

## CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

HELD ON MONDAY 9 JANUARY 2017 AT 5.30PM

- PRESENT : Councillors Apel, Galloway (Chairman), Macey, Sharp and Tupper
- EX-OFFICIO : The Mayor (Councillor P Budge)  
Councillor Dignum
- ALSO PRESENT : Ray Brown - Friends of Chartres  
Brenda Gay - Friends of Ravenna  
Graham Pound - Friends of Valletta  
Edward Cooke - Solicitor  
Graham Hicks - Chairman of the Friends of The Brewery Field  
Brian Raincock - Westgate Residents Association
- APOLOGIES : Councillors J French and Keyworth
- ABSENT : Deputy Mayor (Councillor P Evans)  
Councillors PM Budge and Holman
- IN ATTENDANCE : Town Clerk and Administration Manager

#### 39 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 31 October 2016, having been printed and circulated, were submitted and the Chairman was authorised to sign the same as a correct record.

#### 40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING

No declarations were made.

#### 41 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. Mr Ray Brown advised that he was retiring as Chairman of the Friends of Chartres after 3 years and thanked the City Council for their support over these years. He added that in 2019 it would be the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the twinning between Chichester and Chartres and that the City Council would be contacted for ideas to celebrate the event.

(b) Friends of Ravenna

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

An exchange visit with the Amici to Chichester would take place in Chichester between 18 and 22 October 2017 and would be limited to 20 people.

(c) Friends of Valletta

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

## 42 POLICING AND SECURITY IN THE CITY

### (a) General Update for Sussex Police

There was no representative of Sussex Police present at the meeting.

### (b) Community Wardens

A Report from the West Ward Community Warden had been received and circulated to all members.

It was confirmed that Officers contacted the Community Wardens, via Chichester District Council's Intervention Manager, before each Community Affairs Committee meeting to request reports. It was considered that as the City Council contribute significantly towards the Community Wardens, the importance of the reports should be stressed and that if no reports are available, the District Council's Intervention Manager, Pam Bushby, attend the meeting.

Councillor Tupper asked about the areas the Community Wardens covered and would be advised accordingly.

## 43 CLOSURE OF CHICHESTER COURTS - UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed Edward Cooke to the meeting.

Mr Cooke explained that a Judicial Review had been considered over the decision made not to consider the proposals that had been put forward to combine the courts into the Magistrates Court building. However, a letter had since been received from the Ministry of Justice dated 15 December 2016 stating that the decision made in September 2016 would now be reviewed.

In recent days a Closure Notice had been issued stating the County and Family Courts will close; Mr Cooke would be contacting the Ministry of Justice for assurance as to what is exactly happening as the information currently was contradictory.

Mr Cooke asked about the Southern Gateway Project which included the Magistrates Court building site and was advised that the development of the court building was more to do with the Homes and Community Agency redeveloping the site.

Councillor Apel proposed and was duly seconded and therefore it was RESOLVED that the City Council write to Chichester District Council to ask that consideration be given to removing the Magistrates Building from the Southern Gateway project pending the Ministry of Justice's decision.

## 44 REPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE BREWERY FIELD

The Chairman welcomed Colin Hicks and Brian Raincock to the meeting. Mr Hicks advised of the sad news that Mr Tim Rooth had passed away; Mr Rooth had been an active member of the Friends of Brewery Field.

The Committee noted that the Friends group had produced an Action Plan for 2017 which included organising events such as the Big Lunch (4 June 2017), Wildlife Days, planting wild meadows, etc. The Annual General Meeting in February 2017 would firm up the details of the events.

Other matters that had been previously raised namely anti-social behaviour on the field and litter were now being dealt with various agencies; table and benches would soon be installed on the site enabling the site to be furnished with the community.

Mr Hicks thanked the City Council Officers for their support over the past year and looked forward to all parties, including local residents associations and schools, working together for the future of the Brewery Field.

45 FLORENCE ROAD PEDESTRIAN CROSSING APPLICATION - UPDATE

The Town Clerk advised that an application had been submitted to West Sussex County Council's Community Highways Scheme for the provision of two pedestrian crossings in Florence Road. A meeting between City Council and County Council Officers had taken place determining the locations for the crossings and County Councillor Simon Oakley had provided the community information that was required for the application and this was very much appreciated.

46 CYCLING IN THE PRECINCT

The Town Clerk advised that an application had been made to West Sussex County Council for the current prohibition times of cycling in the City Centre (9.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Saturday) be changed to include Sundays. However the City Council had been advised that further extensive evidence would be required before such a request is considered and the Town Clerk would pursue this matter.

47 WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL DELEGATION OF POWER FOR THE LICENSING OF STREET ADVERTISING AND TRADING

The Administration Manager advised that West Sussex County Council Highways Department had forwarded a County Council Cabinet Member Decision (dated 31 March 2016) for the 'Delegation of Power for the Licensing of Street Advertising and Trading' to District, Borough, City, Town and Parish Councils. A copy would be supplied to all members of the Committee.

A summary of the decision was read out to the Committee and the Administration explained that the wording was generic to apply to all councils in the area and did not take into account any agreements that may already be in place with West Sussex County Council and other Chichester councils. The decision was unclear as to how this delegation of power would be put into practise as no approach had been made to either Chichester City or Chichester District Councils.

48 NHS SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSFORMATION PLANS (STP)

Councillor Joy was not at the meeting to present this item.

49 CHICHESTER IN BLOOM

The Administration Manager said that the budget for the floral display for 2017/2018 had been approved (£30,000) and that the Finance Assistance would shortly be contacting businesses in the City Centre for the Summer Hanging Basket Scheme.

50 ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON THE NEXT AGENDA

- Update on the Closure of Chichester Courts
- Cycling in the City Centre

The meeting ended at 6.46pm.