



## **Town Transport Plan for Corsham**

### **1. Background and Introduction**

Corsham Town Council produced its first Town Transport Plan in 2008, which was updated in 2011. There have been several changes the 2011 Plan was produced and this new version reflects the situation in 2015.

Transport is an important issue locally, regionally and nationally. The Government's 1998 White Paper on Transport, 'A New Deal for Transport: Better for Everyone', introduced the concept of Local Transport Plans (LTP) to steer the development of national transport policies at the local level. Wiltshire Council produces Local Transport Plans in accordance with this Government guidance. Detailed plans are available on Wiltshire Council's website: [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk).

This Plan sets out the Town Council's vision for how people travel in, around and through the Town and surrounding area. This includes motorists, cyclists, pedestrians and those using public transport. The Transport Network in and around Corsham consists of the roads, railway, streets, footpaths and cycleways that enable people to move throughout the parish.

The Town Council primarily works with Wiltshire Council, as highway authority, on transport issues. Local representation is via the Corsham Community Area Transport Group (CATG). The Town Council also has occasional contact with providers of public transport services and infrastructure such as First Bus, Faresaver, First Great Western and Network Rail.

### **2. Vision and Aspirations**

Corsham Town Council's vision is 'a place where people want to be.'

With regard to Transport the Town Council has the following aspirations:

- Corsham shall be easily accessible by pedestrians, cyclists, motorists and via public transport
- There will be safe routes to all local schools
- There will be an absence of speeding traffic
- Heavy vehicles will use designated routes, avoiding the Town Centre and residential areas
- The transport network will be as safe as practicable for all users
- There will be adequate parking that helps contribute to the local economy and community through a sensible pricing structure
- On and off-street parking will be fairly managed and controlled
- Roads and other transport infrastructure will be maintained in safe and decent order
- Pedestrians, cyclists and public transport will be encouraged

- There will be regular bus services to and from the Town Centre and further afield
- The cost of using public transport will be reasonable
- There will be good air quality
- New developments will be designed in such a way as to minimise impact on the existing transport network
- There will be good access to the rail network
- The Town Centre will consist of a high quality environment with an attractive street scene and shared space

### **3. Aims & Objectives**

The overall objectives of Corsham Town Council's Transport Plan are to assist in the development of an integrated transport system that supports the economy and community in a safe and sustainable way. It is for the benefit of all road users including pedestrians and cyclists.

### **4. Strategic Plan Key Issues and Actions**

The Town Council's Strategic Plan, adopted in 2014, includes the following transport-related issues and actions:

- Review and improve the pricing structure for off-street parking to encourage shoppers and visitors
- Review Traffic Regulation Orders and decide where they should be increased, amended or removed
- Monitor heavy traffic movement through the town centre and press for necessary improvements
- Monitor and review bus routes and usage and encourage service providers to ensure the services meet the identified needs
- Support the case for a new railway station through information gathering, lobbying and responding to planning applications
- Support road safety initiatives through partnership funding where it will have the greatest effect
- Complete development of the Corsham Cycle Network and promote its use

These issues, along with a number of schemes approved for implementation, form the basis of the transport monitoring sheet (Appendix A) and are reviewed at every meeting of the Property and Amenities Committee. The Town Transport Plan is reviewed by the Property and Amenities Committee at least annually.

### **5. Approved Schemes**

Through housing and employment land development, and local agreements, there are a number of transport improvements in the pipeline:

- i) Skynet Drive – permissive path for cyclists and pedestrians
- ii) Cycle Network – phased completion of the Corsham cycle network
- iii) High Street Car Park to War Memorial – permissive path for pedestrians only
- iv) A4 Bath Road – improvements at junction of Bath Road/Bradford Road
- v) Coach Parking – provision of coach parking within Corsham town centre (subject to final approval of Wiltshire Council)

## 6. Policy Areas

Corsham Town Council's agreed Transport Policies are as follows:

### **TP01 Car Parking (off-street)**

The Town Council will support and encourage a fair pricing structure for off-street parking that encourages shoppers and visitors.

### **TP02 Car Parking (on-street)**

From time to time the Town Council will review Wiltshire Council's Traffic Regulation Orders and recommend improvements where necessary.

### **TP03 Cycling and Pedestrian Routes**

The Town Council supports the introduction of a cycle network for Corsham and surrounding settlements. It will work with partners to develop suitable routes for cycling and walking and will promote these as an alternative to using the car.

### **TP04 Heavy Vehicles/Freight**

The Town Council would like heavy vehicles kept out of the Town Centre and will encourage use of designated routes to Leafield Industrial Estate and Eastlays.

### **TP05 Highway Maintenance**

The Town Council will press for the resurfacing of all failing road surfaces.

### **TP06 Public Transport**

The Town Council will continue to monitor bus routes and support routes that will serve the Town Centre. The Town Council is in favour of a conveniently located taxi rank in the Town Centre. The re-opening of Corsham Railway Station is supported.

### **TP07 Traffic Calming/Safety Improvements**

The Town Council will give particular support to safety improvements around schools.

### **TP08 Town Centre Street Scene and Public Spaces**

The Town Council will encourage development where it will improve the visual appearance and quality of the Town Centre street scene.

### **TP09 Coach Parking Provision**

The Town Council will support the provision of coach parking facilities within Corsham town centre.

Approved by the Property and Amenities Committee on 29 July 2015 (Minute P&A 24/15)