

# AGENDA ITEM 5a

## Chichester City Council Report March 2023

### Chichester West

The past couple of months have been very busy, here is a brief roundup of issues I've been dealing with:

- More flytipping in two areas. Reported for clearance by housing association. I have had a meeting with a representative of Hyde to see whether a clean up day could be arranged in the Spring. I have also requested that tables/benches be replaced in the children's play area as they have become hazardous.
- Some problems with a property occupied by students.
- The Parklands Pantry initiative with UK Harvest continues to work well, with numbers increasing over 70/80 every week as cost of living gets tougher. I have been able to take advantage of this 'captive audience' to highlight the latest scams and promote safety initiatives such as bike marking and electric blanket testing.
- Anti-social behaviour in various locations (including a dirt bike being illegally ridden around the Boardwalk area) and I continue to encourage residents to report information to Police. Residents have been reporting sightings, but more evidence is needed to proceed with a Section59. Other damage in the same area that has been reported.
- Anti-social and threatening behaviour by a couple of individuals which has caused damage and distress. I identified who they are and have sent information to the Police and Anti-social Behaviour Co-ordinator for action.
- Advice given to a local organisation that helps with autistic young adults and concerns raised about a vulnerable individual passed to relevant authorities.
- I have been giving support, help and advice to a vulnerable resident who is going through a difficult domestic/financial situation.
- I was contacted by an elderly resident who was very upset after a cold caller had been to his house to buy gold/broken watches and jewellery etc. The man came into house without invitation. The resident later found his late wife's wedding ring was missing. The ring was later retrieved, but I have sent a comprehensive report to Trading Standards about these unethical tactics. I gave advice to the resident on the importance of door chains, general safety and put up a No Cold Calling sticker for his door.
- Anti-social driving that has churned up a mini-roundabout with tyre tracks going straight across the middle of the grassed area. Reported to WSCC for re-soiling and seeding in the Spring, but still trying to get details of the offending vehicle/driver.
- Reported an address to Environmental Protection where the driveway is completely piled high with rubbish from house clearances and where bins are permanently overflowing.

Thank you for your continued support

Sue Long

Community Warden for Chichester West

# AGENDA ITEM 5b

## Chichester BID Ranger Report January 2023 to February 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	Recovered Stock
09/01/23 – 26/02/23	26	485	14	5	12	5	3	37	144	£2747.03

### Details of Incidents by Type

- 42% of DISC reports were involving threats of violence to the Rangers and the rest were reports of shoplifting
- All 5 no. ASB incidents were threats towards the Rangers
- Within Assistance to Public there were 4 no. directions to toilets, 2 no. falls, 2 no. reports of stolen items and 1 no. report of a missing child
- The 5 no. Crime incidents (not shoplifting) were threats of violence, prohibited selling on the high street and dealing with a stolen wallet incident.
- The 3 no. PSPO incidents were in relation to street drinking, where the police were also in attendance and had contact with the offenders
- Shoplifting incidents remain high, with only 5 no. incidents less than the previous report even though the Rangers worked 11 days less in this period

### Other points to note

- The Rangers dealt with the police 8 times mostly in relation to threats of violence to themselves and because of apprehended shoplifters
- Chichester BID had a very productive meeting with the local police leadership to discuss how we can work more closely together and how we can support bringing their new team (at Sargeant and PSCSO level) up to speed as they are all new to the City
- There are 2 main areas of concern over this last period:
  - o Rangers have seen an increase in threats of violence towards themselves in this period. To this end we have issued them with Body Cams and alerted their employers (Blayde Security) to ensure they are aware and that they can provide the team with adequate additional training and support if required
  - o Shoplifting would traditionally abate post-Christmas, however, this year we have seen a continued shoplifting threat from known prolific offenders throughout January and February

## Friends of Chartres

### Report for Community Affairs Committee March 2023

The Friends recently held their annual dinner at the Chichester College restaurant, when around forty members enjoyed a lovely meal in friendly company, and it was so good to celebrate our 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the twinning on such a nice occasion. It's amazing that the association is so strong after so many years – several members, including myself and Michael Bevis, the vice-chairman, have been involved for all that time, when we originally took part in the children's exchange.

On 16<sup>th</sup> March the association will hold its Annual General Meeting. Three key members of the committee will be standing down for personal and family reasons, so we will be looking for a new secretary, membership secretary, web manager and editors for the newsletter Citylink. These retiring members will be very hard acts to follow, and sincere thanks to them for all they have done.

Looking forward, a large group will come from Chartres at the end of April for the exchange, most staying with partner members in Chichester and the surrounding area. A full programme has been planned by the Events sub-committee ably led by Julia Sander, who is the committee member in charge of events.

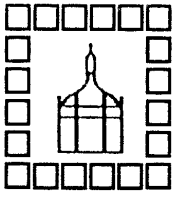
It has been decided that, once again, the association will take a stand at the Gala in Priory Park, which is planned on 1<sup>st</sup> July by the City Council to celebrate the Coronation. Last year, this very successful event in the park brought several new members including families.

