

## CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

HELD ON MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 5.30PM

- PRESENT : Councillors Apel, Galloway, Macey, Sharp and Tupper
- EX-OFFICIO : The Mayor (Councillor P Evans)  
Deputy Mayor (Councillor Bell)  
Councillor Dignum
- ALSO PRESENT : Councillors Budge, M Evans and Plowman  
Julia Sander - Friends of Chartres  
Graham Pound - Friends of Valletta
- APOLOGIES : Councillors J French, Hixson and Kilby
- ABSENT : Councillor Holman
- IN ATTENDANCE : Town Clerk and Administration Manager

#### 15 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

As recorded above.

#### 16 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meetings held on 5 June and 17 July 2017, having been printed and circulated, were submitted and the Chairman was authorised to sign the same as a correct record.

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

Councillor Dignum declared a Personal Interest as Chichester District Council Leader connected with the Southern Gateway Development if any discussion took place under Agenda Item 7, Closure of Chichester Courts.

Councillor Galloway declared a Personal Interest as a Chichester District Councillor.

#### 18 POLICING AND SECURITY IN THE CITY

##### (a) Sussex Police Contact Campaign

Information was circulated to all members with the Agenda informing that from 31 July 2017 Sussex Police were launching a Contact Campaign to let the public know the different ways that they can contact them depending on their need. A revised contact card bespoke to each district would be available in a downloadable electronic format and as a printed postcard.

The Town Clerk would investigate further as to the availability of the contact card as members had yet to see one.

(b) Northern Management Panel

Councillor Budge reported, as Chairman of the Northern Management Panel, that in the past the group had met every three months and received reports from representatives from St Richard's Hospital and the University of Chichester on matters that may have an effect on the northern part of the City and any issues that raised a concern would be passed on to the Police. However, due to the Sussex Police restructure in recent months, the group now had no contact with the Police.

Councillor Budge suggested that the Panel be disbanded and the representatives of the hospital and university be invited to either attend or submit a report to the Community Affairs Committee. Members felt that the better option would be for them to report to Chichester District Council's Community Safety Partnership; this was agreed and Councillor Budge would inform those involved.

(c) Community Wardens

A report from Chichester District Council's Intervention Manager, Pam Bushby and Community Warden reports had been received and circulated to all members.

The Town Clerk commented that he was surprised to read in Pam Bushby's report that a Community Warden vacancy in the South Ward would not be filled at the current time. This decision had been taken by Chichester District Council's Senior Management Team but had not been relayed to the City Council formally, as a stakeholder in funding Community Wardens in the City. This would be investigated further by Councillor Dignum as Leader of Chichester District Council.

19 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF FRIENDS OF CHARTRES, RAVENNA AND VALLETTA

(a) Friends of Chartres

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

The Committee noted that the Mayor and Mayoress would be visiting Chartres 15 to 18 September 2017.

(b) Friends of Ravenna

A Friends of Ravenna report had not been submitted.

(c) Friends of Valletta

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

20 DISCRETIONARY GRANTS

The Committee considered whether Chichester City Council's Discretionary Grant applications should be determined at one meeting held in the financial year as opposed to the current practise of having two meetings each year in light of a reduced budget and increased demand.

Members discussed this matter and agreed the current practise of holding two meetings each year remain.

The Committee noted the schedule attached to the Agenda which indicated the Discretionary Grants awarded between 2006/2007 and 2016/2017. A total of £375,083 had been awarded to 137 organisations over an eleven year period. The Administration Manager was thanked for producing a comprehensive schedule.

21 CLOSURE OF CHICHESTER COURTS - UPDATE

The Town Clerk advised that it had recently been reported that Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service (HMCTS) was seeking alternative accommodation for court hearings in the City and the City Council had been approached about the suitability of the Council House. This matter would be further discussed by the Property Sub-Committee on Monday 2 October 2017.

22 CHICHESTER IN BLOOM

(i) City Centre Planting

The Administration Manager advised that the Summer floral displays in the City Centre had once again been a success and had received favourable comments which had been passed on to Ferring Nurseries who had supplied and maintained the display on behalf of the City Council. The display should continue to the end of September/beginning of October depending on the weather and then would be replaced with the Autumn/Winter display.

Councillor Sharp raised the issue of the felling of two lime trees in West Street and asked whether any more trees would be felled as people had raised concerns about the trees being removed. The Town Clerk would investigate further with West Sussex County Council.

**Post Meeting Note :** West Sussex County Council has advised that no further tree works are planned to the remaining lime trees in West Street other than cutting back the epicormic growth at the bottom of the trees.

(ii) Schools Competition 2017

The Mayoral/Administrative Assistant's report had been circulated to all members with the Agenda and stated which schools had won the various prizes. The Mayor would present the prizes to the winning schools in the Autumn.

The meeting ended at 6.15pm