

City centre Community Wardens report August 2024

With the hotter weather the cities populous has increased as expected with visitors here for their holidays. As always with warmer weather anti-social behaviour increases mainly there seems to be more frequent gatherings of the street community in certain areas of the city mainly Eastgate Square and the Cathedral Green. I spend a lot of my day targeting problem areas and highlighting theses areas and offending individuals to the police. There has been a drop however of student age related anti-social behaviour in most part in the city, probably due to the school holidays. Although we have had quite a few incidents of criminal damage in Priory Park toilets which we are monitoring and have been reported to the police.

Cycling in prohibited areas in the city remains a constant, it seems lower in average and a drop in E-scooters as well. Although we have had appearances of electric motorbikes which are clearly been ridden illegally, I have reported these instances to police immediately.

The multi-storey car park is still getting sporadic incidents of vandalism and graffiti, but at the moment the smoking of cannabis in the area has dropped significantly due to the summer holidays.

Shop lifting remains an issue in the city, a lot of shops are now increasing security measures especially updating CCTV in their shops which seems to be having an impact, however even with a lot of encouragement from myself and other agencies, there still seems to be a lot of under reporting of these thefts to the police, which means the police are unaware how much thefts go on a daily basis.

Rough sleeping, begging and graffiti has been quite low at the moment compared to previous months.

Declan Moody – Senior Community Warden

16th August 2024

Chichester City Council Report Chichester

West August 2024

It has been a busy few months, but here is a brief overview:

- Various events/fundraising attended in the community – Residents Association, local churches, community get togethers etc.
- Quite a few training/refresher courses completed – including dementia awareness, conflict resolution, countering radical extremism.
- Assisting with General Election vote counts, both postal and overnight.
- Four ongoing neighbour disputes involving anti-social behaviour, noise, environmental problems, housing. I am offering support and welfare checks.
- UK Harvest events attended giving advice, help and support to struggling households. Help with cost of living advice and signposting to various agencies. UK Harvest have recently changed from weekly to fortnightly, but the Residents Association and I are trialling a 'drop in' social event on the weeks the Pantry doesn't run to enable residents to still get together for refreshments and social interaction. This will run until the end of September to see how it goes.
- Talks on the latest scams and advice about cycling rules through the pedestrian areas of Chichester.
- Numerous faulty streetlights, pot holes and grafitti reported for removing.
- Welfare visits to elderly residents who have been in hospital/waiting for operations. Welfare visits to disabled resident. Helped an elderly lady to complete an extremely long and complex Attendance Allowance application.
- Other issues dealt with – illegal parking, advice given to a resident (not in my area but who called me) about noisy neighbours and untidy front gardens filled with broken children's toys and gazebo equipment. Advice about food banks. Problems and complaints about increased numbers of electric scooters on the roads and pavements. Traveller incursions.
- Once a week cover for Bracklesham and East/West Wittering. Assistance given with two lost dogs, advice on abandoned vehicles, advice on neighbour problems and rubbish. Reassuring and explaining to as many people as I could about what to do/who to contact now their Community Warden has sadly passed away. I will be continuing this until further notice.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sue Long

Community Warden for Chichester West

Chichester City Council Report August 2024 Chichester East and South

Across the area we have dealt with and received reports of the following:

ASB - Vandalism of the trees and planters in Swanfield Park area, also fights between groups of young people.

Vandalism of street furniture damage, swearing and rudeness to residents by young children on the Whyke estate.

Nuisance motorbikes and verbal abuse to residents in Grailingwell.

Drugs issues on the Arundel Park estate, including dealing. Also, the same in Elizabeth Road.

A fairly large amount of fly tipping around the area in recent weeks, removed by us. Several lots of fly tipped lounge suites left at the fronts of properties, being removed with the help of the Hyde Martlett housing officer for the area.

Graffiti is also on the up.

We sadly lost our colleague Drew Allardice and we are all doing what we can to cover his area of Bracklesham and The Witterings.

Other incidents of note include:

Abandoned cars x 3

Wasps nest at the side of a footpath dealt with.

Elderly lady feeling ill while walking home, called family and stayed with her until they came for her.

An abandoned cycle collected.

Travellers causing a noise nuisance.

