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18 July 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 24 July 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 22 May 2024 – *for information only.*
5. Grant Applications – There is one for this meeting.

Stay Safe Initiative CIC – The Stay Safe Initiative is seeking £1,550 towards continuing its successful Digital Empowerment Programme for Year 7 and Year 9 students and their families at The Corsham School, enabling young people to have a more positive online life and to make healthy choices. The funding will also be used towards the new Boyz-2-Men course, developed by Stay Safe, aimed at young men at the school to help

them understand the maze of masculinity, with topics that address toxic online influencers, sexual harassment and male mental health. The course helps unlock the potential of boys who may not have positive male role models in their lives. The application is *attached – for consideration*.

6. Community Wellbeing Update (*Minute CS 06/24 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 were to Hungerford House's 'Tea at 3'; Rethink Mental Health, Corsham Library and Corsham Foodbank.
- ii) The Foodbank will be delivering packages for families in need over the summer on 22 July. They have had around 1,400 residents use the Foodbank over the last year - about 10% of the Corsham population – meaning around 4,000 people in total were supported. Referrals are received from a wide range of organisations. Future funding is being sought; last year the cost of paying the Co-Op for food vouchers was around £45,000.

Jo Hillier, from Warm and Safe Wiltshire, will be visiting the Foodbank on 30 July to offer support and information to users.

- iii) The Dogs for Health team are getting closer to working in the Corsham community. Interviews took place at the Town Hall at the end of June with three more interested dogs and owners. There are currently around nine volunteers who could support people in and around our community. The charity will attend the Street Fair in September. The work will link with The Porch's social prescribing team. Funding is being sought, with the Town Council's investment likely to be around £1,000.
- iv) The Town Council has been working with the Good Practice Mentor Programme to bring free training to those in our community who work with older (50+) people. The mentors use the legacy, learning and resources from the Ageing Better programme (a seven-year project to reduce loneliness) to support organisations in reaching, connecting with, and empowering older people.

Good Practice Mentor Joanne Stapleton (Age UK Camden) has delivered an online workshop/session for stakeholders, facilitated by the Town Council, to support age-friendly groups and organisations on the ground to find and engage with the older people they would like to meet.

The tailored online workshop sessions provided practical 'pick-up and use' outreach tools and techniques to address barriers to finding and engaging harder to reach older people. Around 20 local groups and organisations were offered the session.

The Community Wellbeing Officer is organising further free outreach training from the Good Practice Mentors, who will be visiting Corsham on 9 September 2024. This training will be linked to encouraging people to come to a drop-in event at Corsham Library the following week.

- v) A youth-focused Community Wellbeing meeting was held on 8 July 2024. The Minutes will be distributed with the Members Information Sheet. The next Community Wellbeing meeting will be held in early autumn - date and focus to be confirmed.
- vi) The draft Community Wellbeing Strategy for the Town Council, which will now include Corsham's Age-friendly Community work (*Agenda Item 7*), will be available for consideration at September's Committee meeting.

7. Corsham – An Age-friendly Community (*Minute 07/24*) – 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 08/24 and others*) – The Committee will be updated on the progress of the various StoryTown projects being undertaken in connection with the Strategic Plan:
 - i) Marnie Forbes Eldridge’s environment-linked work with local schools
 - ii) 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

– *for information and comment*
10. Public Art Sites - Priority List (*Minute CS 10/24*) – Following approval of the Town Council’s new Public Art Strategy 2024-2028 at May’s Community Services Committee meeting, it was suggested that Appendix 1 of the Strategy, listing potential public art sites, be reconsidered and updated at July’s meeting, allowing Councillors the opportunity to reprioritise the sites and consider their accessibility. The list is *attached* – *for discussion*.
11. The Pound Arts Centre – (*Minute CS 11/24*) –The first meeting of The Pound Arts Centre Support Working Group took place on 9 July. The Committee will be updated on the discussions that took place and the planned next steps – *for information and comment*.
12. Events Update (*Minute CS 13/24, 69/23 and others*) – The Committee will be updated on:
 - i) Summer Busking Saturdays (4 May-28 September 2024)
 - ii) Taste of Corsham (15 June 2024)
 - iii) Summer Fete (6 July 2024)
 - iv) Summer Holiday Trails (22 July-8 September 2024)
 - v) Street Fair (7 September 2024)

The Committee will also be updated on the plans for a ‘Staycation’ Leaflet promoting free and low-cost things to do in and around Corsham during the summer holidays.

– *for information and comment*.