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16 May 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 22 May 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 20 March 2024 – *for information only*.

5. Grant Applications – There are two for this meeting.

- i) *Corsham Windband Association* – Corsham Windband Association (CWA) is seeking £2,000 towards repairing the 40 instruments used for the free lessons CWA runs in primary schools (£1,500) and rent/storage at The Pound Arts Centre (£500 of a £4,600 total). The application is *attached – for discussion*.

- ii) *Corsham Primary School* – Corsham Primary School is seeking £1,000 to improve the Forest School provision and outdoor learning area at its Pound Pill site, which will help promote emotional health and wellbeing. (Funding is being sought elsewhere for the Broadwood site.) The application is *attached – for discussion*.
6. Community Wellbeing Update (*Minute CS 63/23 and others*) – The Committee will be updated on the Town Council's latest community wellbeing activities, including Cllr Bush's work in setting-up the Deaf/Disabled People's Organisation Same Difference.
- i) The Community Wellbeing Officer continues to visit and support a wide range of local groups and organisations. The most recent visits were to Corsham Community Club, The Memory Shed (at The Brunel Shed) and Corsham Foodbank.
 - ii) The RISE Trust's Detached Youth Workers continue to provide their outreach service for young people every Wednesday and Friday evening. The Open Blue Bus trial as a warm space on a Wednesday, which was due to end in March, has proved very successful and has been supporting some particularly vulnerable young people. As a result, the Town Council is funding the Blue Bus to continue its visits until the summer holidays. A decision on autumn/winter provision will be made later in the year. The RISE Trust is also seeking funding for the Bus visits from other sources.
 - iii) The Town Council (via the Finance and Administration Committee) agreed to a grant application from MindCraft, Mindfulness and Meditation to deliver mindfulness sessions to support the mental health of the young people who attend Corsham Youth Zone. The timings of the session coincide with exam season.
 - iv) Richard Pomfrett of the Stay Safe Initiative has successfully delivered the first Boyz2Men sessions at The Corsham School. A grant application to cover the ongoing StaySafe (internet safety) work with Year 7s and Year 9s at the school, and the next Boyz2Men sessions, in the 2024/25 academic year, is due to be presented at Community Services' July meeting.
 - v) Corsham Foodbank delivered 105 packages for families in need over Easter and have supported 1,700 people in total over the past year. Funding is being sought, but the future of the Foodbank is at risk, given the increasing demands on its services.
 - vi) The fridge funded by the Town Council for the use of Corsham Community Club at Springfield Campus has been installed. Enough funding had been sourced for a small freezer also to be purchased.
 - vii) Dogs for Health has had interest from five Corsham-based volunteers who, along with their dogs, are due to be assessed ahead of commencing training. It is hoped to have a further update on this project at July's meeting.
 - viii) In line with our Age-friendly Community work (Agenda item 7), the Community Wellbeing Officer and Head of Community Services have been working, and undertaking various courses, with the Good Practice Mentor Programme, which offers free training to those working with older (50+) people in the community. A recent online workshop on how to engage with older people, and create relevant communications material, was run on two dates, with those who work locally with this age group invited to join. The feedback was excellent and further training will be offered.
 - ix) The Head of Community Services is drafting a Community Wellbeing Strategy for the Town Council, with the aim of a draft document being available for consideration at July's Committee meeting.

7. Corsham – An Age-friendly Community (*Minute 65/23*) – 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*.
8. StoryTown (*Minute CS 64/23 and others*) – The Committee will be updated on the progress of the various StoryTown projects being undertaken in connection with the Strategic Plan:
 - i) Dawn Gorman’s community wellbeing work with the residents of Holton House and Jargeau Court
 - ii) Matthew Tett’s short story competition (*report attached*)
 - iii) Marnie Forbes Eldridge’s environment-linked work with local schools
 - iv) Jenny Hulme’s ‘Story Arcs’ work with local businesses

– *for information and comment*.
9. Public Art Projects (*Minute CS 66/23 and others*) – The Committee will be updated on:
 - i) The Potley Community Arts Project (PACT) and Brunel Shed Container Project
 - ii) Cross Keys Plinth – Jonathan Sanders’ Sheep Project
 - iii) The Prayer
 - iv) Art at the Heart of the RUH

– *for information and comment*
10. Public Art Strategy 2024-2028 – The Town Council’s Public Art Strategy 2020-2024 has been revised and updated to cover the next four-year period (*attached*) - *for comment and approval*.
11. The Pound Arts Centre – Following the email of 9 May from Cllr Farmer (Committee Chair and Town Council Pound Arts representative) to all Councillors regarding his discussions with Russ Tunney, Creative Director at The Pound Arts Centre, the Committee is asked to discuss the issues raised by Cllr Farmer, with a view to setting up a separate group to discuss the matter further and/or refer the matter to the Town Council’s Strategic Planning Working Group – *for discussion*.
12. Business Support Update (*Minute CS 54/23, 43/23 and others*) – The Committee will be updated on the Business Breakfast which took place on 26 April 2024 at Digital Mansion Corsham and plans for future Business Breakfasts – *for information and comment*.
13. Events Update (*Minute CS 68/23, 56/23 and others*) – The Committee will be updated on:
 - i) Eco Fair (20 April 2024)
 - ii) Summer Busking Saturdays (4 May-28 September 2024)
 - iii) Taste of Corsham (15 June 2024)
 - iv) Summer Fete (6 July 2024)

– *for information and comment*.
14. Social Media Update – (*Minute CS 70/23*) As discussed at the previous meeting, the Tourism and Events Officer has produced a report (*attached*) on the Town Council’s use of social media, setting targets for 2024/25 activity – *for discussion and approval*.
15. Destination Marketing/Management Plans – Following the Town Council’s decision not to now sell Arnold House and to utilise more of the space for the Grounds Team, the Destination Marketing and Management Plans can be updated. The current plans are *attached* and the Committee is asked for its comments and suggestions on what should be included in the new Plans, drafts of which will be submitted to September’s Community Services Committee meeting – *for discussion*.