Corsham
TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Town Hall on Monday 10 August 2026

Present	Councillor A Brown (Chair) Councillors H Belcher OBE, N Brakspear, J Brook, A Calkin, T Ellis, P Freestone, C Kerr, N Pocock, I Scrannage, V Steadman and A White.
In Attendance	Councillor P Chamberlain (Wiltshire Councillor) Mrs K Gilby (Head of Finance & Administration) DC K Golledge (Wiltshire Police) D Martin (Chief Executive)
In Attendance Online	Councillor R Hopkinson

A minute's silence was held in memory of former Town Councillors Lucy Bray and John Maloney who had sadly passed away.

80/26 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Councillors S Abbott, J Coward, G McCaffery, R Munn and G Ward.

81/26 Public Question Time and Petitions

There were none.

82/26 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.

83/26 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13 July 2026

Resolved

That the Minutes be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

84/26 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were no matters arising.

85/26 Policing and Community Safety

DC K Golledge was present at the meeting and gave the following report:

During July the Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) had been involved in several community engagements, including attendance at Corsham Fete on 4 July. Members of the NPT had also attended the WOMAD festival. The festival resulted in very few reported incidents and feedback had been very positive. PCSOs Bean and Redmond had visited Corsham Regis Primary School as part of their regular school talks.

Recent incidents of note included:

Following their arrest in August 2025, for involvement in robbing a youth in Westwells Road, five youths had been sentenced to referral orders.

On 3 July a vehicle had been damaged by unknown suspects who had drilled into the car and removed fuel.

On 10 July there had been an attempted burglary in Groundstone Way. The suspects were disturbed and fled. It was believed they were targeting the property for the owner's BMW.

On 10 July two BMWs were stolen from a property in Swan Road. The theft was thought to be linked to the incident above and was part of an ongoing series across Avon and Somerset and Wiltshire police areas.

Also on 10 July one male had been arrested for possession of Class A drugs with intent to supply.

On 12 July the police received a report of antisocial behaviour at Springfield Campus: youths had climbed onto the roof and into the building.

On 15 July there was an incident of criminal damage with paint on Dicketts Road.

On 21 July a male was arrested for Driving Under the Influence following an accident at Cross Keys.

On 26 July there were three bicycle thefts in Neston. A youth had been arrested and released on police bail.

Recent crime comparison figures would be added to the next Members' Information Sheet. The Chief Executive would re-send the full list of comparison figures he had compiled.

The Chief Executive gave an update from his recent meeting with Inspector Simon Garrett and Sergeant Mike Tripp. The police were supportive of the suggestion to place bleed kits in key locations.

Superintendent James Brain and Chief Inspector Leighton Williams would be attending the September Council Meeting. Councillors were encouraged to prepare any questions in advance of this.

86/26 Chair's Announcements

The Chair thanked the representatives of Fairtrade Corsham for providing refreshments for Councillors prior to the meeting.

On 15 July the Chair visited Wiltshire Scrapstore to celebrate their winning the King's Award for Voluntary Service for their volunteer programme.

Also, on 15 July, the Chair and Community Wellbeing Officer visited Yate Town Council's Ageing Well Team to review how their programme was being delivered and identify any good practice that could be applied locally.

On 19 July the Chair attended the Walking Sports Festival at Springfield Campus.

On 20 July the Chair, along with other Councillors, attended the Annual Site Visits. These included a visit to Arnold House and the Guide Hut to look at the proposed plans for its renovation and to improve the working conditions of the Grounds Team. Councillors also visited Meriton Avenue Recreation Ground to discuss plans for a new path, and Park Place for a potential public amenity space.

On 20 July the Chair assisted Corsham Foodbank in the delivery of 101 summer parcels to Corsham and Lacock primary schools, the Cotswold Centre in Neston and a local women's refuge. Donations to the Foodbank had declined recently.

On 21 July the Chair attended a Memory Café at Gastard Village Hall to look at the work they were doing to support residents with dementia and their carers. Gastard Memory Café was the Chair's chosen charity for the Council year.

On 22 July the Chair attended an online meeting of the Rural Market Town Group to talk about the Town Council's age-friendly status.

On 29 July the Chair attended Springfield Campus where the Us Girls programme to encourage young women into sport was taking place. Various activities took place over the summer. The programme was part-funded by Corsham Town Council and run by Wiltshire Council.

Also on 29 July the Chair and the Head of Community Services attended a reception at St Bartholomew's Church, hosted by the Rev Dr Andrew Johnson, with Sarah Gibson MP and others to look into potential ways of the church becoming more involved in the community.

In addition, on 29 July the Chair attended a Transwilts conference in Trowbridge.

On 4 August the Chair attended an Age-friendly Corsham Working Group Meeting at the Town Hall. Members of the Group were monitoring progress of the Age-friendly Action Plan.