Dog left in car in a hot car park, owner sought out and advice given.

We attended the Fun Day on Swanfield Park and the Play Day on Florence Park which was very well attended.

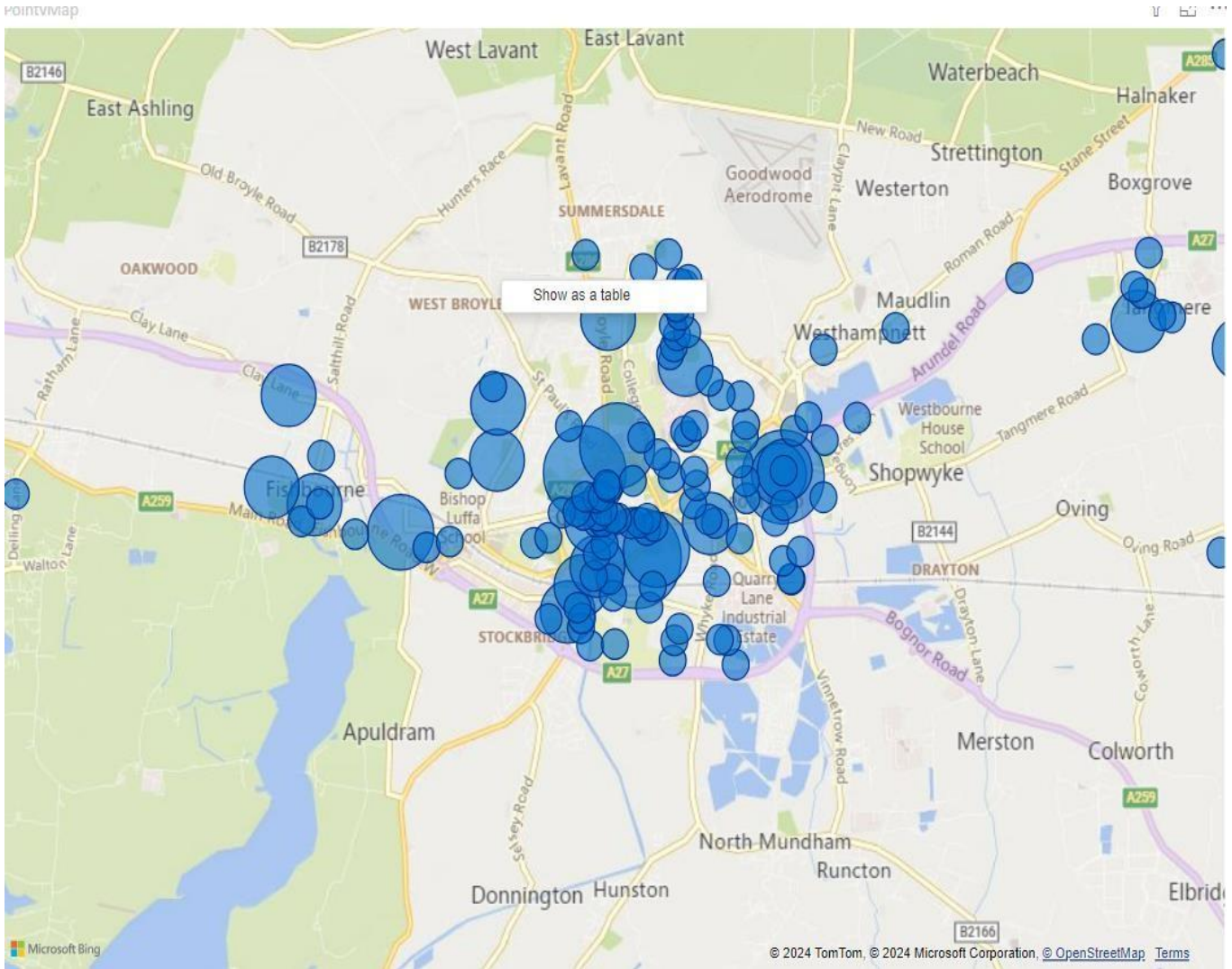
Grailingwell Church hub regularly visited and separately the food bank, attended to speak to residents.

