

# AGENDA ITEM 5a

## Community Warden report for the city

Spring is in the air, the weather is starting to get warmer, and I suspect that this may be one of the reasons why we are seeing more of our street community out and about. There has also been a little increase in our rough sleeping community as well, probably for the same reason, but our Rough Sleeping Outreach team have been working tirelessly to help accommodate those who wish to be accommodated. So as the warmer days increase there may be an increase in drinking related ASB, which I will be keeping a close eye on.

Graffiti has been a huge issue for us recently, however we are not the only ones being hit as Bognor seem to be getting the same, with the same taggers targeting them. This has been brought up with the police who are looking into it as well and have had some success in identifying some of the culprits. Piers and I have been patrolling the city everyday and visiting all the popular tagging spots , which after a good few weeks now, seem to be having an effect and the frequency of the tagging which has dropped significantly.

Youth ASB seems to have increased again, with groups of youths gathering in the multi-storey car park and in Woolstaplers car park in the early evenings, the police have been made aware and a couple of the ringleaders identified. We have increased our patrols in the area and there has been early evening multi-agency ASB patrols taking place. I have continued to remind the public to report any criminal or ASB activity to the police.

I have seen a drop in people cycling during prohibited hours in North and East Street, but I am expecting a slight rise as the weather improves. Electric scooters seem to have dropped considerably as well, I am hoping it is because owners are realising it is illegal to ride them in public.

Shop theft remains a constant and I have done several deterred thefts by following prolific shoplifters into stores and making my presence known, as I am not exactly low-profile potential offenders spot me very quickly and leave the store.

I am looking forward to a lovely summer in the city as it is my most favourite season and funnily enough is the only time of year people say to me that they would like to do my job.

Declan Moody

Senior Community Warden

10<sup>th</sup> January 2023

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## Chichester City Council Report January 2023

### Chichester West

Happy New Year to you all, here is a brief roundup of issues I've been dealing with:

- Multiple issues around flytipping. Reported for clearance to housing association and WSCC. Reported twice, as I write it's still there so will report again.
- Nitrous oxide capsules found and disposed of, keeping an eye on the area as individuals are starting to hang around there once more.
- The Parklands Pantry initiative with UK Harvest continues with approximately 60-70 residents attending each week. It has been very busy in weeks before Christmas. I have been able to help find solutions and signpost them to agencies such as CAB.
- Anti-social behaviour in various locations (including theft and graffiti) and I continue to encourage residents to report information to Police.
- I have been involved in a lot of community events and fundraisers in the run up to the Christmas break.
- I obtained multiple Food Bank vouchers for people struggling with cost of living. I have been able to follow up with these families and give advice and how to access more help. Also referred to Help Through Hardship and signposted various help available through benefits.
- I obtained supermarket vouchers from Rotary Club for eleven residents over Christmas.
- Attempted fuel theft – luckily the tank was virtually empty at the time. Also some thefts from sheds in run up to Christmas.
- Reported a vehicle as it had no MOT, insurance or car tax. It has now been towed away.
- Support for elderly resident who had been the victim of bank fraud and advice given on how to get advice from the bank.
- Welfare checks on elderly/vulnerable residents. Advice given around parking permits/disabled parking spaces.
- Dayburning street lights reported to WSCC for fixing/adjustment.

Thank you for your continued support

Sue Long

Community Warden for Chichester West

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City Council January 2023

Chichester South and East

Hope you all had a great Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone

Fly tipping levels have risen sharply over both patches in since just before Christmas, we have been to the recycling centre several times with a full van load. An increase is usual for this time of year, but the volume is an increase over the last few years.

We have also noticed that the state of some of the outside areas and gardens around the area has deteriorated, properties with rubbish, broken furniture, old toys, broken vehicles, decorating and DIY rubbish piled up outside. We have even had a few complaints now, some of these homes belong to RSL's but not all and this will make it harder to solve. Once an area starts to look neglected things rapidly escalate so we will try and get something done asap.

ASB seems to be a little improved in our area, we certainly have had fewer reports, although this may be due to the terrible weather, always one to keep an eye on though. The Swanfield Estate and Whyke Oval and Whyke marsh are our target areas, and we will monitor. We have a few individuals to watch for.