On 8 August the Chair attended the official opening of the PACT public art installation at the Pockeredge Drive/Valley Road junction.

Forthcoming events:

On 13 August there would be a skateboard/scooter event at Corsham Skatepark, run by ATB Shop as a FUEL event for under-16s. The event would be free for all, with young people in receipt of free school meals receiving lunch.

The Corsham Street Fair would be taking place on 12 September. Councillors were asked to contact the Tourism and Events Officer if they were able to help.

87/26 Correspondence

i) Members Information Sheet Nos. 625 and 626 were noted.

ii) Late correspondence – there was none.

88/26 Reports from Council representatives appointed to outside bodies

Councillor N Brakspear reported that he had attended the Campaign to Protect Rural England's AGM at the Town Hall on 31 July. At the meeting concerns had been raised that the implications of constructing a large number of data centres had not been fully considered.

Councillor A White reported that the Twinning Association still needed more hosts for the Twinning visit from 23-27 October.

89/26 Minutes of the Council (Planning) Meeting held on 15 July 2026

Resolved

That the Minutes be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

90/26 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were none.

91/26 Minutes of the Council Property and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 22 July 2026

Resolved

That the Minutes be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

92/26 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were none.

93/26 Minutes of the Community Services Committee Meeting held on 29 July 2026

Resolved

That the Minutes be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

94/26 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were none.

95/26 Minutes of the Council (Planning) Meeting held on 5 August 2026

Resolved

That the Minutes be approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

96/26 Matters Arising from the above Minutes

There were none.

97/26 Corsham Area Board Discussion

The Chair of Corsham Area Board, Wiltshire Councillor Phil Chamberlain, was in attendance and gave an overview of the role of the Area Board. The emerging themes for its work were community resilience, youth, business, environment and food security. The next board meeting would be held in October. The Area Board was keen to work with the Town Council. Councillor Chamberlain was thanked for his attendance at the meeting.

98/26 Update on the Hungerford House Site, Beechfield Road (Minute 75/26 and others)

At the previous Council meeting it had been suggested that the Town Council considers how it might like to see the care home site redeveloped and to make representations to Wiltshire Council accordingly. The site backed on to Springfield Recreation Ground and was around 0.5 hectare (1.2 acres) in size.

Suggestions put forward by Councillors included another care facility on the site or its redevelopment for social and shared ownership housing (similar to Spring Tinings). Councillors were encouraged to continue to think of other suggestions for the future of the site.

It was understood that the Hungerford House staff had all found new employment within The Order of St John's Care Trust group, with Wiltshire Council or other care organisations.

99/26 WOMAD Festival 2026

Councillors discussed feedback received following the WOMAD Festival held at Neston Park Estate from 23-26 July. There had been a few issues with the water supply, but these appeared to be due to a burst main and had been addressed promptly. The Town Council had not received any complaints regarding noise at the event and was aware that the noise levels had been monitored. Traffic had continued to flow freely. There were some concerns that the road signs had been left in place for too long a period after the event. Atworth and Box Parish Councils had been contacted for their views, and both had reported very little negative feedback. There had been a suggestion that a separate route for bicycles would be a good idea. This would be raised with the organisers at the wash up meeting being planned for the autumn.

100/26 Corsham Railway Station Update (Minute F&A 06/26)

The Chief Executive reported that he had been in contact with T Tarbuck (Senior Transport Planner at Wiltshire Council) regarding the consultancy brief for Atkins to update the Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC) for Corsham Railway Station. The updates to the SOBC were due to be completed by the end of the calendar year. The update was being part-funded by the Town Council.

It was reported that GWR and Network Rail, which were merging to become Great British Railways, were already working alongside each other. This relationship was helping in refining the brief. It had been hoped that high-level design elements could being included in the brief, but this would need to come at a later stage.

Resolved

That the update be noted.

101/26 Corsham Youth Council Futures Report (Minute 46/26)

Councillor D Jarman had facilitated a discussion with Corsham Youth Council about ‘Corsham of the Future’. The resulting report, which looked at what Corsham could be like in 2050, was discussed. The ideas produced were interesting and a similar exercise would be repeated at the next Business Breakfast. The Chair thanked Councillor Jarman and the Head of Community Services for their work on this.

102/26 Strategic Plan Update (Minute 49/26 and others)

The Strategic Planning Working Group had reviewed the draft documents, and the Plan would be published by the end of August 2026.

Resolved

That the update on progress with the Strategic Plan be noted.

