



Annual Report

2022-23



Councillors and Staff May 2022-April 23*

Corsham Gastard Ward

Cllr Tina Ellis 10 Monks Lane, Gastard, Corsham SN13 9PH

Corsham Ladbroke Ward

Cllr Steve Abbott Weaver's Cottage, 71 High Street, Corsham SN13 0HA (Chairman)

Cllr Alan Brown 21 Hitherspring, Corsham SN13 9UT

Cllr Tanvir Bush c/o Town Hall

Cllr Neville Farmer 1a Post Office Lane, Corsham SN13 0HJ

Cllr Ruth Hopkinson** Priory Cottage, Bences Lane, Corsham SN13 0DD

Cllr Dave Jarman 3 Paul Street, Corsham SN13 9DG

Cllr Stephen Senior 6 Syon Close, Corsham SN13 9UZ

Cllr Ruth Williams 39 Priory Street, Corsham SN13 0AS

Corsham Neston Ward

Cllr Jeremy Brook 29 Elley Green, Neston, Corsham SN13 9TX

Cllr Nicholas Brakspear Pickwick Manor, Corsham SN13 0HU

Cllr Anna Mackie 10 Silman Close, Corsham SN13 0RG

Corsham Pickwick Ward

Cllr Helen Belcher** 3 Masons Way, Corsham SN13 9XW

Cllr Alun Crockford 30 Paul Street, Corsham SN13 9DG

Cllr Mervyn Jackson 28 Purleigh Road, Corsham SN13 9LJ

Cllr George McCaffery 68a Pickwick Road, Corsham SN13 9DB

Cllr Jane Robertson c/o Town Hall

Cllr Amanda Thomas 35 Pickwick, Corsham SN13 0JE

Cllr Gareth Ward 5 Macie Drive, Corsham SN13 9EJ

Cllr Anthea White 2 Dairy Mews, Pickwick, Corsham SN13 0BT

*These were serving Councillors as of April 2023. For the most up-to-date contact details for Town Councillors visit our website: www.corsham.gov.uk, call us on 01249 702130 or email us at towncouncil@corsham.gov.

Chief Executive David Martin

Head of Community Services

Sharon Thomas

Community Services Officer (Arts)*

Sarah Leigh

Community Services Officer (Health and Wellbeing)*

Vickie Fauset

Community Services Officer (Tourism and Events)

Tracey-Ann Walpole

Head of Finance and Administration*

Maxine Jones

Planning and Finance Officer*

Kirsty Gilby

Administration Officer*

Rachel Sellens

Cleaner/Caretaker*

Alex Debank

Head of Technical Services

James Whittleton

Environmental Project Officer

Beth Searle

Technical Assistant*

Carol Clark

Lead Groundsperson

Neil Ash

Groundsperson (Amenity)

Trudy Boughey Mark Gilby

Groundsperson (Property)

Brendan Kelly

Street Cleaner*

Martin Hirst

* part-time

Councillors Who Left 2022-23
Ladbroke Ward: Cllr Ann Morris
Pickwick Ward: Cllr Tracy Smith