The Florence Park area is also being looked at more closely as we are aware of some possible drug activity. People involved are known to the police, we have reported activity and identified suspects and will continue to do so.

There are still many people in need of some help with the rising cost of living, there is now lots of help and advice available, including the many food banks and Pantries, this is a much-needed service and appreciated by the people using them. We had a conversation with a lady who wants to remain anonymous who told us she had been given quite a few very out of date items at one of the outlets, she used an example of orange juice 2 months past its date. We will investigate this but were a little concerned.

I was made aware recently of a person on my patch who has very complex mental health issues and is very vulnerable. I just wanted to say that although we do try and deal with most things some things are just too complicated and require specific and comprehensive training, I will certainly always do what I can but within my skill set, training and to my personal risk assessment. That said, I will always find assistance if I feel unable to deal with something personally. This situation is very rare though.

And just a good news story to end with:

We recently met a young man who we used to deal with 12 years ago when we were running an engagement programme in the Chichester East area. The youngsters in the group were all in trouble in some way and all becoming known to the police and causing a real problem in the area. The project was keeping the youngster's engaged by playing sports and mentoring, we went kayaking, did archery and played lots of football (well Jon did ) over time this contact and building up relationships really made a difference. They stopped getting into trouble and we think it really helped them. The young man we met from this group is making a real success of this life and has

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now got a brilliant job in security at Guernsey airport. It is lovely to know that he thinks we had a hand in improving his outlook and prospects. It was brilliant to see him and learn of this success.

Thank you for your support

Carol McClung 07776 435506

Jon Logan 07768 207868

**Chichester BID Ranger Report November 2022 to January 2023 Incident Table**

Time Frame	Days Worked	Businesses Visited	DISC Reports	Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)	Assistance to Public	Crime (Not Shoplifting)	Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)	Shoplifting	Other	Retail Price of Stolen Recovered Stock
<b>01/11/22 -8/1/23</b>	37	712	6	7	22	2	2	42	187	£5800.63

**Details of Incidents by Type:**

- The DISC reports submitted relate to incidents of shoplifting and antisocial behaviour that the Rangers themselves have witnessed. Over and above these incidents, the Rangers have contacted the police through 999 a total of 4 times and the police have responded each time in a timely fashion.
- 57% of all Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) incidents were dealing with actions from juveniles including throwing eggs at stores and demonstrating threatening behavior. The incidents of juvenile ASB witnessed by the Rangers have risen recently and are continuing to rise.
- As ever, the incidents within the Assistance to Public category were mixed but not unusual - there were 12 requests for directions, 2 requests for directions to car parks, 3 reports of bike thefts, 2 incidents of falls and 3 incidents of missing persons.
- The 2 Crime incidents recorded in the period which were not shoplifting were a bike theft and an assault.
- Both PSPO incidents were in relation to street drinking.
- Shoplifting recovered value has increased during this time period by a factor of 30%. This is due to the time of year and the increasing trend we are witnessing due to the Cost of Living Crisis.

**Other points to note:**

- The Rangers dealt with the police directly 4 times over the period - mostly in relation to shoplifting and anti social behaviour incidents where they needed extra support
- There has been an increase in the presence of Animal Rights Protestors in the City over this period. Whilst they have a right to protest and the Rangers have no powers in relation to this, they have liaised and interacted with the protesters a total of 4 times over the period to ensure their presence is as peaceful and non-confrontational as possible with the public.
- Bike theft continues to be high and increasing, with 3 reports of theft from members of the public within this time frame.

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## Chairman's Comment

Some very interesting things have been happening during the past few months. The Cinema events are becoming popular again, and, although I have not been able to attend personally, I understand that these have been both interesting and fun.

It was unfortunate that the visit to the Portsmouth museum had to be cancelled due to too few people able to attend, possibly because of the timing and members still on holiday. However, we do hope to be able to put this on again sometime next year, as it is a most interesting visit to make.

