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31 October 2024

To: All Members of the Community Services Committee: Councillors A Brown, T Bush, N Farmer, D Jarman, A Jones, R Munn, A Thomas, A White and R Williams.

All other Members of the Council for information.

The next meeting of the Community Services Committee will be held in the Town Hall on Wednesday 6 November 2024 commencing at 7pm.

Yours sincerely

David J Martin
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Press and Public – To observe the meeting online or take part in Agenda Item 2 - Public Question Time and Petitions, please click [here](#) or email dmartin@corsham.gov.uk for instructions.

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Public Question Time and Petitions
3. Declarations of Interest

To receive any Declaration(s) of Interest under Corsham Town Council's Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Community Services Committee meeting held on 11 September 2024 – *for information only.*
5. Grant Applications

There are none for this meeting.

6. Community Wellbeing Update (*Minute CS 33/24 and others*) – The Committee will be updated on the Town Council's latest community wellbeing activities.

- i) The Community Wellbeing Officer continues to visit and support a wide range of local groups and organisations. The most recent visits have been to Hungerford House's 'Tea at Three' event for residents, Corsham Foodbank, Jamie's Farm, the anniversary event at Corsham Library and Souper Friday, accompanied by Warm and Safe Wiltshire. There has also been a visit to Wadswick Green to discuss how the residents there can better integrate with the town and the activities available.
- ii) The Community Wellbeing Officer organised a free concert at the Town Hall, with musicians provided by Celebrating Age Wiltshire (CAW) and tea and cake for the audience, to mark Silver Sunday, the National Day for Older People, on 6 October. Over 30 people attended, and the feedback was excellent.
- iii) Following on from a successful collaboration with the residents at Jargeau Court and Holton House, local poet and arts practitioner Dawn Gorman has begun a series of sessions, funded by the Town Council, with some of the residents at Hungerford House. Just as with the previous projects, these sessions will see the residents' stories compiled into a booklet for them all to share.
- iv) Corsham Foodbank has supported over 190 people in the last two months. The largest users have been families (60%). The Foodbank aims to reintroduce fuel vouchers this winter and has £1,200 earmarked for this. The volunteers are working towards Christmas packs to support Corsham's families. Funding is an ongoing issue, and the Community Wellbeing Officer has been liaising with the Treasurer on funding opportunities.
- v) The Community Wellbeing Officer will be attending a 'Baby Day' at Corsham Library on 12 November 2024.
- vi) The next meeting of the Community Wellbeing Group will take place online on Monday 18 November. The focus for this meeting will be families.
- vii) Corsham Youth Zone – Positive discussions are ongoing between the staff and volunteers of Corsham Youth Zone (CYZ) and The Rise Trust regarding Rise taking over the running of CYZ from 2025.
- viii) The Rise Trust's youth outreach work continues in the town on Wednesdays and Fridays, with the Open Blue Bus, used as a hub/warm space on Wednesdays, back for the autumn/winter.
- ix) Following approval of the Town Council's Community Wellbeing Strategy at September's meeting, a Year One Action Plan has now been produced (*attached*) for approval by the Committee.

- for consideration and approval.

7. Prospect Estate Community Defibrillator - Power Supply and Maintenance – At the Finance and Administration Committee meeting on 23 October 2024, it was agreed:

That Prospect Estate Community Defibrillator be awarded £750 towards a new pole and connection to an electric power supply to enable the existing defibrillator cabinet to be moved and connected. [This grant would be from Section 137 funds.]

There are a couple of issues which arise from this particular proposal:

- i) Energy Costs - The frost-proof cabinet, in which the equipment sits, requires a mains power supply. The energy supplier is not willing to enter into a non-metered supply with the local group but is happy to have an agreement with the Town Council. The group is happy to reimburse the Town Council for the costs. It is suggested that as the energy costs are low (probably under £8-£10 per year) that the group be invoiced only every three to five years.
- ii) Repairs and Maintenance – Should the column to which the cabinet is attached be damaged, those working on it require specific authorisation. A general electrician would not be permitted to do the work. Wiltshire Council's term contractor, AtkinsRealis, has suggested such work goes through the Town Council, then Wiltshire Council contracts for repair. This can, in turn, be recharged to the group.

Whilst there are other defibrillators around Corsham, this is the first instance of the Town Council being requested to take responsibility for energy costs and repairs/maintenance other than our own equipment - *for consideration*.

8. Corsham – An Age-friendly Community (*Minute 34/24 and others*) – Cllr Brown and the Head of Community Services will update the Committee on the latest steps taken towards Corsham becoming an Age-friendly Community – *for information and discussion*.
9. StoryTown (*Minute CS 35/24 and others*) – The Committee will be updated on the progress of Jenny Hulme's 'Story Arcs' work with local businesses, and early plans for StoryTown's 2025 projects, including linking with the 25th anniversary of the Town Council – *for information and comment*.
10. Public Art Projects (*Minute CS 36/24 and others*) – The Committee will be updated on the progress of the Town Council's public art projects, including the Cross Keys sheep, the Potley and Portland Rise Art Community Project (PACT) and a possible display of the work of sculptor Michael Pennie – *for information and comment*.
11. Public Art Sites - Priority List (*Minute CS 37/24*) – At the Community Services Committee Meeting on 11 September it was suggested that the Public Art Task Group, on behalf of the Town Council, should consider possible public art sites. The Committee will be updated on progress – *for discussion*.
12. Events Update (*Minute CS 39/24 and others*) – The Committee will be updated on the plans for Christmas in Corsham, including the Wishing Tree (30 November 2024) and Christmas Lights Switch On (6 December 2024) – *for information and comment*.
13. Business Support Update (*Minute CS 41/24 and others*) – The Head of Community Services will update the Committee on the Business Breakfast, held at Hartham Park on 1 October 2024; the plans for the next Breakfast, to be held at Digital Mansion Corsham on 29 January 2025 and, following positive feedback from the businesses themselves, ideas for extending the Town Council's offering for local businesses to include a lunch or supper club and workshops – *for discussion and comment*.
14. Community Services Budget 2025/26 – Draft budget proposals for 2025/26 are *attached* – *for consideration*.