

## **Corsham Tourist Information Centre/Heritage Centre**

### **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 At its meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2006, the Corsham Area (4) Committee requested that a report be prepared for a future meeting on the Corsham Tourist Information Centre/Heritage Centre.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 **That the Report be noted.**

### **3. Links to the Corporate Business Plan**

- 3.1 Buoyant Economy; work with partner organisations to ensure a buoyant economy.

### **4. General Background Information**

- 4.1 The creation of the Corsham Tourist Information and Heritage Centre, situated in Arnold House on the High Street, was a joint project between North Wiltshire District Council and Corsham Town Council.
- 4.2 The project was completed in two stages: The Tourist Information Centre (TIC) was operational by December 1999 and the combined TIC and Heritage Centre was opened in June 2000.
- 4.3 The budget for the project was £55,000. North Wiltshire District Council contributed £32,320, Corsham Parish Council contributed £7,340 and KONVER Tranche 4 funding was applied for and received to the sum of £15,340.
- 4.4 Corsham Town Council owns the building (Arnold House), which North Wiltshire District Council has the right to use by means of a licence. The licence can be terminated on two months notice and the buildings use cannot be assigned to any other party without re-negotiating the licence. Corsham Town Council do not charge North Wiltshire District Council any rent for its use.
- 4.5 The District Council's annual (2005/06) budget for operating the Centre was £47,500 (excluding central support staff costs)
- 4.6 In 1999, when the project was yet to be completed, it was estimated that the District Council would need to contribute £10,000 a year in running costs.
- 4.7 North Wiltshire District Council's cumulative net revenue contribution (excluding central support staff costs) has been approximately £268,000 to the end of March 2006.
- 4.8 It is estimated that between 21,500 and 25,700 people visit the Centre each year. This equates to a subsidy per visitor of between £2.22 and £2.65.

**5. Financial, Community & Environmental, Equality & Diversity, Human Resources and Legal Implications**

5.1 None directly rising from this Report.

**Documentation used in the preparation of this report:**

Information was obtained from G. De'arth (Regeneration & Asset Management Team Leader) and R. Collins (Financial Consultant).

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE SERVICES STRATEGIC MANAGER TO THE CORSHAM AREA (4) COMMITTEE – 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2006**

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