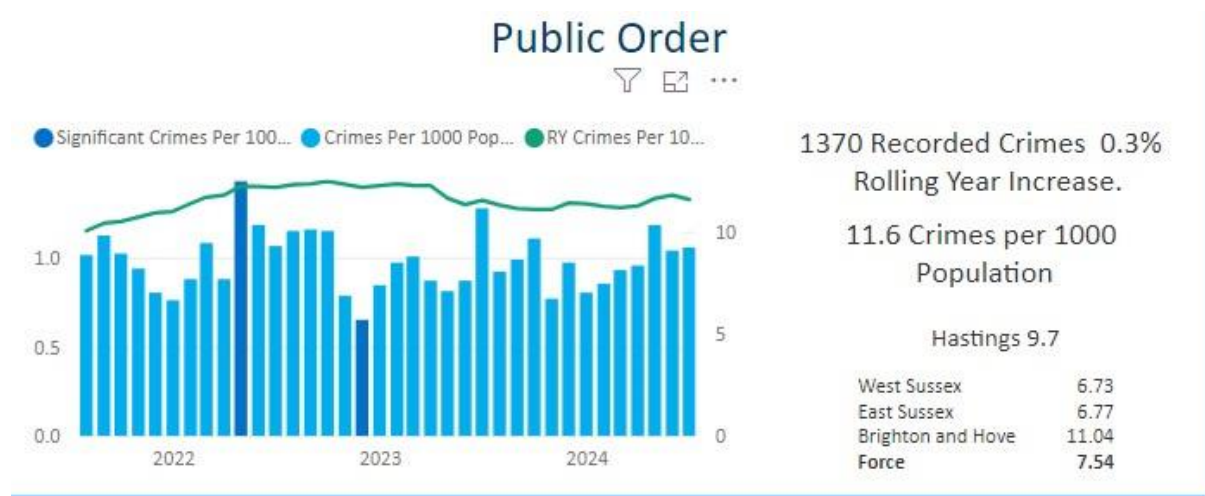
A rough sleeper spoken too and referred on for help.

Thank you for your support as always.

Carol McClung 07776435506

Jon Logan 07768207868

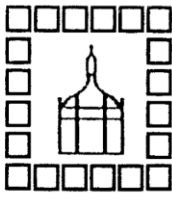




7 Day Volume		
Parish or Ward	District	Volume
Chichester East District Ward	Chichester	16
East Wittering	Chichester	2
Fishbourne	Chichester	1
Funtington	Chichester	1
Hunston	Chichester	1
Lurgashall	Chichester	1
Midhurst	Chichester	1
Petworth	Chichester	1
Sidlesham	Chichester	1
Southbourne	Chichester	2
Tangmere	Chichester	2
Westbourne	Chichester	1
Total		30

7 Day Increase		
Parish or Ward	District	Increase
Chichester East District Ward	Chichester	-1
East Wittering	Chichester	2
Fishbourne	Chichester	0
Funtington	Chichester	1
Hunston	Chichester	1
Lurgashall	Chichester	1
Midhurst	Chichester	0
Petworth	Chichester	1
Plaistow	Chichester	-1
Selsey North	Chichester	-3
Sidlesham	Chichester	-1
Southbourne	Chichester	-2
Stopham	Chichester	-1
Tangmere	Chichester	2
Trotton with Chithurst	Chichester	-1
West Wittering	Chichester	-1
Westbourne	Chichester	0
Westhampnett	Chichester	-1
Total		-4

7 Day Percentage Increase		
Parish or Ward	District	% Increase
East Wittering	Chichester	200.0%
Tangmere	Chichester	200.0%
Funtington	Chichester	100.0%
Hunston	Chichester	100.0%
Lurgashall	Chichester	100.0%
Petworth	Chichester	100.0%
Fishbourne	Chichester	0.0%
Midhurst	Chichester	0.0%
Westbourne	Chichester	0.0%
Chichester East District Ward	Chichester	-5.9%
Sidlesham	Chichester	-50.0%
Southbourne	Chichester	-50.0%
Plaistow	Chichester	-100.0%
Selsey North	Chichester	-100.0%
Stopham	Chichester	-100.0%
Trotton with Chithurst	Chichester	-100.0%
West Wittering	Chichester	-100.0%
Westhampnett	Chichester	-100.0%
Total		-11.8%



