

## CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

HELD ON MONDAY 1 JUNE 2015 AT 5.30PM

- PRESENT : Councillors P M Budge, P Evans, Galloway, Macey and Sharp
- EX-OFFICIO : The Mayor (Councillor P Budge  
Councillors Plowman and Woolley
- ALSO PRESENT : Councillors Dignum and Plowman and Scicluna  
PC Dave Phillips - Sussex Police  
Pam Bushby - Chichester District Council Communities Interventions Manager  
Sue Long - Community Warden, Chichester District Council  
Chris Holgate - Honorary Representative of the City of Chichester to Russia  
Ray Brown - Friends of Chartres  
Brenda Gay - Friends of Ravenna
- APOLOGIES : Deputy Mayor (Councillor Tupper)  
Councillor J French  
Graham Pound - Friends of Valletta
- ABSENT : Councillors Kilby and Holman
- IN ATTENDANCE : Town Clerk and Administration Manager

#### 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was duly proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that Councillor P Evans be elected Chairman of the Community Affairs Committee for the remainder of the year. There were no other nominations.

It was further proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that Councillor Galloway be elected Vice-Chairman of the Community Affairs Committee for the remainder of the year. There were no other nominations.

#### 2 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 March 2015, having been printed and circulated, were submitted and the Chairman was authorised to sign the same as a correct record.

#### 3 POLICING AND SECURITY IN THE CITY

##### (a) General Update for Sussex Police

The Chairman welcomed PC Dave Phillips to the meeting. PC Phillips gave an overview on the operations being carried out in the City, such as 'scam' awareness, which involved working with the banks and residents associations and this had highlighted effective partnership working. The overall crime and disorder figures were down for the City.

Councillor Apel asked if the absence of the City Angels Van had made a difference on the service being offered on a Friday and Saturday but was advised that it did not appear to have made a difference and the service offered by the City Angels had made an impact on night time crime and behaviour.

Councillor Dignum asked about the effectiveness of Chibac and the CCTV in the City Centre and PC Phillips said that both these services were a big deterrent in crime decreasing in the City and had been successful in catching criminals leading to prosecution.

(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.

The Chairman welcomed and introduced Pam Bushby, Chichester District Council Communities Intervention Manager to the meeting who gave a presentation on the role of the Community Wardens.

The Committee were advised that the Community Wardens provided a link for communities, schools, etc, in their Wards and were able to liaise with many agencies to alleviate any problems that may be being experienced in a Ward. Over the 10 years that the Community Wardens had been in existence, the role had evolved and statistics proved how important the Wardens were in the various areas. The Wardens were currently funded by the District Council (50%) and the remaining 50% of funding was obtained through other agencies. The current 3-year funding term would end in 2016 and future funding would need to be investigated.

The Mayor and Councillors Apel and Plowman applauded the good work of the Community Wardens.

4 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF FRIENDS OF CHARTRES AND RAVENNA

(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.

5 EUROPEAN MATTERS

(a) European Walled Towns

Councillor Scicluna declared a Personal Interest in this matter as Vice-President of the European Walled Towns (EWT).

Councillor Scicluna reported upon various changes with the hierarchy of the EWT and the way ahead being proposed by the EWT. She said that these changes would be for the betterment of the EWT which had come to a moment in time where it was necessary to reflect upon change and the positive benefits that it brought.

(b) Valletta Twinning

The recent view of the Mayor of Valletta about a possible twinning with Chichester was reported. Councillors Scicluna outlined various confusions which seemed to exist between the Mayor of Valletta's interpretation about the role of the City Council and that of the European Walled Towns; attempts would be made to dispel these confusions

6 KURSK VISIT - 15 APRIL TO 26 APRIL 2015

The Chairman welcomed Chris Holgate to the meeting. Mr Holgate was the Honorary Representative of Chichester City Council to Russia; an appointment that the City Council wished to continue.

Mr Holgate reported on a visit to Kursk in April 2015 and had submitted a report on the visit which had been circulated to all members with the Agenda.

7 COMMUNITY GRANTS - POLICY CRITERIA, ALLOCATION AND 'CITY SMARTENING UP PROGRAMME'

The Chairman said he felt it was necessary to revisit the current criteria for Discretionary Grants and suggested that a Working Group be established to do this. It was noted that there would be no change to the criteria for the Discretionary Grants being submitted for the July 2015 meeting.

The Working Group would consist of the Chairman and Councillors Apel, P M Budge and Macey. The Administration Manager would also be involved.

The Committee were advised by Councillor Dignum that a 'City Smartening Up Programme' could be instigated between the three Councils and the BID with funding from all four agencies. The City Council's contribution could be funded from the Discretionary Grant Budget which in previous years had been underspent.

8 CHICHESTER DISTRICT COUNCIL'S ALL PARISHES MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2015

It was RESOLVED that the Chairman and Councillor Sharp be the City Council's representatives at the Chichester District Council's All Parishes Meeting on Wednesday 30 September 2015.

9 OUTSIDE BODY APPOINTMENTS 2015/2016

All members of the City Council had been given the opportunity to express an interest on being the City Council's representative on Outside Bodies 2015/2016.

A schedule had been produced and the Chairman went through each Outside Body appointment and any organisations that were oversubscribed was voted on as to who the City Council representative would be.

The Schedule of Outside Body Appointments 2015/2016 would be attached to the Minutes and all organisations informed of the representative.

10 CHARLES AVENUE COMMUNITY HUB  
Community Affairs Committee Minute 53 refers

Members of the Committee had received with the Agenda a copy of the email sent from Chichester District Council explaining the background to this item.

The Chairman said this item would be discussed further when more information was available and that perhaps an East Ward member could report on this matter.

## 11 TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE

In the past administration, the subject of the Tourist Information Centre (TIC) had been discussed and in particular the location of the current TIC in The Novium. The City Council offices were a natural point of contact for many tourists and general enquiries on a daily basis and were, other than by name, a tourist information office. The Town Clerk gave several recent examples about the type of enquiries received. The Town Clerk would contact Mr Oates of Chichester District Council to discuss ways in which tourist advice and guidance could be better shared and developed.

## 12 CHICHESTER IN BLOOM

The Administration Manager advised, for new members of the Committee, that the City Council were responsible for the City Centre floral displays and that Ferring Nurseries would soon be planting up the City Centre flower towers and the hanging baskets.

## 13 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

- Policing & Security in the City
- Reports from Friends of Chartres & Ravenna & Valletta
- Discretionary Grants Policy
- Charles Avenue Community Hub
- Tourist Information Centre
- Admiral Sir George Murray Events

The meeting ended at 6.45pm.