Update for Corsham Area Board

Name of Parish/Town Council	Corsham Town Council
Date of Area Board Meeting	12 October 2023

Headlines/Key successes

• The Town Council's Street Fair took place on Saturday 9 September, with 40+ stalls offering fun and games, fund-raising opportunities for local groups, crafts, food and drink and more. There was live music on the stage at Digital Mansion Corsham, and activities for children in the grounds. The extreme heat on the day meant the dog show had to be cancelled but the beer- and ice-cream sellers did very well! The feedback was excellent, with many stallholders selling out of stock and expressing their appreciation for the great day they had enjoyed in the town.

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• The Town Council continues with its aim to engage the community on as many aspects of its work as possible. A recent survey on 20mph zones in the town centre saw over 300 responses, and the upcoming Transport Plan survey (23 October-27 November) is likely to see many more.

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• The Peacock Arts Trail, with funding from the Town Council, is back (7-15 October) with artists opening their studios, or displaying their work at various venues around the town. The Town Hall is Venue 1 on the Trail, with two artists' work on show, along with the entries in the Youth Art Competition and artwork created by the members of Corsham Youth Zone, who have been working with four artists on the Trail. Visit peacockartstrail.co.uk to find out more.

Projects

- Following on from the Get Active! event, showcasing activities for U18s to young people, parents and carers, which was held at Springfield Community Campus on 25 September, the Town Council is now compiling a directory of clubs, groups and organisations, which should be completed and printed by the end of the year.
- The newly established Skatepark Project Group will see users of the skatepark at Springfield Rec working to raise funds for a proposed new skatepark at the site. Watch out for more details coming soon. The Group will also help the Town Council choose the design of the new facility.
- The Town Council is looking to recruit volunteers to assist with wildlife projects in its open spaces. Motivated by the need to take action to address the biodiversity crisis, the Council has been working with a consultant to produce a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP). The BAP includes a number of suggestions, including tree planting, establishing new wildflower areas, planting and managing hedges, creating new ponds, making bug hotels and hibernacula and installing bird, bat and dormouse boxes. We hope that local residents will want to get involved and help us deliver it all. Anyone interested, can

contact Garry Ford, Environmental Project Officer: gford@corsham.gov.uk.

• Public Art - Work to create a Public Art Trail leaflet, which will also promote the town's galleries and arts-related businesses, is ongoing. The Potley and Portland Rise Art Community Project (PACT) is now at the exciting stage, following months of community engagement, of having three designs for residents to choose from. And the plinth at Cross Keys is complete and the Town Council's Public Art Task Group is now looking at a number of options (both commissioned and loaned) ahead of launching the changing series of installations at this important junction to the town.

Forthcoming events/Diary dates

- 11/12 November Corsham's Remembrance events will take place as usual this year. On Saturday 11 November, at 11am, members of the Royal British Legion will lead a two-minute silence in the Martingate Centre. Then, on Sunday 12 November, Corsham will come together to remember the town's fallen, and all those who have lost their lives in conflict. There will be a service at St Bart's Church at 10am, after which the parade will form up outside the church and march from the High Street to the war memorial on Lacock Road. The service there will begin at approximately 10.50am, with the twominute silence at 11 o'clock, followed by the laying of wreaths.
- 1 December Christmas Lights Switch On, 3pm-7.30pm, takes place with all the usual family-friendly traditions. There will be live music on the Town Hall stage and at the other end of the High Street, fairground rides, the Christmas Market (open from 3pm), and a visit from Father Christmas, who will be in his free grotto after the lights go on at 6pm.

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Date: 5 October 2023

Signed: