

# MINUTES

**Meeting:** CORSHAM AREA BOARD  
**Place:** Corsham Town Hall, High Street, Corsham, Wiltshire, SN13 0EZ  
**Date:** Tuesday 21 July 2009  
**Start Time:** 7.00pm  
**Finish Time:** 9.10 pm

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## In Attendance:

### Wiltshire Councillors

Peter Davis (Vice Chairman), Alan Macrae, Sheila Parker, Dick Tonge (Chairman)

### Service Director

Siân Walker (Adult Care)

### Officers

Julia Densham (Senior Democratic Services Officer), Julie Martin (Corporate Adviser: Community Leadership), Steve Milton (Head of Community Governance), Kristian Price (Area Highways Engineer), Mark Rippon (Community Safety Officer), Dave Roberts (Community Area Manager), Phil Tilley (Head of Transport Development), Beryl Wright (Customer Services Senior Team Leader)

### Parish Councillors

Allan Bosley (Chairman – Corsham Town Council), M Carey (Box Parish Council), Richard Crowder (Box Parish Council), Philip Glen (Lacock Parish Council), Jenny Hartless (Box Parish Council), Mary Harvey (Colerne Parish Council), Ruth Hopkinson (Corsham Town Council), Nick Keyworth (Corsham Town Council), Isobel Langsford (Corsham Town Council), Dave Martin (Corsham Town Council), Fred Sheppard (Chairman - Box Parish Council), Barry Sims (Box Parish Council)

### Partners

Wiltshire Police – Inspector Kate Pain  
Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service – Group Manager Ade Hurren, Relationship Manager Michael Franklin, Group Manager Iain Hunter  
NHS Wiltshire – Jo Howes

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Corsham Library - Basil Nankivill  
 Corsham Area Community Partnership - Christine Reid (Chairman)  
 Wiltshire Youth Development Services – Peter Kallmeier

**Members of Public in Attendance: 157**

<b><u>Agenda Item No.</u></b>	<b><u>Summary of Issues Discussed and Decision</u></b>	<b><u>Action By</u></b>
1.	<u>Chair's Welcome and Introduction</u>  The Chairman introduced himself and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Corsham Area Board. The Wiltshire Councillors and the Officers introduced themselves.	
2.	<u>Apologies for Absence</u>  Apologies were received from Keith Humphries (Cabinet Representative), Janice Fortune (Chief Officer - CVS North Wiltshire) and Chris Ward (Chairman – LINK Box Colerne Rudloe).	
3.	<u>Minutes</u>  <b>DECISION:</b> <b>The minutes of the meeting on 16 June 2009 were approved and signed as a correct record.</b>	
4.	<u>Declarations of Interest</u>  There were no declarations of interest.	
5.	<u>Introduction to the Area Boards and Making it Work for You</u>  A film outlining the principles behind the new Area Boards was shown followed by an explanation from the Community Area Manager on his role, the Community Area Grant Scheme, the Corsham Area Profile and the Keep in Touch sign up sheets.  This was followed by a brief question and answer session on the above.	
6.  a)	<u>Your Local Issues</u>  The Head of Community Governance gave a short presentation on the 'issues process' and what would happen to an issue once it had been raised. He reminded the	

