

AGENDA ITEM 14

Report from: Chichester West City and District Councillor Sarah Quail

To: Chichester City Council Meeting 27 September 2023

On: Matters of General Interest

Travellers

In the absence of my fellow-District Councillor, Councillor Clare Apel, who will be away for this meeting, I need to report that there have been at least three incursions by travellers in Parklands over the summer.

Due process followed, organised by Chichester District Council (CDC), and they moved on. Unfortunately, in one instance, the travellers moved only as far as the north end of Sherborne Road where they intimidated residents.

However, as I said above, due process was followed, and they moved on. Unfortunately, they left an awful lot of litter including evidence of drug use in their wake, but CDC were quick to clear up after them and indeed, worked over the Bank Holiday weekend.

CDC has pledged to construct bunds round the Green which will resemble the bunds round the green spaces on the East Broyle Estate.

Southern Access Road (SAR)

We are still waiting for news about when the White House Farm (WHF) Phase 2 Planning Application will be considered by CDC's Planning Committee. It is worth repeating here that the current works on both Westgate and Sherborne Road are part and parcel of the Phase 1 WHF mitigation.

This has involved changes to the junction at the southern end of Sherborne Road and works on Westgate have involved the removal of several of the planters. In due course, the pink paving in the Narrows will also be repaired.

The final part of the Phase 1 WHF mitigation will be the installation of the 'Dutch' roundabout at the east end of Westgate which has been designed to make it much easier for cyclists to negotiate this junction with West Street, Orchard Street and the Avenue de Chartres. This work is scheduled to begin in October 2023.

Parklands and Westgate residents were also invited by West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) to look at proposals for the improvement of cycling and

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walking provision on Westgate and in Fishbourne Road East. The exhibition took place on 3 July 2023 and residents were encouraged to complete WSCC's online survey on the subject. On the basis of the replies they received to their survey, WSCC opted to pursue further the practicalities of a two-way cycle lane running on the north side of the carriage-way on Fishbourne Road East and also, the possibility of restricting traffic in the Narrows to buses, emergency vehicles and residents.

At the last meeting of CDC's Cabinet on 5 September 2023, Cabinet Members agreed to support these endeavours.

Chichester Park Hotel

You will have read in the *Chichester Observer* that the Home Office is considering using the Chichester Park Hotel as temporary accommodation to house asylum-seekers.

At the moment, it is not clear whether they will be single people or families. Due to the rise in the numbers of people seeking asylum in this country and the volume of applications needing to be processed hotels and other types of accommodation are being used across the country as additional accommodation.

Chichester has a well-deserved reputation for welcoming those fleeing their homelands and we can only hope that these people will be welcomed as well.

As you know, CDC has issued a number of frequently asked questions (FAQs) and we have been given copies of those questions.