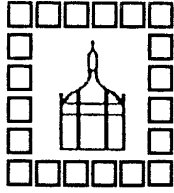
A great success was our Christmas Soiree in the Sherborne Room of the Bishop's Palace. I did feel rather strange when writing to invite the Bishop, as it sounded quite awkward inviting him to his own home! However, he gracefully accepted, and came downstairs for a while to chat to the considerable number of association members present. He told me that he had heard the music, which was being played by two very gifted young men from the University, and he came down from his flat to take part in some of our evening. The cheese and wine, prepared by Anne Louise Briggs, Ellen Haigh and their small band of helpers went down very well with everyone, and it was a pleasure to have several new members with us on the evening. David Nason gave us a most interesting talk on the Sherborne Room itself and the Lambert Barnard paintings there, and this was followed by many of us accompanying him to the Bishop's Chapel to learn yet more of the history of the building.

The annual dinner this year will take place at Chichester College on 23<sup>rd</sup> February, very close to the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our twinning. This is followed on 16<sup>th</sup> March by the AGM when we will be looking for some new committee members. The annual exchange will be at the end of April in Chichester and we are planning an interesting programme for our friends from Chartres.

With the new twinning with Speyer, which took place in December with the return visit happening in March, Chichester has four of the most beautiful cities in Europe as our partners – Chartres, Ravenna, Valletta and now Speyer. We are so fortunate.....

Anne Scicluna

Chairman



**Friends of Ravenna Report for the Chichester Community Affairs meeting on Monday, 16th January 2023**

**Programme of Events 2022-2023**

On 5th November 2022, Hilly Sloan shared her extensive knowledge of European art and history with a talk entitled "*The Italian Artist in 18th century England*". On Tuesday 13th December, Keziah Thomas, a well-known concert harpist joined us for our Christmas celebration. She played a selection of pieces, some to the theme of Christmas. Others came from Italian composers like Vivaldi. It was fascinating to hear an orchestral piece like Vivaldi's '*Four Seasons*' written (by Keziah) and played for harp.

Coming up, we are looking forward to a Zoom presentation on 19th January by Dr Warren Cairns. Currently based in Venice as Senior Researcher for the Italian National Research Council, Institute for Polar Sciences, Dr Cairns will compare the destinies of 2 cities (Venice and Ravenna) as they have / have not prepared to mitigate the effects of climate change.

In February on the 15th, Simon Martin from the Pallant Gallery will discuss the influence of Giotto and the Italian Primitives on the British artist, Stanley Spencer.

**Developments**

We are waiting to hear about who will be the new President of Friends of Chichester. Also, having been in touch by email about the possible visit of a youth orchestra to Chichester, we are waiting to gather more information.

**Membership**

This stands at 178.

Jacky Storey  
Chair Friends of Ravenna



# AGENDA ITEM 6

## Friends of Valletta

### Report to Community Affairs Committee



January 2023

#### Past Events

The AGM was held in the Council Chamber on 16 November at 7.00 pm. Unfortunately, our President the Mayor was unable to attend. Brenda Gay and Richard New were elected to the Committee.

Following the formal AGM the Chairman discussed a number of suggestions with those present to decide the topics for the programme for 2023.

#### Future Programme

On 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 Kim Dalli will be giving a Zoom talk on “ The Making of the Women of the George Cross Island”. It will detail what these women did in Malta to distinguish themselves during the second world war.

Meetings for March and April have yet to be finalised.

A group visit to Malta is to be planned for members in May in the second part of the month

On 19<sup>th</sup> June a live performance of “The Star of Strait Street” is being arranged in the Assembly Room, following the successful talk last year.

The Three Cities evening in support of the Festival of Chichester will be held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June in the Assembly Room.

#### Committee

Anne continues to prepare issues of the Melita newsletter every two months for members with interesting articles from various sources as we are concerned to keep in touch with our members, and she always keen to receive new material.

#### Membership

We currently have 71 members, including the Honorary Life Members from overseas.

Graham Pound

Chairman, Friends of Valletta

**Report to:** Chichester City Council - Community Affairs  
for its Meeting on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**From:** Paula Chatfield, Chair of Chichester Tree Wardens

**Date:** 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Chichester Tree Wardens' volunteer news since we last reported (5<sup>th</sup> September 2022) include:

### **Mind the [Tree] Gap**

[Mind the Gap - tree planting in Chi \(treesinchi.org\)](https://treesinchi.org)

WSSC planted this season's batch of new street trees in November 2022. These included the 4 trees funded through our Mind the Gap fundraiser (in Cedar Drive and Flaxman Avenue, Parklands and Cambrai Avenue and Hay Road, Whyke).