b)	<p>meeting that issues sheets were available to complete online, in the information pack provided at the meeting and from the Community Area Manager.</p> <p>It was confirmed that issues from the pilot phase of the Area Board had not been carried forward because they were considered complete.</p> <p>The Head of Transport Development gave a presentation on the proposed changes to the A4 due to the major development proposals at Basil Hill and Spring Quarry. He explained the full transport assessment that had been undertaken to forecast traffic flows in the future. The assessment found that several road junctions would not cope with the forecast flows unless changes were made.</p> <p>The Officer stated the chosen option for the A4 junctions was to use traffic signal controls. This would mitigate the problems of rush hour delays at the A4 junctions and use of less suitable alternative routes as rat-runs.</p> <p>Ian Ayres from the transport consultants IMA then gave a more in depth presentation on how the planning application process was handled with regards to transport issues and where, how and why some junctions needed to be changed to traffic signal control.</p> <p>A considerable question and answer session followed:</p> <p><u>Question One - There was agreed planning permission for 12 houses at Rudloe Manor, was this accounted for in plans for the new road design?</u></p> <p>The transport assessment did not specifically consider the development of 12 houses at Rudloe Manor. A development of this size only requires a transport statement and was not deemed to generate significant traffic flows. This would be taken into account in the natural increase in traffic.</p> <p><u>Question Two - Could you confirm the transport assessment did not cover the Royal Arthur Retirement Development site?</u></p> <p>This was correct. The Royal Arthur development was not specifically included. This would be taken into account in the natural increase in traffic.</p> <p><u>Question Three - Why was a roundabout outside Basil Hill not proposed?</u></p> <p>This was not suitable because of the building layout.</p>	
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	<p><u>Question Four - What about the National Express stop at Pickwick? This effectively created a one-way road at times.</u> A potential solution would be for the coach to stop in the town.</p> <p><u>Question Five - What would be done about pollution in homes from stationary traffic?</u> Traffic assessments found there would be less stationary traffic with use of the traffic signal solution than with any other proposal.</p> <p><u>Question Six - The number of people involved at Hartham Park was very small, did this warrant traffic lights?</u> The position would be reviewed with developers regarding the inclusion of traffic signals at Hartham Park.</p> <p><u>Question 7 - Were listed building and conservation area permissions applied for in addition to normal planning permissions?</u> The planning department had considered the listed status of local buildings and the implications of the Conservation Area.</p> <p><u>Question 8 - The proposals seem to only encourage people to drive?</u> Sustainable modes of transport were being encouraged by limited MOD parking. The MOD was contributing £310,000 to Wiltshire Council to support the introduction of bus routes and to improve pedestrian and cycle routes prior to development. The MOD was actively seeking a culture change with staff to find alternative transport to work to using the car.</p> <p><u>Question 9 - When would improvements be made to the footpaths and cycle ways?</u> Improvements to footpaths and cycle ways would be in place before the sites were occupied.</p> <p><u>Question 10 - The proposals shown were traditionally road orientated, had reopening the railway station been considered as an option?</u> Opening a railway station at Corsham was acknowledged as a long standing issue. There had been many ongoing talks with the railway organisations.</p> <p><u>Question 11 - All development would increase traffic up Westwells Road. Had a no left turn signal out of Basil Hill been considered to deter vehicles from turning into Neston?</u> No left turn signs out of Basil Hill were suggested.</p>	
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	<p><u>Question 12 - Why was Bradford Road not included in the studies?</u>  Bradford Road was not directly mentioned in traffic forecasts because changes in traffic flows should not be material. It was not considered to be on the desire route for west bound or east bound traffic.</p> <p><u>Question 13 - Why had permissions been granted for sites to be developed when it was known the existing road network would not suffice?</u>  This was because of the jobs brought to Corsham by the developments.</p> <p><u>Question 14 - Had there been discussion with the MOD regarding different shift patterns to spread traffic out throughout the day?</u>  Flexible working patterns at the MOD would distribute traffic flows more evenly than traditional set hours.</p> <p><u>Question 15 - What had happened with putting temporary traffic lights up on the A4?</u>  No traffic signals had been placed on the A4 on an experimental basis for the new development. They may have been put up by a utilities company.</p> <p><u>Question 16 - How would traffic coming into Neston be mitigated against? The traffic assessment did not take a holistic approach as cars were prioritised over other modes of transport.</u>  Use of local rat-runs would be mitigated against by improvements to the strategic road network, making this the preferred option for drivers. £65,000 was in the MOD arrangement to correct traffic calming through Neston if needed after development. The MOD had an active travel plan in place.</p> <p><u>Question 17 - Had a survey for subsidence been completed at Box Hill on the A4? If traffic lights were left on permanently they would be an eyesore.</u>  No survey had been completed as far as Phil Tilley was aware. He asked for details to be left for this to be checked. There was an opportunity to dim the brilliance of lights and change this between day and night time.</p> <p><u>Question 18 - How much confidence was there in the projected numbers given in the presentation?</u>  There was confidence because MOD predictions were based on Basil Hill at the moment and inflated for the future.</p> <p><u>Question 19 - Were elected members aware of the strength</u></p>	
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	<p><u>of feeling on this subject from local people? Would it be accepted that the Hare and Hounds roundabout would block nearby roundabouts?</u></p> <p>Yes. Measures would be taken to make sure the network operates well, with box markings or a keep clear sign required.</p> <p><u>Question 20 - Was there scope for change to plans to the proposed road design layout if appropriate? I have a letter written by Charles Pescod, Development Control Manager, which stated in November 2008 change would be possible.</u></p> <p>Schemes would be monitored and there was scope for change in the future if agreed by Wiltshire Council.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b>  <b>That Wiltshire Council's Highways Department would take into consideration the points raised at the meeting.</b></p>	
<p>7.</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p>	<p><u>Updates from Town and Parish Councils and Other Partners</u></p> <p>Inspector Pain of Wiltshire Police gave an update on current neighbourhood policing in the Corsham area. A police report which provided contact details and identified priorities in the local area would be supplied at each Area Board meeting. Priorities in the area were speeding and anti social behaviour over the summer months.</p> <p>A short question and answer session followed. A member of the public asked what had been done about speeding traffic in the early morning and evening in Pickwick. Inspector Pain replied that two sites had been monitored in the last two months with prosecutions made on a sliding scale according to speed of the vehicle. This had been combined with a programme of education for groups of people identified statistically as more likely to speed.</p> <p>A member of the public asked why Box had not had a visit from the Community Beat Manager.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b>  <b>A Community Beat Manager would attend the next Box Parish Council meeting.</b></p> <p>Jo Howes from NHS Wiltshire gave a verbal update on how The Porch Surgery would be expanding on the existing site. Increased numbers of the public had presented themselves with symptoms of swine flu consistent with the national picture. She requested town and parish councils promote the "flu buddy" scheme.</p>	<p>Inspector Kate Pain</p>