103/26 Authorisation of cheques and payments

Salaries and Payments - CTC Staff	£38,325.62
Prudential - AVC Payment Emp 72	£250.00
Wiltshire Pension Fund - Pension Contributions for August	£11,723.32
HMRC - Tax & NI for August	£14,077.96
Methuen Hall Trust - Use of Council Chamber and Main Hall (July)	£810.03
Methuen Hall Trust - Use of Rooms for Smaller Meetings (July)	£144.00
Methuen Hall Trust - Use of Main Hall for Creative Lunches and Storytown Events (July)	£362.00
Amazon - Mobile Phone Case and Screen Protector	£17.97
Breeze Environmental Ltd - Asbestos Removal at The Ridge Allotments	£876.00
C.B Window Cleaning Services Ltd - Bus Shelter Cleaning	£600.00
Cleveland Construction Ltd - Roof Work at Arnold House	£840.00
Complete Towbars Ltd (Barry Heather) - Re-wire Towbar Plug on Bowser Trailer	£50.00
Corsham Print Ltd - Summer Newsletter Design and Print, Poster Amendment, Strategic Plan Booklets, 'No Golf' Signs	£1,673.00
Corsham Tyre Service - New Tyre for EF21 YSK	£61.50
Country Mini Skips - Skips x 3 in July	£960.00
Fish Brothers (Swindon) Ltd - Service of Renault Kangoo - RF24 MLV	£322.00
Global Media Group Services Ltd - Radio advertising (July)	£216.92
Harper Building Diagnostics - Timber Condition Assessment at Arnold House	£3,300.00
Hogs Heaven - Staff/Volunteer Food Voucher Reimbursements for Summer Fete	£120.00
Idverde Ltd - Grounds Maintenance and Public Toilet Cleaning Contracts (July)	£4,563.20
J H Jones & Sons Ltd - Gravedigging	£650.00
Konica Minolta - Printer/Copier Lease (July - Sept)	£121.18
Milk and Tweed Studio Ltd - Website Support and Web Hosting	£426.00
M J Church Recycling Ltd - Hazardous Waste Collections - Sharps	£192.00
Onecom - Mobile Phone for New Grounds Team Member and Laptop for Technical Assistant	£1,145.11
OVO - Gas and Electric for A/H Flat 1 for July	£49.57
Parrett Creations Ltd - Lifesize Primed White Sheep (Heywood School)	£780.00
People & Places Insight Ltd - Town Centre Benchmarking Licence and Analysis Report	£600.00
(The) Rise Trust - Detached Youth Work for Quarters 1 and 2 (2026/27)	£9,000.00
Simply Sweepers Ltd - Road Sweeping Zones 1 & 2	£1,593.05
T & A Motors - MOT for Electric Vehicle EF21 YSK	£54.00

Town & Country Environmental Pest Solutions - Wasp Nest Investigation at Middlewick Lane Allotments	£90.00
Tracey Kelly - Music Performance at Summer Fete	£100.00
Travis Perkins - Mortar Mix, Rubble Sacks, Gully Grating	£32.26
Visit Wiltshire - Corsham Tab on Visit Wiltshire Website	£900.00
Wiltshire Council - LHFIG 2026/27 Neston Speed Indicator Device	£325.00
Wired Publishing - Advertising/Editorial for Street Fair	£210.00
Woods Business Services Ltd - Heavy Duty Bin Bags	£275.88
Workwear Express Ltd - CTC Logo Hats, Fire Marshall High-Vis Vests	£352.61
Grants	
Pound Arts Trust - Dancing Through Time, art classes for adults with SEND and FUEL sessions	£1,985.00
Cheque	
Petty Cash - Petty Cash Items	£166.50
Charge Card	
No statement received	
Sub total	***£98,341.68***
Cheques / Internet Banking Paid Outside of Meeting	
Twigs and Willow - Plants	£86.40
Payments Made by Direct Debit/Standing Order	
Hills Waste - Waste collections and Duty of Care Charge	£769.01
Hills Waste - Waste collections for Summer Fete	£558.28
Onecom Ltd - IT Managed Services Agreement, MS365 and VBUC and Connectivity for July	£1,834.54
Onecom Ltd - Set-up of 2 x new Laptops (VF & SG)	£396.00
Peninsula - HR and H&S Provision	£460.72
Public Works Loan Board (UK Debt Management Office) - Loan Repayment (Cemetery)	£3,709.94
SGW Payroll Ltd - Payroll Processing for July	£64.32
SSE - Springfield Lighting July 2026	£35.07
SSE - CCTV Electricity July	£4.93
UK Fuels - Fuel for Work Vehicles	£131.81
Viking Office UK Ltd - Stationery and Postage Stamps	£155.62
Vodaphone - Phone Services	£190.43
Vodaphone - Mobile Phone Charges	£378.24
West Mercia Energy - Electricity for Public Toilets	£96.37
West Mercia Energy - Electricity for Guide Hut	£95.94

SUB TOTAL	***£8,967.62***
TOTAL	**£107,309.30**

Resolved

That the cheques and transfers be authorised for payment.

The meeting commenced at 7.00pm and closed at 8.21pm. There were two members of the public present at the meeting.

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CHAIR DATE