



Partner Update and presentation of new Corsham Area Community Plan

2012 Update

The top priority for the Network in 2012/2013 has been to update the Community Plan for the Corsham Area. The **2012 Update** is now available in a colourful booklet form. It was launched at **CCAN's annual meeting** held on 30 October, and copies are being distributed across the Community Area .

The updated Plan sets out **Community Priorities** and suggestions for **Next Steps** that came out of the Community Consultation Event held in February. The Community Priorities, up to three for each of the Plan's eight themes, were subsequently endorsed by the Area Board. **At the November meeting CCAN will present the new Plan and invite the Area Board:**

- **to endorse the 2012 Update**
- **and to agree to work with the local community to help realize the Community Priorities**

At the same time CCAN will provide a 2 page handout designed to show clearly the Follow On arrangements suggested under Next Steps in the Update. This document lists the various topics identified as priorities, grouping them according to the **TYPE of follow on action**.

For example, one of these actions is about using the Area Board forum to present and discuss a topic identified by the local community as important to them. The Area Board Chair has expressed his willingness, when considering agendas and formats for future meeting, to explore new ways to address this '**grass roots**' agenda alongside the '**top down**' agenda of announcements and presentations from Wiltshire Council.

This is one way of how the Area Board can work with the local community on tackling the community priorities and aspirations. This new Plan also highlights the role that Community Grants and other Area Board funding is playing in response to local needs expressed in the Community Plan.

The Network after the Annual Meeting

Another priority for the Community Area Network has been '*to recruit new resource to the Steering Group*'. Sadly this aim has not been achieved: invitations to take part in steering CCAN's work, issued before and at the AGM, have not so far been productive.

The annual Work Plan agreed for CCAN covers the period **up to the end of March 2013**. It listed a **Steering Group membership** of eleven, including nominated representatives from the Area Board, from Corsham Town Council and from the three Parish Councils. In practice only three Steering Group members have been available to play an active role and put in all the work needed to update the Community Plan.

Two of the six members who represent community groups have said that they are standing down. Only the Area Board and Corsham Town Council have confirmed their representation will continue. This leaves in effect a small 'core group' of three active members, ably supported as before by our part-time Network Co-ordinator.

In the circumstances - instead of time and money being spent on holding formal (and too often poorly attended) Steering Group meetings, over the next five months up to the end of the Financial Year in March, the efforts of the Network Co-ordinator and the core group will be concentrated on the following priorities taken from the 2012/13 Work Plan:

- Maintaining the links to the Community Area through CCAN newsletters and Updates to the Area Board (and where appropriate using the newly launched electronic notice board *Community Matters'*)
- Further developing the network - with the emphasis on using the Co-ordinator's time to encourage and support practical projects linked to the Community Priorities
- Developing the website to provide a web based version of the Plan
- Continuing to record key decisions taken on behalf of the Network and to administer the expenditure of funds in accordance with agreed practice for area partnerships
- Working with the Area Board and Corsham Town Council over follow up action to the 2012 Update
- Providing representatives who will continue to play an active role on the Campus Operations Board and in the Wiltshire forum of Community Area Partnerships (WfCAP)

November 2012