

AGENDA ITEM 5a

Community Wardens report for August 2023

It has been a busy summer in the city especially over the summer holidays with an increase in ASB (anti-social behaviour) during the months of May, June, and July we had a particular problem with young groups of individuals climbing on the roofs of the shops in all four streets, creating a huge risk to themselves. We have had this in the past but not to the extent we had it in these last few months, the same groups were also going into businesses being disruptive and abusing staff and customers. I have spent a long-time collating picture and sending them to police so they can be identified. Due to this work this seems to have subsided during the school holidays, although we still have one group of individuals we are still working, fortunately they are known to police.

Shoplifting seems to be at an all-time high now with our food retailers being hit particularly badly, especially with meal deal type foods. I do pop in to as many shops as I can throughout the day, hoping to deter people from stealing, which works well when I am there, but unfortunately, I can't be everywhere all the time. I will be bringing this up at our next Joint Action Group as a concern.

Cycles and E-scooters remain at summertime levels most individuals will get off when I ask them to, but you still get the occasional one who will either, argue with you, abuse you or just ignore you and carry on cycling.

Graffiti has subsided a bit compared to how bad it has been, I strongly suspect that this is down to the quick removal of the graffiti by the removal team that is having an impact on this behaviour.

I continue to engage with our rough sleepers and street community, trying to identify any new rough sleepers in the city and ensuring they engage with our Outreach Team and the hub. We have received concerns about ASB of certain individuals from our street community by Eastgate Square, I have raised this with police, and will also be doing this with the JAG too. Piers Taylor and I have popped into local businesses in the area and given words of advice as well as CCTV signage. I have also increased patrols in the area, but as usual everybody is always on good behaviour when I walk through.

The Avenue De Chartre had dropped off with ASB and graffiti which was mostly attributed to the school holidays, however this weekend it was quite significantly with graffiti and criminal damage, hopefully this is rather a blip on the radar than a trend.

Begging seems to be on and off we still have a few local beggars who are smart enough just to sit up somewhere without hats or cups out and let people come up to them to give them things, besides words of advice that is all I can do for that unfortunately.

Declan Moody

Senior Community Warden

29/08/2023

AGENDA ITEM 5a

Chichester Council Report

Chichester West September 2023

Here is a brief overview of the past couple of months:

- Many complaints from neighbours about ongoing litter/rubbish accumulating outside a particular address and waste bins not being used properly causing overflowing rubbish spilling onto pavement and road. After many months of following up and re-reporting to Environmental Protection, this issue is still ongoing unfortunately. Liaising with Environmental Protection.
- Issues with illegal encampments by travellers on two areas in Parklands. This caused a lot of disruption, ASB and concern for local residents. The local community were fantastic in helping litterpicking the green spaces after the travellers moved on.
- UK Harvest events attended weekly. Advice, help and support given to struggling households, homeless persons.
- Faulty streetlights and two incidents of flytipping reported.
- Assisted at a community fun day in Priory Park liaising with Revelation Church.
- Continue to be involved in a domestic abuse situation where I have been offering help, support and advice.
- I was delighted to be invited to an exhibition of art at Pallant House. This was part of their Community Programme for people with a range of support needs.
- Advice given to residents at Minerva Heights as to what steps to take to set up Neighbourhood Watch in that area.
- ASB reported to Hyde and Police.
- Day of Action at Fishbourne in conjunction with Police and other agencies. As well as practical help such as litter picks, I was able to have positive interaction with many local residents.
- Issues with an isolated property where a group of people have taken up residence in the garage. Police and Homeless Outreach contacted.
- Welfare visits, particularly to a very elderly resident who lives alone and has been housebound for 6 months whilst waiting for an operation.
- Neighbour dispute, info sent to Hyde.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sue Long

Community Warden for Chichester West

AGENDA ITEM 5a

Community Warden report for Ch East & Whyke August 2023

Hi all, we hope you're having a great summer.

Overall, things have been relatively quiet recently, we suspect this may be due to the weather. Swanfield had their fun day and even though they had to operate from inside the Community Centre, the event was well attended.

Florence Park Play day was a big hit once again. It was great to see the sunshine and so many families enjoying the event.

The Whyke Estate is holding their fun day on 26th fingers crossed the weather holds out for them.

Swanfield Park.

We carried out a litter pick around the green and amongst the items collected were an extra-large 640g bottle of NOS, empty drug snap bags, cigarette ends, and a condom wrapper.