c)	<p>Peter Kallmeier gave a verbal update on youth issues in Colerne. The main issue identified in the village was lack of indoor provision for 13-19 year olds. Funding had been secured to provide computers, sports equipment and a pool table and the village hall was considered the most appropriate venue. The Youth Development Service had offered to train adults to staff the facility and Peter Kallmeier invited interested adults to get in touch.</p>	
d)	<p>Basil Nankivill gave a verbal update on Corsham library services. The opening hours of the library were being reconsidered, with a proposal to open Monday mornings and close earlier on Thursdays, and he asked members of the public to complete an evaluation form.</p> <p>Basil Nankivill asked for help in publicising the mobile library service, in particular the stops at Neston, Rudloe and the Corsham Road stop in Lacock. Wiltshire Council aims to work with the local community to see what can be done to improve usage of these stops.</p> <p>Basil Nankivill invited members of the public with young children to take part in the 'Quest Seekers' Summer Reading Challenge over the school holidays.</p>	
e)	<p>An update was given by Group Manager Iain Hunter from Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service. A priority was trying to identify vulnerable individuals in the community who would benefit from more assistance to ensure safety in the home.</p>	
f)	<p>Corsham Town Council updated the meeting on a number of issues. Main points included concern over the delay of adoption of roads and facilities at Katherine Park, the need for free parking in the town centre and the shortage of available land for allotments and the cemetery.</p> <p>Corsham Town Council was pleased to introduce a walking map for the area produced with the Martingate Centre. Copies of the map were available from the Town Hall, the Tourist Information and Heritage Centre and other businesses around the town.</p> <p>Corsham Town Council was delighted to announce a regular market would take place in the town from September. The market would be held every Tuesday on the pedestrian precinct and thereafter a farmer's market on the third Saturday of every month.</p>	
8.	<u>Role of Community Area Partnership and Community Plan</u>	

	<p>Christine Reid, Chairman of the Corsham Area Partnership, gave a summary of what the Partnership had done to create an updated community plan. More than 1,000 people were consulted across the whole community area and eight groups of issues and aspirations had been identified.</p> <p>Three action groups were already up and running:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transport Group;</li> <li>• Colerne Youth Issues; and</li> <li>• Box and Colerne parish plans.</li> </ul> <p>Christine Reid emphasised the Partnership was keen to work with Area Boards. She invited the public to make contact with the organisation if they would like support when raising issues through the Area Board process.</p> <p><b>DECISION:</b>  <b>That a Community Charter would be produced to formalise the relationship between Corsham Area Board and Corsham Area Partnership.</b></p>	Julie Martin
9.	<p><u>Election of Representatives</u></p> <p>The following appointments to outside bodies were made:</p> <p>Corsham Area Youth Issues Group (CAYPIG)  <b>Sheila Parker and Peter Davis</b></p> <p>Pound Arts Centre  <b>Dick Tonge</b></p> <p>Corsham Area Community Partnership  <b>Alan Macrae</b></p>	
10.	<p><u>Evaluation and Close</u></p> <p>The Chairman thanked all those who attended and asked that evaluation sheets be completed. The next area board meeting would be held at 7.00pm with refreshments available from 6.30 pm at Corsham Town Hall on Tuesday 13 October 2009.</p>	