Friends of Ravenna Report for the Chichester Community Affairs meeting on Monday 2 September 2024

Programme of Events 2023- 24

The AGM was held on 13th June. Members agreed to changing the annual membership period so that it runs from 1 July of one year to 30 June of the following year and also to changing to individual membership rather than single / family membership. We participated in the annual '4 Cities' event on Monday, 24th June, a very successful evening with guest speaker Tom Brown, Head Gardener at West Dean Gardens. The Chichester Gala on Saturday, 29th August was a great venture with all 4 twinning organisations presenting together their part in making Chichester a "Europe-facing" city. Many stopped to learn about what we do, participated in the games / puzzles provided and took away copies of our magazines and the well-presented leaflet on twinning in Chichester. The weather helped!

Programme of Events 2024-25

The Programme Card for the year starting in September 2024 has gone out to Members and we are looking forward to welcoming speakers to talk about travel, music, art, films, science, design and sport. At our first meeting on Monday, 9th September we will have the honour of hosting the Amici di Chichester's President, Livia Caprara.

Developments

The planned **music exchange** took at the end of July. Six students accompanied by Jon Grave (Chichester University) were very warmly welcomed in Ravenna. Feedback from the participating students and from Jon Grave was extremely positive. Their generous and enthusiastic Italian hosts made the visit very special and plans are already afoot for a reciprocal music exchange to Chichester in 2025, possibly in June.

Plans for the installation of Philip Jackson's sculpture of Dante ('**Dante Searching for Paradise**') on Wednesday, 11th September are in the final stages! Guests at the ceremony will include Hugh Bonneville, Livia Caprara (President of Amici di Chichester), the Headmaster, Head Boy and Head Girl of Midhurst Rother College, author Greta Sykes and a representative of the Italian Cultural Institute in London and of course members of Midhurst Town Council, The Midhurst Society and Friends of Ravenna who are all acknowledged as contributors to the project.

Our **twinning trip** to Ravenna will take place this time 18-22 September when 15 of us will visit the city, many of us for the first time.

As one of the outcomes of the Dante Project, a short course on Italian Language & Culture will be available at Midhurst Rother College. Conversations during the Chichester Gala and in other settings would seem to indicate that some kind of interaction with **schools in Chichester** would be welcomed, scoping the work of twinning (Chartres, Ravenna, Speyer & Valletta) and envisioning the younger generation.

Membership 190

Jacky Storey

Chair Friends of Ravenna

Chichester City Council Community Affairs Committee

Friends of Speyer report

Since my last report, the Friends of Speyer were involved with two major events in July along with the Friends of Chartres, Ravenna and Valletta, namely the Four Cities event with guest speaker Tom Brown, Head Gardener of West Dean and the excellent City Gala held on a lovely day in Priory Park.

Both were splendid occasions enabling the showcasing of the Twinning organisations to be displayed to good advantage. The Friends of Speyer express our thanks to the City Council for organising a super Gala event and we are very conscious of how much advance preparation of such events is needed and the organisational challenges en route. There was universal agreement that the 'European Village' concept worked really well and can be consolidated in future years.

At present, our membership stands around the 80 mark (we are chasing up some non payers and we have some interest post the two July events).

We have now ramped up publicity about the Friends of Speyer in the Chichester Observer with a news article and an item in the Clubs and Societies section of the newspaper. We have an excellent website developed by Sarah Martin and her husband, and have established our Facebook page. I send a very warm thank you to all those involved who have achieved so much in a short time.

Our Executive Committee on 12th August was lively and productive. A number of good suggestions have been made for what I regard as 'Phase 2' of our operations. These ideas includes concerts, guest speakers, a film evening and a variety of social events. Sporting links are always a popular topic and it is hoped to develop these working in collaboration with our other City twinning partners. Developing links with local schools is still a somewhat of an uphill challenge.

As previously mentioned, a strong link with Chichester and Speyer Rotary Clubs has been established. The Queen's Regimental Association has forged links with German ex service colleagues and is planning a trip to Speyer.