**Cllrs Belcher and Hopkinson are also Wiltshire Councillors



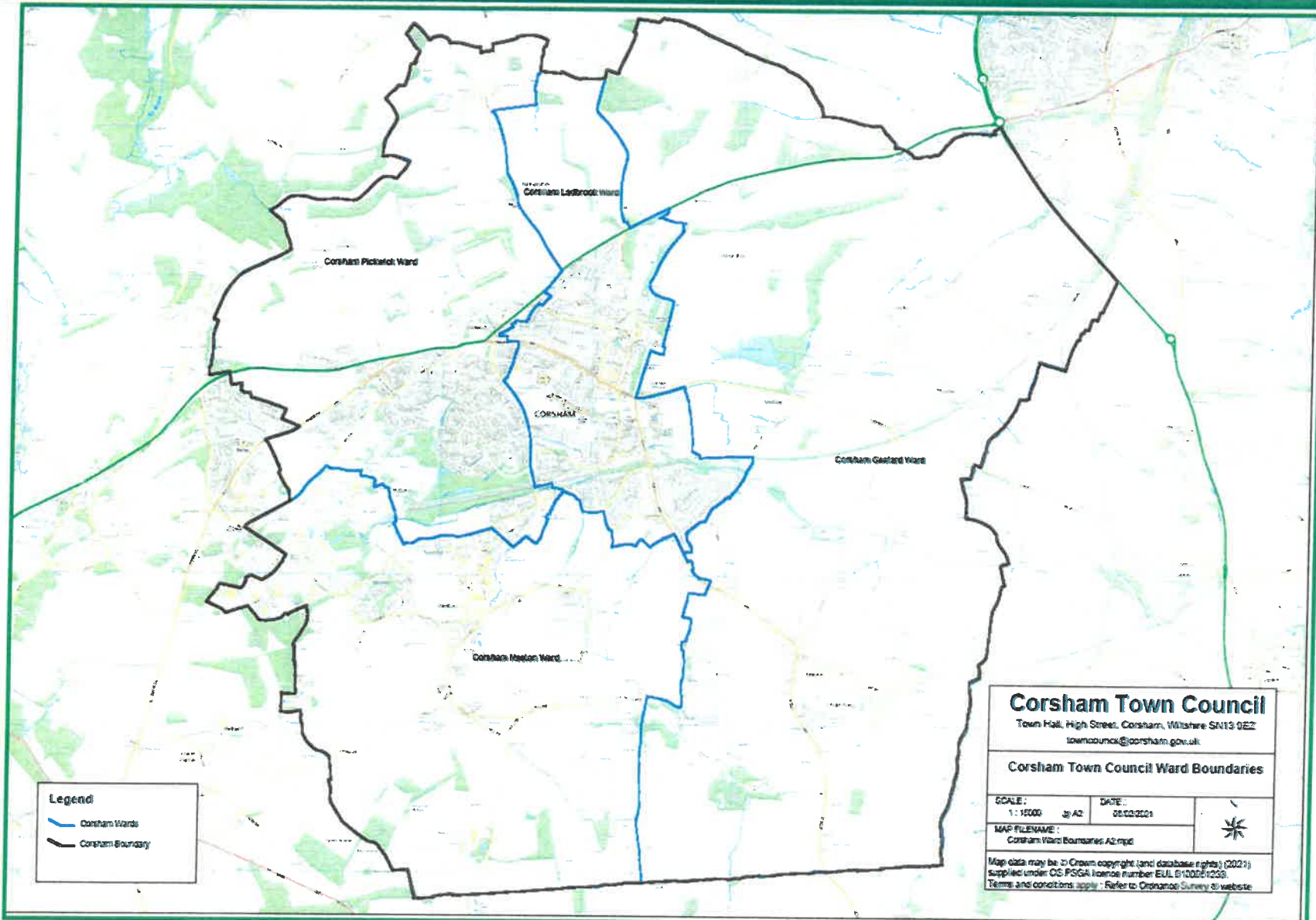
Town Hall, High Street, Corsham, Wiltshire SN13 0EZ
01249 702130 towncouncil@corsham.gov.uk
www.corsham.gov.uk



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Corsham Parish - 2022-23 Ward Boundary Map



Corsham Town Council's Vision

In November 2022, the Town Council launched its Strategic Plan 2022-2026.

There is a strong desire to make sure the Strategic Plan reflects community aspirations and addresses local issues. Objectives within the plan are based on research and feedback from a wide range of sources.



The Town Council exists to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of Corsham.

The Council provides leadership through community governance and engagement in a democratic and representational way.

To find out more about the work of the Town Council and the aims of the Strategic Plan visit www.corsham.gov.uk

A Vision for Corsham

The Town Council's vision for Corsham for 2022-2026 is 'An engaged community - making life better in Corsham through equality, accessibility and inclusivity'.

A guiding principle of delivering this vision is the strong desire to create an engaged, sustainable community which balances environmental, social, cultural and economic needs.