We had a call from a resident in Stephens Close that believe their neighbour has scratched their car. The neighbour has also shouted at his wife. They have asked our advice on CCTV. We have also told them to start logging any incidents and to involve the Police.

Arundel Park.

The planters which have been installed in Charles Ave are still sitting empty. Soil is required, we have tried to encourage the resident's group to approach various companies and put the word out on social media etc.

A resident in Charles Ave has been contacting us regarding an address which young people are attending day and night. Resident believes it to be drug related. We have advised them to contact the Police due to the ages of some of the young people that are attending the property late at night.

We had a call from a distressed lady complaining about sex noises from her neighbours at all hours of the day and night. Advice was given and the ASB team are now involved.

Florence Park.

The Cafe has re-opened and the tenant asked us to pop by. The owner of Julies Cafe was given the impression (by an RSL) that we were a Police type of organisation. So, we spent some time managing her expectations. Julie is trying to establish the business and register it as a 'safe place' for vulnerable people to come to in times of need.

Graylingwell.

This on our list of places to pay a passing interest to. Recently there were complaints about, people playing basketball in a communal car park, and incidents of dog fouling. We will monitor and advise any wrongdoers.

Whyke.

ASB has seen an increase due to School holidays. We've also had multiple complainants over the last couple of months. After a little investigation we discovered it all comes back to the same person. We found out whilst talking to a

AGENDA ITEM 5a

lady who was complaining to us, about some of the residents in 'HER' street. It transpires that the lady believes it is her street and she has the right to tell people how to live their lives including where they put their bins, what they are allowed to have in their gardens, where they can park etc. The lady has caused a lot of tension and she has made threats of reporting people that don't bend to her will. We gave the lady some 'advice' and as she is due to move soon, we won't pursue the matter. We suspect the other residents may throw a party when she leaves. A lady was verbally abused on the canal tow path we will monitor the area as/when time allows.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Carol McClung 07776 435506

Jon Logan 07768 207868

AGENDA ITEM 6



Friends of Chartres report for Community Affairs committee meeting 4th September 2023

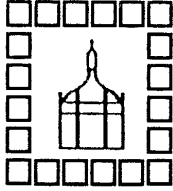
Our Four Cities event took place on 26th June in the Assembly Room, when, as part of the Festival of Chichester, the joint twinning associations held 'An Evening with Author Simon Brett' in the Assembly Room. Simon is a most entertaining performer. And this was amply proved on the day. He entertained a sold-out audience with some most interesting, humorous and at times risqué anecdotes, performed in an easy and friendly way. After this performance audience and speaker met together over nibbles and wine from France, Italy and Malta. For the first time, Speyer took part, although this year simply with a table advertising their existence and inviting any interest from the audience.

On 15th July, the Friends held their annual Friends of Chartres Garden Party in the garden of vice-chairman Michael Bevis. This proved a most convivial occasion, on a lovely sunny day, and members brought food to share, all of which was delicious. The Mayor and Mayoress attended.

If any City Councillors want to know more about any of the twinings, all of which have been officially signed by the Mayor of the day, please make contact with one or more of the Associations.

Anne Scicluna

Chairman, Friends of Chartres



FRIENDS OF RAVENNA

CHICHESTER

Friends of Ravenna Report for the Chichester Community Affairs meeting on Monday, 4th September 2023

Programme of Events

We concluded our programme for this year on 12th June with our AGM, presided over by Mayor Craig Gerschater.

We participated in a very successful and well attended '4 Cities' event on 26th June.

We have some interesting talks before Christmas: Canon Ruddock sharing about life in the Vatican, John Foot speaking on the rise and fall of fascism in Italy and Greg Volato talking about design in the world of Italian transport (think Lamborghini!) At Christmas we have arranged for Italian opera to be part of our celebration.

Visit by the Ravennati

We will welcome 10 guests from Ravenna and they will be with us from 4-8 October and we will be venturing to Brighton, visiting Fishbourne Palace and Bignor Roman Villa as well as fitting in a tour of the city, cathedral and Philip Jackson's studio. Meals are planned at Chichester College (Line 64 restaurant), the community led pub in Cocking, The Bluebell Inn and Westhampnett Hall where a community choir will entertain us after a buffet supper.

The Mayor of Ravenna wrote a lovely letter expressing gratitude for the very real support and friendship shown by Friends of Ravenna in sending a financial gift when their own city experienced the devastating floods earlier this year.

Other developments

There are plans to make available digitally all the information gathered on mosaics in a project of collaboration between Ravenna and Fishbourne.