It is encouraging to report that our Artist in Residence, Laura Buckle has her first exhibition in Speyer during late August and early September. Her exhibition is a mixture of art and ecology and exploring the local landscape through soft sculptures, plant sculptures and she has involved the local community in her work.

Our next major event will be in November and early December with a long weekend in Speyer. This visit will be a mix of visits, social events and business meetings. Upon return, we will publish Edition 2 of our Newsletter.

Rodney Duggua
Chairman
Friends of Speyer

14 August 2024

Friends of Valletta

Report to Community Affairs Committee

August 2024



Past Events

In May, Patrick Calleja, Executive President of Din L-Art Helwa, (Malta's National Trust), gave a Zoom talk on their work in restoring and caring for Malta's heritage.

The Four Cities event in June in support of the Festival of Chichester when Tom Brown, Head Gardener at West Dean was "in conversation with Phil Hewitt" was a great success with 130 people attending.

The Friends also had a stall at the Gala in Priory Park in June when the four twinning associations had the opportunity to talk about their programmes and events, and perhaps recruit new members.

During the visit to Valletta last October, we contacted both St Paul's Anglican Cathedral and St John's Co Cathedral to explore the possibility of establishing ecclesiastical links between the Cathedrals in Valletta and Chichester, and in July David Wright, Chancellor of St Paul's, gave a most interesting Zoom talk on his Cathedral.

Also, in July we held the annual Friends Garden Party in our garden and were lucky with a fine sunny day.

Future Programme

The Annual Dinner will be held at the College restaurant on Thursday 24 October 2024 at 6 pm.

On Saturday 7 December at 2 pm in the Council Chamber, Jo Tyndale-Biscoe will give a talk on the latest update on the restoration of the Villa Frere Garden, and as with all talks it will be recorded and put onto the website.

The AGM will be held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 3 December 2024 at 7 pm.

On Monday 20 January 2025 at 7 pm Susan Hudson, who has written several books on the subject, will give a Zoom talk on Wartime Bomb Disposal in Malta. Donations will go to the Felix Fund (bomb disposal charity).

General

Unfortunately, due to ill health Lindy Purchase has resigned from the Committee, but we are very pleased to welcome Canon David Nason who has joined us.

Graham Pound
Chairman



Report to: Chichester City Council - Community Affairs
for its Meeting on Monday 2nd September 2024

From: Paula Chatfield, Chair of Chichester Tree Wardens

Date: 22nd August 2024

Since we last reported (27th May 2024), Chichester Tree Wardens' volunteer activities to promote trees and encourage protection of and planting trees include:

- A regular watering regime has been established with **Parklands** Residents' Association to ensure the community's trees at Sherborne Road recreation ground (planted 1st March 2024) are given the care they need to thrive. PRA's volunteer tree-watering team, supported by having access to CDC's water supply at the changing pavilion, gives confidence that these young trees will establish well.
- We supported Friends of **St Mary's Churchyard's** Family and Community Day on Saturday 8th June as part of Love Your Burial Ground Week, providing a stall with tree-related information and a Tree Spotters' Challenge, based on observation of and research into the trees in this churchyard off Whyke Road.
- Our **Art in the Park** event on 4th July at Oaklands Park saw a steady trickle of visitors to, and conversation at, our information stall, alongside Fiona Bell Currie's art workshop, as part of the Festival of Chichester, and a mini tree trail through the community orchard. The event was sponsored by Fiona, and venue thanks to permission from Chichester Festival Theatre.
- Also part of the Festival, **Explore Trees** (in Priory Park) on 10th July was fully booked, although it clashed with England's football semi-final and actual attendance was a mixture of booked places and people who turned up. Over 20 people were divided into 2 groups to look at and talk about trees, mostly from the vantage point of the City walls, during an early evening walk lasting just over an hour. Attendees were a mixture of locals and visitors, and we are grateful to Chichester Quakers for sponsoring this event, including the use of the Friends Meeting House. We found the format worked well and hope to offer more tree walk-and-talk events in different parts of the city next year.
- We have been involved with tree planting discussions for **Florence Park** with CDC and a keen member of the public, hoping to take advantage of CDC's work with DEFRA on [tree planting schemes](#).
- Progress with our [ChiTrees](#) tree recording project has been slow, as volunteer time has been constrained. We will do what we can.
- We have not yet received the updated **Chichester City Centre Tree Trail** from WSCC for printing. A further tree on the Trail has been felled (Foxglove tree in Tower Close, TT28) and another is under threat (False Acacia, TT29, at WSCC's Northleigh House, Tower Street). We endeavour to review and comment on all Trees in a Conservation Area Notices, through the Chichester Conservation

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Area Advisory Committee, but the system can do nothing to require replacement trees to be planted, and will not require trees to be retained when their stability is in doubt.