The Annual Three Cities event (soon to be Four Cities) will take place in the Assembly Room on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June, when renowned author Simon Brett will talk of his life and work. Simon is a most entertaining speaker, and is delighted to be asked to take part in this event. If any City Councillors or friends wish to attend, tickets can be obtained from any of the twinning associations or the box office at the Novium – price £12. A good price, considering that the talk will be followed by nibbles and wine from France, Italy and Malta, when everyone can chat and meet the speaker.

Anne Scicluna

Chairman, Friends of Chartres

# AGENDA ITEM 6



**FRIENDS OF RAVENNA**

**CHICHESTER**

## Friends of Ravenna Report for the Chichester Community Affairs meeting on Monday, 13th MARCH 2023

### Programme of Events 2022-2023

On 19th January by Dr Warren Cairns, currently based in Venice as Senior Researcher for the Italian National Research Council, Institute for Polar Sciences, gave a fascinating and informative presentation via Zoom. Telling the tale of 2 cities, Venice and Ravenna, he drew our attention to the effects of climate change and what needs to be done to mitigate its effects. He helped us to understand the importance of establishing effective flood barriers.

In February on the 15th, Simon Martin from the Pallant Gallery gave a talk about how Giotto and other Italian Primitives had influenced the British artist, Stanley Spencer, particularly in relation to his paintings in the Sandham Memorial Chapel, Burghclere which were inspired by Giotto's Arena Chapel in Padua.

We are now looking forward to hearing a talk on 15th March about Naples as a centre of learning by Dr Lorenzo Gaianfrancesco and on 26th April about Anglo-Palladian architecture by Charles Hind.

### **Developments**

The names of new President and Secretary of Friends of Chichester will soon be announced. (The February meeting had to be postponed.) As soon as we have this information, we will aim to find a date in the autumn to host the Ravennati.

Also, having been in touch by email about the possible visit of a youth orchestra to Chichester, we are waiting to gather more information during the visit of Ravenna's Deputy Mayor, Annagiulia Randi, to the Speyer signing. We hope also to discuss the possibility of a belated celebration of our 25th anniversary to which we would like to invite the Mayor of Ravenna.

The Committee of Friends of Ravenna asked me to write a letter in support of the installation of a new Philip Jackson sculpture in Midhurst - of Dante Alighieri - and this I have done. We agreed to make a donation towards the cost of the plinth, an amount to be set at our AGM on 12th June. The installation is at the Planning stage.

### **Membership**

This stands at 179.

Jacky Storey  
Chair Friends of Ravenna

# AGENDA ITEM 6

## Friends of Valletta

### Report to Community Affairs Committee



February 2023

#### Past Events

The AGM was held on 16 November but unfortunately our President the Mayor was unable to attend. Both Lois Cope and Peter Agius have stood down and Brenda Gay and Richard New were formally elected to the Committee at the AGM.

On 25 January Kim Dalli gave a most interesting talk on two of the many “Women of George Cross Island” who had made a significant impact during the Second World War. It was well received by the members and Kim has agreed to give a further talk later this year.

#### Future Programme

On the 9 March Dr Karsten Xuereb will giving a Zoom talk about the future for Valletta’s heritage. He has been part of the World Heritage Nomination Project addressing UNESCO sites. Valletta has been a UNESCO site, the only city to be recognised as such in its entirety across the world, and his talk will discuss how this heritage can be enhanced.

Then on 5 April Claudette Buttigieg will give a Zoom talk discussing aspects of Maltese Culture used to promote tourism which is one of the key sources of income for the Island.

The Friends have booked the Assembly Room on Monday 19 June for a performance of “Star of Strait Street” in support of the Festival of Chichester. Further details will be available later.

The Committee is currently looking at the possibility of a group visit to Malta in May.

#### General

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

As subscriptions are due membership numbers are not available at present.

Graham Pound

Chairman, Friends of Valletta

**Report to:** Chichester City Council - Community Affairs  
for its Meeting on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023

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

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Since we last reported (8<sup>th</sup> January 2023), Chichester Tree Warden volunteer activities to promote and encourage the protection and planting of trees include:

