

## **A Report of the Corsham Shadow Community Operations Board**

### **To the Corsham Area Board. 1 December 2011**

Since the last Area Board meeting, the Corsham Shadow COB has been meeting weekly, often with two meetings a week, during an intense period of collaboration with Wiltshire Council's preferred architects, to reach RIBA Stage D. This will result in a formal plan, ready to be recommended to the Area Board for submission to the planning process.

The development of the plan is based on a set strategic principles and a detailed design specification that incorporate the wishes of the community at large. These have, for instance, specified the core facilities that should be present that will more than replace existing usable space, as it currently exists in both the Leisure and Community Centres. They have taken account of the needs of local services including those for young people, the Library, a Learning Disability Day Centre, the Registrar and the Leisure Centre.

The Board has also met with and understood the needs of Wiltshire Police in relation to their co-location at the Community Campus.

The COB has met with representatives of not just the Police, but also the Library Service, Learning Disabilities, the Library and Leisure Services, exploring their aspirations for the success of a dynamic focal point within the wider Community Area.

A significant part of the present 12-14 week process is the need to present the initial design proposals back to the Community Area. This process will be supported by Wiltshire Council and it is our intention to reach across the Community Area to engage the widest possible reaction as soon after Christmas period as is practicable.

I cannot commend strongly enough to the Area Board the considerable commitment to this project that has been shown by all the members of the COB over the last few months. Without exception, there is a genuine and heartfelt concern for ensuring that the Corsham Community Area benefits from the opportunity that it has been presented with as a pilot project. In turn, this commitment has been energetically supported by the Campus and Operational Team of Wiltshire Council, as well as representatives of Council Services who will be present in the new Campus.

In turn, members of the COB have spent time in discussion and consultation with the various groups they represent. The commitment in both time and effort probably exceeds anything that they might have expected but it has been given enthusiastically.

The COB will shortly have in place a website to augment the process of taking the designs to the Community Area. This will provide many people with access to the internet the opportunity to give their views. The road show that we intend should provide the widest possible access to the work of the architects and the thinking to date.

And the COB will continue to understand, interpret and incorporate the views of the Community in the Springfield Campus for the benefit of the Corsham Community Area.

Allan Bosley. Chair. Community Operations Board