There are four overall strategic themes:

- **Environment and Climate Change** - Minimising the town's impact on climate change and protecting our natural environment
- **Transport and Highways**- Implementing a sustainable Transport Plan
- **Business and the Economy** - Ensuring a thriving and successful town centre and supporting local businesses
- **Community Wellbeing** - Supporting local interest groups and delivering targeted activities to improve health and wellbeing

At the heart of the Strategic Plan is community engagement and we want to improve our engagement with people and groups in our community. We plan to open up new ways of getting a clearer understanding of the concerns and priorities of those who live and work here so that we improve our decision-making and allocation of resources. We are always open to approaches from individuals or groups who have something to say.

Our Community Engagement Strategy is available to download from our website, or you can obtain a copy from the Town Hall. EasyRead versions of this and the Strategic Plan are also available.

Corsham Town Council - Chairman's Annual Report

This report was given at the Corsham Celebrates event, incorporating the Annual Town Meeting, held at the Town Hall on 20 April 2023.

Town Council Chairman, Cllr Steve Abbott's report on the Council's year from May 2022-April 2023.

It has been a difficult year in a number of ways, with Covid still affecting everybody's lives, and also the impact of the death of Queen Elizabeth, our Queen for over 70 years, but the work of the Town Council cannot stop and I would like to give you a quick rundown of our achievements over the last year as well as our ongoing projects that have been worked on but have not yet come to fruition.

The projects first:

Corsham Railway Station

We wait to hear whether our bid to get to the next stage of the new station's programme has been successful - a decision is expected in June or July.

Corsham Town Council Workshop

We are disappointed that Wiltshire Council has not yet made a decision on our planning application for a new eco-friendly workshop for our Grounds Staff. This is a proposal that will have significant, positive knock-on effects for the Council. A decision is expected in the next few weeks.

Public Realm

We are still working up detailed proposals for improvements on Newlands Road to improve the street scene for the benefit of visitors to the town centre, particularly pedestrians and cyclists.

20mph Speed Limits

Newlands Road is also part of our proposed area for 20mph speed limits in town. The 20mph restrictions in Neston have been agreed by Wiltshire Council Highways and will hopefully be initiated in the summer/autumn/

In November 2022, the Town Council approved its Strategic Plan for 2022-2026, giving us four main themes for our work. These are Environment and Climate Change, Community Wellbeing, Transport and Highways and Business and the Economy. The over-arching priority for the whole Plan is Community Engagement. As well as creating a new Community Engagement Strategy, EasyRead versions have been produced allowing us to share the Strategic Plan and Community Engagement Strategy with those who find reading more difficult.

Environment and Climate Change

- We have a Climate Change Action Plan to help with our aim to be operationally carbon net zero by 2030. This also includes making our buildings net zero too.
- Our Biodiversity Action Plan will be published imminently and will help us change the way in which we manage many of our sites around town, including Springfield Rec and Beechfield Wildlife Area.
- We held our first Eco Fair - with the second due to take place on 22 April.

Community Wellbeing

- We have helped to increase youth activities by supporting and funding Corsham Youth Zone and the outreach youth work undertaken for us by The Rise Trust. We are also supporting The Rise Trust with their work with local families and under-5s.
- The Town Council has taken on five play areas from Wiltshire Council: two at Katherine Park, two on Pockeridge Road and the one at Bences Lane.
- We have given grants to 20 local groups and organisations in the last financial year.
- We have supported community arts projects, including one currently being undertaken in the Potley/Portland Rise area.

Transport and Highways

- We have improved those local bus stops for which we are responsible.
- We are working on road safety initiatives around the town, including 20mph limits
- We have improved the Cycle Network with the resurfacing along Pockeredge Drive.
- Work has started on our new Transport Plan.

Business and Economy

- The Town Council's new, full-time Community Services Officer (Tourism and Events) also has a remit to work with our local businesses.
- We continue to fund two hours' free parking, which has helped draw people to the town centre.
- Our town events programme of the Eco Fair, Taste of Corsham, the Summer Fete, Street Fair and Christmas Lights Switch-On continues, with the events getting bigger and better each time.
- We have instigated new, regular 'Business Forum' events at Digital Mansion Corsham.
- The Town Council has trialed an increased level of street cleaning, and also took on a new, part-time street cleaner/litter picker to work around the town centre and at other locations.