### **ChiTrees** (helping Chichester understand the value of its urban trees)

[ChiTrees \(our iTree project\) \(treesinchi.org\)](https://treesinchi.org)

With the mild weather, our last records were made at the end of November 2022. Our final tally for 2022 was 390 trees, between them providing an estimated £31,000 eco-benefits: intercepting water, avoiding water run-off, improving air quality, removing and storing carbon. (This is likely to be an under-estimate, as it is not clear when financial values were last updated – certainly not since inflation has soared.) Individual trees ranged from a score of £1 for street trees planted in 2021, only a few years old, to £783 for the ancient beech tree part-way up Oaklands Park. At least 16 volunteers contributed records. Recording will recommence in Spring 2023.

### **Tree Care Campaign**

[Young Tree Maintenance \(treesinchi.org\)](https://treesinchi.org)

We have a list of 134 trees planted by WSSC over the last few years and will be liaising with volunteer waterers in anticipation of another hot, presumably dry, summer in 2023, [as predicted by the Met Office](#). Volunteers need to be able to sustain watering each tree they care for with a 50-litre soak once a week once hot dry weather sets in (expected no later than May 2023), but trees may need some watering even by late March.

**Public engagement** has included:

- meeting Chichester College to discuss trees. We subsequently undertook 2 tree-recording sessions there for our ChiTrees project, and have been offered meeting room space to use. College staff also moved leaf litter they had deposited around the base of several trees to 1m+ high that we brought to their attention as risking the survival of those trees.
- supporting Transition Chichester's Eco Fair on 1<sup>st</sup> October, including a Tree Spotters' activity in the immediate environs of the New Park Centre's Jubilee Hall;
- volunteer-made tape measures to support and encourage participation in our ChiTrees project;
- attending the University of Chichester Student Union's Green Fairs on 28<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December, involving discussions with students, staff and other visitors.

### **Other news**

- The new County Arboriculturist, whose role includes West Sussex Tree Warden Network Co-Ordinator, joined WSSC in October. Jordan Walker takes on the role from which Julie Bolton retired in July 2022 after over 30 years.

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- I attended the South East Tree Warden Forum hosted by the Tree Council with Surrey County Council on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Speakers included hedgerow expert Nigel Adams whose insight into [the management and lifecycle of hedgerows](#) was inspirational.
- WSCC has changed its systems for receiving Highways reports – you can find the new reporting system relating to WSCC highway trees and hedges [here](#). (Previous Love West Sussex/Love Clean Streets online/app reporting systems have been withdrawn.)
- WSCC withdrew its application to fell 2 giant redwoods in Rew Lane following public objections, including those we raised. The issue of property damage alleged to be caused by the trees has presumably not gone away, so we wait to learn what happens next.
- Sadly we were not successful in persuading CDC to delay Chichester Festival Theatre felling a broad-leaved lime beside the Minerva Theatre by protecting it with a Tree Preservation Order (planning reference [22/02206/TCA](#)).
- However our comments on [the redevelopment proposals for the Christian Science Society site](#) beside Whyke amphitheatre resulted in the applicant submitting revised tree proposals that retain more existing trees.
- The Christian Science site application reminds us that Historic England's default position is to resist planting trees on Scheduled Ancient Monuments, which include the City Walls and has implications for future tree cover/amenity when current trees fail. A veteran beech on the Walls Walk beside Cawley Priory car park, [TT15](#) on our Chichester City Tree Trail and [recorded on the Ancient Tree Inventory](#), failed overnight on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022, prompting coverage in the Chichester Observer. CDC instructed its contractors to retain that part of the tree still standing, but at a safe height, and allowed me to take a section of that stem in case it can be used for future research, including dating. We wait to see if the tree will be able to regenerate from what was still living wood at the time it was cut.



- We are supporting the Friends of Brandy Hole Copse through to its next AGM, hopefully in May 2023 and have added a dedicated page to our [website](#). CDC has recommended routine coppicing in anticipation of agreeing a new Management Agreement with the landowner of that part of the Copse which it does not own. (The bulk of the Copse lies within the boundary of Lavant Parish Council.)

With best wishes,

Paula (tel. 07788 140698; email [paula@parklands-chichester.org](mailto:paula@parklands-chichester.org) )