya Beaumont, will see a new entrance to Springfield Rec on Valley Road, which will feature wildflowers (inspired by the wildflower meadow at the Rec) created from Anya's trademark recycled materials.
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- The work to improve the paving in the High Street continues.
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- Two Hours' Free Parking in Corsham's three public car parks, funded by the Town Council, is still available.

Forthcoming events/Diary dates

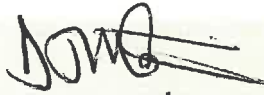
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- Corsham's Tuesday Market returns to the Newlands Road (Co-Op) car park from 26 January, with stalls selling essential retail only.
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- Discussions are underway regarding the Town Council's calendar of events and whether they can take place and, if they can, how they can be run safely. More news next time.
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Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JONES' with a stylized flourish.

Date:

14th January 2021