There has been an increase in the membership of Friends of Chichester after a lecture given in Ravenna relating to Fishbourne Palace and Bignor. This generated a good deal of interest.

It seems that finally a site has been found for the Dante sculpture by Philip Jackson. It will be installed in an area close to South Pond in Midhurst. Date tba!

Membership: 163

**Jacky Storey
Chair Friends of Ravenna**

AGENDA ITEM 6



Friends of Speyer report for Community Affairs committee meeting 4th September 2023

Our Association is still very young and in its infancy. However, we are gaining members and the Steering Committee will soon be holding a General Meeting to elect a more permanent committee.

It was lovely to meet with the very large group from Speyer in early August, when more than forty came to Chichester during a trip to the south of England. They spent several days in our city, staying at the Ship Hotel (now the Harbour Hotel), and many of our association were able to meet with them at the George and Dragon, which was absolutely packed on the evening. During this time we were able to form a number of new friendships. The Mayor held a Civic Reception on the following day, before they all departed for Stonehenge.

The first link has already been made, as our local Queen's Regimental Association has been in contact with a sister organisation in Speyer, and a visit is to be made in the next few months. This is good news.

We took part in the Four Cities event in June, albeit without this year providing German food or wine, but taking a table to advertise the new association. Next year we hope to take a full part in this event.

Sadly we have to report that our inaugural chairman and creator of the link, Rob Campling, who has driven us forward for the past couple of years, has had to resign as chairman due to ill health. We thank him for all the tremendous work he has put into this twinning. While we know that he will still be intensely interested in our activities, we feel we must bring the projected General Meeting forward, so as to form the permanent elected committee. This is being set up and will take place within the next few weeks, as soon as we can find a venue and send out the required papers to our members.

If any City Councillors want to know more about any of the twinings, all of which have been officially signed by the Mayor of the day, please make contact with one or more of the Associations.

Anne Scicluna

Vice Chairman - Friends of Speyer

AGENDA ITEM 6

Friends of Valletta

Report to Community Affairs Committee



September 2023

Past Events

The cast of the musical about an RAF pilot and a Dancer in WWII entitled “Star of Strait Street” arrived from Valletta on the 16 June and a programme was arranged to show them around the city and local places of interest.

The performance of the musical was held in the Assembly Room in support of the Festival on 19 June and was much enjoyed and very well supported.

The annual Garden Party at my house, previously planned for July, was brought forward to Sunday afternoon 18 June so the cast, and our members had the opportunity to meet informally. We were pleased that the Mayor was also able to attend and meet the visitors.

The Four Cities event in support of the Festival of Chichester was held on Monday 26 June in the Assembly Room to a full house at 7.30 pm when Simon Brett was the guest speaker. As on previous occasions after the talk the guests enjoyed wines and canapés from Chartres, Ravenna and Valletta.

Future Programme

Our annual dinner will be at Chichester Park Hotel on Thursday 7 September to mark Malta’s National Holiday.

Francis Dickinson is giving a talk in the Assembly Room on Thursday 12 October at 7 pm about the famous submarine HMS Urge which was based in Malta in WWII.

The AGM will be held in the Council Chamber on November 28 at 7pm followed by a short talk by David Vassallo.

A Christmas Social evening in the Tudor Room at the Bishops Palace is being arranged for December.

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

The programme of events for 2024 is currently being prepared.

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.

Graham Pound
Chairman, Friends of Valletta.

Report to: Chichester City Council - Community Affairs
for its Meeting on Monday 4th September 2023

From: Paula Chatfield, Chair of Chichester Tree Wardens

Date: 28th August 2023

Since we last reported (29th May 2023), Chichester Tree Wardens' volunteer activities to promote trees and encourage protection of and planting trees include:

