

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Community Services Committee Meeting held at  
Corsham Town Hall on Wednesday 16 May 2018**

**Present** Councillor N Farmer (Chairman)  
Councillors C Fuller, Mrs G Sanders, Mrs C Woodward

**In Attendance** Mrs S Thomas (Head of Community Services)

**CS 01/18 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ms L Bray, M Jackson, D Jarman, J Maloney, R Taylor, Mrs M Wakeman and Mrs A White

**CS 02/18 Public Question Time and Petitions**

There were none.

**CS 03/18 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.

There were none.

**CS 04/18 Matters arising from the Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 14 March 2018**

There were none.

**CS 05/18 Reports from Council representatives appointed to outside bodies**

Cllr Neville Farmer updated the Committee on discussions he had undertaken with local organisations about their involvement with Corsham Storytown in September. (See also Minute No 09/18 – Corsham Storytown.)

**CS 06/18 Strategic Plan Monitoring and Evaluation (*Minute CS 64/17 and others*)**

The Head of Community Services gave an update on progress made on those Strategic Plan themes covered by the Community Services Committee: Destination Corsham; Alive with Centres of Excellence; Open to Business and Safe and Healthy Community.

The update was noted.

**CS 07/18 Taste of Corsham 16 June 2018 (*Minute CS 65/17 and others*)**

The Head of Community Services updated the Committee on the plans for this year's Taste of Corsham food festival which will, again, link up with The Pound's Blue Sky Festival. Twenty-one stalls had confirmed their attendance, with another seven still to make a decision. Sixteen High Street businesses were also keen to be involved, either as part of the Taste Trail or having food-tastings/stalls outside their premises.

The event would coincide with The Pound's Blue Sky Festival. As a result, The Pound were working on a number of projects, including programming all the entertainment for the day both on the Taste stage and running busking spots for young musicians from The Corsham School; street theatre, and arts and crafts, including a trail of kites along the High Street and around the town centre to link all the venues included as part of the day as Taste of Corsham/Blue Sky Festival weekend would also coincide with the 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Almshouses and a special Bath Spa University Open Day at Corsham Court on 16 June as well.

The update was noted.

**CS 08/18 Summer Fete 7 July 2018 (*Minute CS 66/17 and others*)**

The Head of Community Services updated the Committee on the plans for this year's Summer Fete. She had met with MOD Corsham's Garrison Sergeant Major who had confirmed their involvement and would be supplying military display stands, barbecue, beer tent, a possible explosives dog display, children's assault course and MOD Police and Fire Service vehicles. Sixteen community stalls had already confirmed their attendance; the Community Policing Team would be bringing a display; the Little Zoo was booked, as were the fairground rides and a circus skills workshop, and Guide Dogs for the Blind would organise a fun Dog Show. There would be entertainment from local musicians and choirs as well. Members of the Sports Forum were planning to run free taster sessions, and Springfield Campus would also be running events, including taster sessions on the climbing wall.

It was suggested that the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry be invited to attend. The Head of Community Services and the GSM had previously tried to obtain contact details for the Yeomanry but had not been successful. The Head of Community Services would try again.

The Committee was asked to approve the plans so far.

**Resolved**

That the plans for the Summer Fete be approved.

**CS 09/18 Corsham Storytown**

The Committee was updated on the plans for the town's literary event, 19-21 October 2018, where a number of co-ordinated events around the town would take place under the Corsham Storytown brand. The Pound, the Library, Corsham Bookshop, Bath Spa University and a number of local writers and writing groups were already involved. There would be events for all age groups. A further update would be available at the next meeting.

The update was noted.

**CS 10/18 Visit Wiltshire**

The Head of Community Services updated the Committee on the excellent working relationship the Town Council has with Visit Wiltshire, the county's destination marketing organisation, and the types of activity undertaken in the past year. Examples of the promotional literature produced were available at the meeting, as well as information on the online marketing activity, press activity and seasonal marketing campaigns.

The Committee was asked to approve the Town Council's ongoing membership of Visit Wiltshire.

**Resolved**

That the Town Council renews its membership of Visit Wiltshire for 2018/19.

**CS 11/18 Corsham Market (*Minute CS 68/17*)**

Following the resolution at the previous Community Services meeting that Corsham Market become a regular agenda item so that progress can be monitored, the Head of Community Services had an update from Wiltshire Council's Markets Manager. His team were struggling to attract new traders to Corsham, even though fees had not been increased for the 2018/19 financial year and Corsham Market is on the lowest fee tier of £15 per day for a 3m stall. The two regular traders were both happy to continue, and a plant seller was due to start soon, but more stalls were clearly needed. The Markets Team were actively trying to recruit new traders but continued to find it difficult to get trader commitment across all the county's markets; Corsham was not the only market struggling.

It was suggested that the Head of Community Services contact Royal Wootton Bassett Town Council. The Council had taken on the town's market themselves and it would be interesting to know what that had involved.

The update was noted.

**Resolved**

That the Head of Community Services contacts Royal Wootton Bassett to gather more information about the way the town's market is run.

**CS 12/18 Activities for Young People**

As a result of the issues with anti-social behaviour in the town centre and at both Springfield Campus and Springfield Rec, the Town Council was now working with Wiltshire Council and Corsham Youth Zone on a Street Sports project for young people. The Town Council would fund, for a minimum of 12 months, two coaches to work with the 14+ age-group. The coaches would be selected by Wiltshire Council's Sports Development team and would be chosen for their ability to engage with young people. Various stakeholders, eg The Corsham School, Greensquare Housing Authority, the Police, would be contacted to help identify particular young people who should be invited. It was hoped the project would start in early July, before the schools broke-up.

The Committee was also asked for suggestions for a summer holiday activity for younger children. It was felt that a 'hidden words' trail would work well and could be linked to Corsham Storytown via a short story competition as well. A "Stranger in the Window" trail, where the town centre's shops had items in their window that would not normally be there, was also suggested.

The update was noted.

**Resolved**

- (i) That the youth activities planned for Springfield be endorsed.
- (ii) That the Head of Community Services would work on the summer holiday ideas with the Tourism and Arts and Planning and Events Officers.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm and closed at 8.38pm. There were no members of the public present.

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CHAIRMAN

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DATE