

**CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**HELD ON MONDAY 26 JANUARY 2015 AT 5.30PM**

- PRESENT : Councillors Apel, Budge, Evans and Macey
- EX-OFFICIO : The Mayor (Councillor Hughes)  
Councillors Plowman and Woolley
- ALSO PRESENT : Councillor Scicluna  
Julia Sander - Friends of Chartres  
Brenda Gay - Friends of Ravenna  
Graham Pound - Friends of Valletta
- APOLOGIES : Deputy Mayor (Councillor Siggs)  
Councillor Holman  
Jay Blackwood - Community Warden, Chichester District Council  
Jon Logan - Community Warden, Chichester District Council  
Sue Long - Community Warden, Chichester District Council
- IN ATTENDANCE : Town Clerk and Administration Manager

37 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 27 October 2014, having been printed and circulated, were submitted and the Chairman was authorised to sign the same as a correct record.

38 POLICING AND SECURITY IN THE CITY

(a) General Update for Sussex Police

No representative of Sussex Police was able to attend the meeting.

(b) Community Wardens

Reports had been received from the Community Wardens representing the East, West and South Wards of the City and had been circulated to all members.

Councillor Plowman said the reference to the Charles Avenue Community Hub in the East Ward Report could be a potential New Homes Bonus application. East Ward members would investigate this project further and report back at the next meeting.

39 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF FRIENDS OF CHARTRES AND RAVENNA

The Mayor and Councillors Evans, Scicluna and Woolley declared Personal Interests as members of the Friends associations.

(a) Friends of Chartres

The Friends of Chartres report had been circulated to all members and noted.

(b) Friends of Ravenna

The Friends of Ravenna report had been circulated to all members and noted.

(c) Friends of Valletta

The Friends of Valletta report had been circulated to all members and noted.

40 TWINNING COSTS

The report of the Town Clerk on the cost of Twinning had been circulated to all members with the Agenda.

The Committee discussed the possible twinning with Valletta which had prompted the Town Clerk's report.

It was proposed by the Mayor and duly seconded that it be RECOMMENDED to Full Council that £5,000 be included in the 2016/2017 Budget for the twinning with Valletta.

41 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

(a) Street Licensing Activities

(i) West Sussex County Council

The Town Clerk advised that a letter had been received from West Sussex County Council delegating the administration of Busking to the City Council with immediate effect. However, a meeting had been arranged to meet with West Sussex County Council on Wednesday 28 January 2015 to discuss this matter as it was the City Council's intention to change the administration process, introduce new guidelines, etc.

Also the letter did not include the administration of 'Pre-Planned Activities on the Highway' which the City Council deem to be imperative if the administration of Busking is undertaken, as it would be difficult to book in Buskers without knowing whether a pre-planned activity had been arranged

This matter would be referred back to the Committee in March 2015.

(ii) Chichester District Council

The Town Clerk explained that no further progress had been made with the District Council in connection with Street Licensing Activities and therefore it was suggested that this matter be revisited post Elections in May 2015.

Councillor Plowman added that the proposed meeting between City Council and Chichester District Councillors still had not taken place; the meeting should have been held in September 2014.

(b) Residents' Associations

The Committee were advised that some Residents' Associations were currently meeting informally and were grateful for the approach made by the City Council to re-establish a Residents' Association Group; however this would be re-visited at a later date, maybe six months time.

42 CHICHESTER IN BLOOM

The report of the Administration Manager on Chichester in Bloom had been circulated to all members with the Agenda.

The Administration Manager advised that it would be the intention to approach Ferring Nurseries for the supply and maintenance of the Summer 2015 and Winter 2016 floral displays in the Chichester City Centre.

Since the report had been produced, West Sussex County Council had advised that the railings in Stockbridge Road (opposite the bus depot junction) had been removed due to the improvements of the cycle, walking and public transport facilities in the railway station and Southgate gyratory area. In previous years the railings had housed seven barrier baskets and had created a colourful welcome to the City from the South. West Sussex County Council had suggested alternative areas and it was agreed that the Administration Manager discuss this further with the Assistant Highway Manager.

Other changes to the Summer and Winter displays would be that the four planters in Crane Street would be removed and re-sited on one of the City Council's allotment sites and as there was no financial contribution from Chichester District Council, the floral displays on public conveniences in Tower Street and Market Avenue would not be happening unless the District Council supplied and maintained their own displays. The floral display on the Priory Park public conveniences would be funded wholly by the City Council.

It had been suggested by Chichester District Council that the City Council take on the responsibility of the ten flower tower bases in the City Centre. The responsibility would include the maintenance of the bases and the inclusion on the City Council's insurance schedule. The bases were initially installed in 2006/2007 under the 'Chichester in Bloom' initiative which was funded by both the District and City Councils and had a very minimal monetary value. It was felt that as the City Council had the responsibility of benches, cycle racks in the City, it made sense to take on the flower tower bases in the City Centre.

Councillor Woolley advised that the Chichester City Advisory Area Committee had a view on the current hanging basket brackets and that it may be wise to discuss this matter with them, particularly if the brackets are to be overhauled this year.

43 200<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF GEORGE MURRAY

Councillor Plowman's report had been circulated to all members.

Councillor Plowman explained that an application for Heritage Lottery Funding (HLF) had been submitted for various events in 2015/2016 to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of George Murray being Mayor of Chichester. The outcome of the HLF bid would be known in mid February 2015.

The report contained a Recommendation to the Finance Committee that £1,000 in the 'Events Budget' be allocated to the anniversary of George Murray, this would enable the City Council to have a major part in the celebrations.

The Town Clerk advised that the money in 'Events Budget' was for any event that may happen in the 2015/2016 financial year as lessons had been learnt from previous years, when events were arranged after the budget had been set.

Following a further discussion it was felt that a Discretionary Grant Application should be made submitted to the City Council on behalf of the Murray Club.

44 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

- Policing & Security in the City
- Reports from Friends of Chartres & Ravenna & Valletta
- Street Licensing Activities
- Charles Avenue Community Hub

The meeting ended at 6.33pm.