- Providing Chichester Festival Theatre staff with resources to use as part of their participation in Big Green Week (10th to 18th June).
- Weekly group tree recording for our [ChiTrees project](#). Locations include completing the inventory for New Park recreation ground; Via Ravenna (where accessible - north side only); vicinity of Avenue de Chartres multi-storey car park; and Whyke Road.
- Hosting "Art in the Park: Celebrating Chichester's Trees" with local artist Fiona Bell Currie and sculptor Sue Machado as part of the Festival of Chichester on Thursday 6th July in Bishop's Palace Garden. What were intended to be "mini Tree Trails" turned into a full day of tree conversations with around 20 different people enthusiastically discussing both the trees in the Garden and trees where they live or have visited. Our visitors were a mix of locals (new and old) and tourists, all eager to appreciate and learn more about trees.
- Creating a new webpage on our website for [Bishop's Palace Garden](#), where you can download to print (or read on screen) the list of trees. A history page is set to follow. This was prioritised as a direct result of the interest shown at the Art in the Park event.
- Responding to planning applications as and when we are able. One of particular note is the developer's insistence it should not be required to provide a line of 40 trees alongside Kingsmead Avenue, despite the intention for this road to be tree-lined having been sustained in applications and consents for over 20 years. Our objection on 20th July 2023 coincided with CCC's own objection (both can be read [here](#); and it seems we will need to rebut the agent's correspondence dated 2nd August).
- A [new webpage](#) under development specifically to support schools and our future work with them.
- A partially successful [Freedom of Information request](#) to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, answered by the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology, about how trees, and space for future trees, were considered in what turns out to be known as "Building Digital UK". From the answers given, it's looking highly likely that space for future street trees was NOT considered, although this is not said and it is not clear where we go from here if we wish to pin this down. As it stands, the roll-out of telecoms cabling across Chichester (first Virgin, then CityFibre) will mean fewer spaces suitable for tree-planting, when the need/funds for this are found. Our research did find [guidance from the Association of Tree Officers](#) published in October 2022 in relation to installing telecoms and existing trees.

Tree watering

The necessity to water young trees continues (ideally 50 litres per week). Although we have had some grey days in July and August, rain has tended to be infrequent and not prolonged and both heat and wind are drying. WSCC's young tree maintenance contractors made their routine annual visit to street trees in early July; this will be their last to the 2020-planted trees.

ChiTrees – helping Chichester understand the value of its urban trees

Our ChiTrees project was featured in St Paul's Church's July/August newsletter, which you can read [here](#) (pages 12-13). Its churchyard trees, we understand managed by CCC under the process for looking after churchyards no longer used for burials, were estimated to:

- store over 24 tonnes of carbon;
- remove a further 620kg of carbon each year;
- intercept 195m³ of water each year, avoiding 37m³ run-off; and
- improve air quality by trapping 4.5kg pollutants each year,

as well as improving health and wellbeing and biodiversity and providing a culturally appropriate setting for the church and churchyard.

Chichester Tree Wardens' Strategy Review

At our August 2023 meeting, we reviewed and updated our Strategy and were pleased to move several of our "what we would like to do" items to the "what we do" list. It is a useful touchstone against which to measure new ideas and progress with existing projects. You can find it [here](#).

Chichester's Champion Trees

[The Tree Register](#) (TROBI) records the largest and tallest trees of their type in Britain and Ireland, known as "champion" trees. Bishop's Palace Garden has two Britain and Ireland champions (one, bred by retired Chichester Tree Warden Nigel Muir, who died in 2018, may be the only one of its kind). The Register lists 7 other County champions (in girth or girth and height) in the Garden and 2 more trees as "remarkable". Nigel lived at 27 The Broadway and his home has a further 5 trees listed on the Register, all of which are thought to have been felled as a result of the property being marketed and recently changing hands.

TROBI is a charity which requires a subscription to access its records. If it will give us permission, we would like to increase the visibility of its Chichester entries by featuring them on our website. Other champion trees are:

- Jubilee Gardens – 1;
- North Walls – 1;
- Oaklands Park - 3, although the fantastic cloned wych elm 'Camperdown' alongside the tennis courts looks to be in trouble this year;
- Orchard Avenue - a specialist ginkgo collection listed at a private residence (we've yet to check it still exists);
- Quarry Lane/Spur Road - a special lime tree at the corner in the yard of the Tile Warehouse (apparently another Nigel Muir-bred tree);
- The Hornet - a 'remarkable' magnolia in a back garden;
- Tower Close - a Girth County Champion Paulownia in the lawn.

Coming Up

In addition to sustaining our routine activities, we are waiting on:

- CDC's announcement of what form its [Trees Outside Woodland](#) project will take for the upcoming tree planting season, expected in September;
- Contact from the managing agent for Minerva Heights in relation to taking forward our hopes to establish a Community Tree Nursery there.

New Chichester Tree Wardens

We are pleased to welcome two new volunteer Tree Wardens to our ranks. Fiona Bell Currie and Zoe FitzGerald-Beckett are enthusiastic additions to our team, bringing our number up to 11.

With best wishes,

Paula (tel. 07788 140698; email paula@parklands-chichester.org)