Community Engagement

- We are finding better ways to connect with individuals and community groups to help us hear people's views.
- We are working with Bath Spa University's We Are the People project to create a Disabled People's Organisation (DPO), which will help us to respond to the needs of disabled people in Corsham.
- We continue with our regular liaison meetings with The Corsham School, MOD Corsham, Bath Spa University and our local sports clubs via our Sports Forum.

I would like to say thank you to my fellow Councillors for all their work this year and also to David Martin, the Town Council's Chief Executive, and the staff for helping us deliver our plans.

Grants Scheme 2022/23

Grants

Twenty grants were awarded during the 2022/23 financial year, reflecting the ongoing difficulties caused by the pandemic which meant that many groups and organisations were still unable to meet and thus did not need to approach the Town Council for funds.

APPLYING FOR A GRANT

The Town Council runs its own Grants Scheme awarding sums of money up to £750 (from April 2023) to community organisations working to benefit residents by improving the range of activities and services within Corsham.

Each application is considered at the Town Council's Finance and Administration Committee's meetings which take place in February, April, June, August, October and December.

Projects for young people and community wellbeing projects can apply for £751-£2,000 and these applications are considered by the Community Services Committee at their meetings in January, March, May, July, September and November.

Grants can be awarded to new, as well as existing groups and there are no restrictions on whether the funds are for a capital or revenue project, but the organisation applying must be not-for-profit or charitable and grants will not be made to individuals.

For more information visit www.corsham.gov.uk/community/grants or call the Town Hall on 01249 702130.

In exceptional circumstances, such as large capital projects, grants over these sums can be awarded. The Town Council must be notified of such requests by September so that funds can be earmarked in the following year's budget.

Name of Organisation	Amount Awarded
Gastard Village Hall	£450
Tedx Corsham	£500
Wiltshire Air Ambulance	£500
Corsham Windband Association	£500
Park Lane NHWS	£500
Age UK Wiltshire	£500
Wiltshire Citizens Advice	£500
The Hub of Creative Arts Therapists	£500
Corsham Connections	£2000
2nd Corsham Guides	£420
St John Ambulance Wiltshire	£500
Corsham Rugby Club	£500
Corsham Area Development Trust	£500
Corsham Walking Netball	£250
Company for Christmas	£250
Corsham Walking Festival	£500
Corsham Cycling Club	£500
Rewired Counselling	£500
Last Baguette Theatre Company	£500
Wessex MS Therapy Centre	£500

Diary Dates for 2023

Corsham Walking Festival	www.corshamwalkingfestival.org.uk	9-11 June 20223
Taste of Corsham	www.corsham.gov.uk	17 June 2023 + FREE parking
Blue Sky Festival	www.poundarts.org.uk	12-18 June 2023
Street Fair	www.corsham.gov.uk	9 September 2023 + FREE parking
Magic and Mayhem Festival	www.poundarts.org.uk	13-19 November 2023
Wishing Tree	www.corsham.gov.uk	25 November 2023
Christmas Lights Switch On	www.corsham.gov.uk	1 December 2023 + FREE parking

How to Contact the Town Council

If you require further information on any aspect of the work of the Town Council, or to comment on our Annual Report, please contact us:



Town Hall, High Street, Corsham,
Wiltshire SN13 0EZ

Tel: 01249 702130
Email: towncouncil@corsham.gov.uk
Website: www.corsham.gov.uk



Corsham Town Council Accounts - Balances as at 31 March 2023 Subject to Audit

Current Assets	£
Debtors	0
VAT	20,281
Current Account (Lloyds)	24,733
Investment Account (Santander)	144,428
Deposit Account (CCLA)	1,200,000
Petty Cash	300
Total Assets (rounded to nearest £)	1,389,742
Current Liabilities	
Creditors	10,046
Accruals	53,901
Receipts in Advance	800
Total Liabilities	64,747
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	1,324,995
Capital and Reserves	
General Purpose Fund	45,015
Earmarked Reserves	1,180,553
Total Assets	£1,324,995

You can find more information about the Town Council and its finances at www.corsham.gov.uk/home/council/council-information/finance/.

Welcome to Corsham