- A **site compound** for road works connected to Phase 1 development at Whitehouse Farm has been established on Prebendal School's playing fields. It falls outside of both WSCC highway approval and CDC planning approval systems and risks damage to the root systems of trees bordering the compound on its north and west. CDC has been asked to make a Tree Preservation Order; if it does so, at least replacement trees could be required, if these trees decline and fail.

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- The steady trickle of "I'm worried about this tree"/"do you know what's happening with this tree?"/"can you help with?" type communications continues from people who've become aware we exist through our various outreach activities, including social media, website and events/publicity. Whilst it is great to be made aware, we also try to equip people to follow up concerns and interests for themselves. To this end, we now have a "**Useful Links**" A5 flyer and [web page](#).

Pests and Diseases

- The oldest tree in [Bishops Palace Garden](#), a circa 350-year-old box tree on the City Walls above Avenue de Chartres, was seen to have been defoliated by **box moth**. We contacted CDC, as Garden managers, and volunteer experts from the [European Boxwood and Topiary Society](#) to help consider a long-term strategy for this tree. The likely prognosis is that it will be felled, whilst the wood remains in good condition so that the timber can be celebrated through use for high-end musical instruments (recorders). CDC currently treats the c15-year-old box hedges in the Garden for the moth, but with several broods per year, may need to consider replacing them with a different plant.
- [Dutch elm disease](#) flares up every 20 years or so, with the disease-carrying elm bark beetle attracted to trees only when they reach a certain stature. In this latest outbreak, we can see dead elms in local hedgerows, e.g. alongside Westgate (western end), St Paul's Road, Terminus Road, Quarry Lane, and even at Northgate car park. These trees regenerate from suckers produced by their roots, so it's important to manage the land around them to let the next generation of trees grow.
- Anecdotally, a wider variety of trees than usual seem to be showing **stress** this year than in previous years, and we don't know why. Planes seem to have recovered well after losing their first flush of leaves to cold; the canopies of ash trees in Chichester are generally not looking as bad as feared when ash dieback first emerged; but a scattering of prunus and hawthorn trees have lost their leaves, bringing their survival into doubt. In Priory Park, both a mature cedar and a newly planted one are looking sick. At Rew Lane, one of the protected Redwoods seems to have died. Unpredictable weather patterns may be part of the cause, but it reminds us that trees are living things, relying both on their above ground and below ground structures to thrive, and more prone to ailments when stressed. We will look out for explanations of what is happening in our efforts to spot risks and opportunities for the city.

Coming Up

We have been invited to the screening of "**Heart of an Oak**" at Chichester Cinema at New Park on Monday evening, 9th September to answer questions in the bar afterwards on local trees and how to help with their preservation. Details of the film/how to book can be found [here](#). It is part of a "Greener

Agenda Item 8

Screen” series that is a collaboration between Transition Chichester and the Cinema to showcase environmental themes through film.

Finally, it is with great sadness I report the death of one of our newest volunteers, Zoe FitzGeraldBeckett. I have also received the resignation of longstanding Chichester Tree Warden, Geoff King, who is taking the difficult decision to step back from many of his commitments. News of both was received this week, and we will be taking time to reflect on how we celebrate, record and thank our volunteers for their contributions.

With best wishes,

Paula

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

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Chichester City Council

Volunteer Recruitment Fair – Saturday 8 June 2024

Chichester City Council in conjunction VAAC held a Recruitment Fair in the Assembly Rooms on Saturday 8 June 2024. 35 organisations showcased the important work they do for the community, and this was a fantastic opportunity for potential volunteers to learn more and sign up for positions.

Organisations also had the opportunity to network and build relationships with fellow local groups.