- TWs Jenny and Lynne supported Cllr Sharp at a tree-planting event in Whyke that she organised for half term. 5 new 'Regina' fruiting cherries were planted on Hyde-maintained spaces with help from Groundscape, Hyde's amenity contractors. Around 30 people turned up to help plant them and Sarah organised refreshments. Sophie, CDC's tree officer, helped with funding through a DEFRA pilot scheme for orchard trees. (Elsewhere Hyde were reluctant to agree to fruiting trees, but we may try again in 2023.) Another 2 Sussex apple trees are still to come for planting in the green space at the junction of Kingsham Avenue and Eastland Road.
- TW Mary liaised with Sophie and CDC park maintenance colleagues to use the same scheme, resulting in 10 new fruit trees being planted recently on East Broyle green near the access to Centurion Way.
- TW Geoff continues to monitor tree planning applications in the Conservation Area and engage with the Chichester Conservation Area Advisory Committee. Part of this work has resulted in CCAAC objecting to the felling of a beech tree at St Joseph's School (tree T15 in [planning Notice 23/00079/TCA](#)) although other tree works are acceptable. (Felling another tree, a flowering cherry on the school's Orchard Street frontage, has been added to the Notification and still needs to be considered.)
- I have liaised with others, including various CDC officers, volunteers and Summersdale Residents' Association/TW Ray with respect to reinvigorating the Friends of Brandy Hole Copse.
- I continue to update our website as time allows, and to respond to enquiries which come through our website and social media presence, as well as from others who know us.
- We participate in ongoing learning (e.g. through attendance at [Arboricultural Association webinars](#)) and follow-up new contacts and ideas this generates.
- These include monitoring progress with the [Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill](#) which may improve Tree Preservation Order protection criteria for ancient and veteran trees.

#### **Contributing to Planning Policy**

We submitted a Presentation to the Chichester Community Collaboration Forum day on 20<sup>th</sup> February with our aspirations for the Neighbourhood Plan. (We were unable to present due to the unavailability of an appropriate volunteer on the day.) A summary is included as an Appendix to this report.

We will also be commenting formally on CDC's Submission Draft Local Plan by the 17<sup>th</sup> March deadline.

#### **Coming Up**

- We will be supporting The Novium by providing tree-related activities at its event in Priory Park on **Earth Day (Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April)**. This event celebrates the museum's [Wild Escape project](#), part of a nationwide initiative to raise awareness of biodiversity and ecology.

## AGENDA ITEM 7

- We are working with local artist [Fiona Bell Currie](#) and sculptor Sue Machado to stage an event “Art in the Park: Celebrating Chichester’s Trees” as part of the Festival of Chichester on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July** in Bishop’s Palace Gardens. Practicalities such as public liability insurance and venue permission are currently being worked through.
- Buds are beginning to burst and it will soon be time to recommence recording trees for our ChiTrees tree recording project. Based on our experience of Phase 1 of this project in 2022, we don’t expect to complete the project this year but will be pleased to make further progress.
- If weather patterns follow last year, young tree watering will need to recommence by April and we will be touching base with volunteers to try to ensure all street trees are covered.

Our thanks go to Liz Andrews, who resigned as our Tree Warden on the ground in Graylingwell towards the end of last year. I have had some discussions with potential new Tree Wardens and hope to have news of some new volunteers later this year to increase our capacity.

With best wishes,

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

### **Appendix:**

#### **OUTLINE of Chichester Tree Wardens’ Presentation and Aspirations for the Neighbourhood Plan**

Our introduction set the scene for why we have trees in our current Chichester City landscape, why we need trees and the evidence of public support for trees, reminding that:

**“Trees are living things – to retain or grow them, we need to provide the places and conditions in which they will thrive.**

**AND they are a long-term endeavour.”**

Our aspirations for the Neighbourhood Plan are that it:

- Respects and celebrates our 4 ancient woodland fragments (Lower Rouse Copse and Upper Rouse Copse at Whitehouse Farm, Brandy Hole Copse – most of which is outside the Plan area in Lavant parish, and Summersdale Copse);
- Recognises the increased pressure on woodland use of a growing population and provides for the creation of woodland extensions grown from local seed;
- Considers the formal allocation of land near Lidl/crematorium/Homebase, where natural woodland regeneration is well advanced, for public access recreational use, health and wellbeing;
- Identifies and cherishes ancient/important hedgerows and encourages new hedgerows;
- Prioritises retention of established trees/hedgerows in new developments rather than stripping out and re-planting;
- Gives preference to growing big trees over small trees where the right space exists (big trees offer bigger benefits and there are few spaces suitable for them to thrive);
- Prioritises leaving verges/green spaces for trees where utilities are able to run under hard surfaces nearby (in conjunction with WSCC as local highway authority);
- Provides for a street tree to be planted as a requirement of all planning permissions for development (either in an appropriate gap adjoining the development, or elsewhere, if that isn’t possible);
- Includes a tree canopy cover target that involves everyone in sustaining trees for the common good in the long-term. (We need to 1. minimise tree canopy loss in the short to medium term, and 2. plan to deliver a balanced 20%+ tree canopy cover across urban parts of the Plan area - higher in rural/semi-rural parts, e.g. Centurion Way.);

## AGENDA ITEM 7

- Promotes the creation of community tree nurseries (secure and with access to water) to grow trees from local seed. (An allotment plot has been allocated in planning for Whitehouse Farm, but more are needed. WSCC land adjoining Chichester Nursery behind St James/Oving Roads could be suitable, subject to access controls.) This enterprise would 1. sustain local genetic diversity, and 2. reduce biosecurity risk (the risk of spreading pests and diseases);
- Requires all trees planted in Chichester as a result of a planning permission to demonstrate responsible biosecurity (Plant Healthy standard or similar). Such trees should be native species, ideally locally grown.

**END**