Despite low footfall in the city centre on the day, organisers and visitors were extremely thankful for the event and found it to be both worthwhile and useful.



Chichester City Council

MEMBERSHIP OF OUTSIDE BODIES – 2023-2024

Body	Effective 01/07/2023	Period
Brandy Hole Copse Local Nature Reserve Management Board	Councillor Knight	to 30/06/2024
Chichester City Centre Partnership (BID) Invited to meetings	Councillor Vivian	to 30/06/2024
Chichester City Neighbourhood Plan	Councillors Corfield, Primas, Quail, Squire and Vivian	to 30/06/2024
Chichester City Public Realm Project Board	Councillor Pramas	to 30/06/2024
Chichester Conservation Area Advisory Committee	Councillor Anne Scicluna	to 30/06/2024
Chichester District Association of Local Councils Chichester Sub-District	Councillor Corfield	to 30/06/2024
Chichester District Car Parking Forum	Councillor Squire	to 30/06/2024
Chichester District Council All Parishes Meeting	Councillor Kondabeka	to 30/06/2024
Chichester in Partnership (formerly) Local Strategic Partnership (CDC)	Councillor Vivian	to 20/06/2024
Chichester Vision Steering Group	Councillor Vivian	to 30/06/2024
Chichester Welfare Trusts	Councillor Apel	to 30/06/2024
Evening and Night Time Economy Working Group (ENTE)	Councillor Knight	to 30/06/2024
Friends of Chartres Executive Committee	Mayor in Office as President Councillors Apel Councillor Scicluna	to 30/06/2024
Friends of Ravenna Executive Committee	Mayor in Office as President Councillor Scicluna Councillor Quail	to 30/06/2024
Friends of Speyer Executive Committee	Mayor in Office as President Councillor Scicluna Councillor Pramas	to 30/06/2024
Friends of Valletta Executive Committee	Mayor in Office as President Councillor Scicluna Councillor Chant	to 30/06/2024

Goodwood Airfield Consultative Committee	Councillor Moore	to 30/06/2024
Goodwood Motor Circuit Consultative Committee	Councillor C Gershater	to 30/06/2024
New Park Centre	Councillor J Gershater	to 30/06/2024
Oliver Whitby Foundation (C of E only)	Councillor Scicluna	to 30/06/2024
Oxmarket Centre of Arts	Councillor Miall	to 30/06/2024
Rolls Royce	Mayor in Office	
St John's Chapel Trust (a 3-year term)	Councillor Scicluna	to 30/06/2025
Sussex Community Rail Partnership Arun Valley Steering Group		to 30/06/2024
West Sussex Association of Local Councils (WSALC)	Councillor Apel	to 30/06/2024
Young People's Shop (formerly Chichester Information Shop for Young People)	Councillor Kondabeka	to 30/06/2024

Report to Committee Affairs – 2nd September 2024 Chichester Gala

The 2024 Gala was once again a great success with no major incidents or complaints and lots of compliments, all within budget.

The brief was to provide a fun family event that would provide something for all of the community to attend.

A comment received after the event sums this up:

What a day! You did a great job.. You and your team really pulled off a fantastic feat of organisation... and it was superb. The info given beforehand, set up and management on the day was essential to its success ... and success it was.

A comment received was - it didn't feel commercial it felt family. That's quite an accolade! In these times, when things are tough for many families, I'm so glad it was decided 'free entrance'. Lots of people could amble about, chat and have company without it costing the earth ... and I noticed that the children were happy... that's a really good achievement!

Thank you seems a bit of a small thing to say. There was a stamp of real love and care about it. WELL DONE!

Budget:

Expenses	Income	Balance
£ 21,585.05	£8,412.48	£13,172.57

Stallholders:

80 Commercial

80 Community/Charity

Then another 12 entertainment organisations.

Meetings were attended prior to the event to inform the Priory Park Society, and letters to all neighbours to the park. Plans were all well received.

This year saw a second half of the day with live music to wrap the day up.

Whilst this was well received, it added to long hours worked by staff long after we lost the light.

If this is to be considered again, a suggestion would be to have the music on the Friday night then the family fun day as normal on the Saturday. It is important to keep a good number of hours for the stallholders to make it worth their while.

Claire Adams