

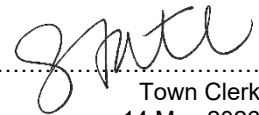


Chichester City Council

MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE

AGENDA

MEMBERS ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE TO BE HELD AT 10:30 ON THURSDAY 21 MAY 2026 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER



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Town Clerk
14 May 2026

CLSC2026/70.ELECTION OF THE CHAIR OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR 2026-2027

CLSC2026/71.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To note apologies, receive from members of the Committee prior to the meeting.

CLSC2026/72.DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest by Members of the Committee in matters on the agenda of this meeting.

CLSC2026/73.MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the ordinary committee meeting held on 19 February 2026.

CLSC2026/74.SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING TIMES

To agree the meeting start times for the Sub-Committee for the rest of the 2026-2027 Council year.

CLSC2026/75.TO NOTE REPORTS RECEIVED FROM COMMUNITY GROUPS

- Friends of Chartres
- Friends of Ravenna
- Friends of Speyer
- Friends of Valletta
- Chichester BID

- Community Wardens
- Chichester Tree Wardens
- Friends of Brandy Hole Copse

Reports attached and to follow.
For Information

CLSC2026/76.ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA
For Discussion

CLSC2026/77.DATE OF NEXT MEETING
Date of next ordinary meeting: Thursday 20 August 2026
For Information

[Chi East and South.docx](#)
[Chichester BID Ambassador Report April 2026.docx](#)
[Chichester TWs Report to CCC May 2026.pdf](#)
[FoC May 2026.docx](#)
[CCC Warden Report May 2026.docx](#)

Community Wardens Report

Chichester East and South

May 26

ASB

Whyke Oval new play park, A group of young teenagers had taken over the toddler park and were playing on the equipment, we had a report of this behaviour before, I believe they were trying to damage the new equipment. Advice given in no uncertain terms. No new reports so far and no actual damage done.

Reports of ASB in Canal Place and around the Basin area, a group of young teens again. We haven't caught anyone in the act so far but have done more patrols.

We are looking at an ASB case on the Parklands area, quite a complex case involving drug and alcohol abuse and a very vulnerable young man. Police involvement with this one.

This area was previously dealt with by Sue Long who has retired recently, we are doing some cover until her replacement is in place and up and running. She will be a hard act to follow and we miss her already.

There have been rumours circulating that a young boy, from our area was allegedly followed home and frightened by someone who might be residing at the Chichester Park Hotel. We are trying to find out what happened, as this is a very worrying allegation f.

General Patrols

Several abandoned vehicles and lots of fly tipping in the Graylingwell area, the RSL is now dealing with the clean-up.

A large fly tip of garden machinery and garden waste, cleared by us.

Several other lots of fly tipping removed by us.

Lots of Graffiti Tags in spray paint around the area, not just in the city itself.

We found a pile of someone's belongings, old food and 2 large nitrous oxide containers in the Amphitheatre. Reported too our depot for collection and disposal.

We attended and joined in the Swanfield Park Funday, they had brilliant weather and lots of locals attended. We will attend the other summer events in our area.

General patrols continue all the time, and we are contactable by phone or email

Chichester BID Ambassadors Report

Reporting period: April 2026

1. Executive Summary

The reporting period shows sustained high levels of retail crime, repeat offending and youth-related antisocial behaviour (ASB) across the city centre, with concentrated activity in the main retail corridors.

Key themes across the period include:

- Persistent shoplifting across multiple retailers, often involving repeat offenders and coordinated behaviour.
- Ongoing youth ASB, including attempted thefts, group disorder and occasional reports of weapons (BB/pellet gun and bladed article intelligence).
- Recurrent intoxication-related ASB and street community disorder.
- Multiple safeguarding interventions, including missing persons located safely and vulnerable individuals supported.
- Strong and consistent multi-agency collaboration, intelligence sharing and retail engagement activity.

Despite repeated offending patterns, there is clear evidence of effective disruption, active prevention and strong business reassurance engagement from the Ambassadors.

2. Key Incident Themes

A. Retail Crime & Shoplifting

Retail theft remained the dominant issue across the entire period, affecting many of the Nationals in the city centre.

Frequently affected locations:

- Boots (cosmetics, toiletries, fragrance thefts)
- Co-op (alcohol thefts, repeat offenders, bans issued)
- Iceland (food thefts including meat, dairy, coffee, ice cream)
- Sports Direct (clothing thefts and live interventions)
- H&M, TK Maxx, M&S (concealment and group offending)
- The White Company (high-value candle and goods thefts)
- Tesco Express / Holland & Barrett / TG Jones (food and alcohol thefts)

Key patterns:

- Repeat offenders identified across multiple stores

- Both opportunistic thefts and coordinated group offending observed.
- Use of concealment methods and repeat targeting of high-value or easily resold goods.

B. Youth-Related ASB & Group Behaviour

Youth-related disorder was a recurring issue throughout the period.

Incidents included:

- Group shoplifting attempts across Sports Direct, H&M, M&S and Kids Stuff Toys.
- Verbal abuse toward staff and security.
- Youth gatherings causing disruption in public spaces (Cross, East Street, Priory Park).
- Intelligence reports of youths carrying suspected BB/pellet guns and a bladed article near the station.

While most incidents were low-level, the frequency and concentration in hotspot areas remain a concern.

C. Violence, Aggression & Public Order

Several incidents involved aggression or escalation:

- Train station altercations involving known individuals including physical confrontation with security.
- Multiple reports of verbal abuse directed at retail staff.
- Intoxicated individuals causing public disturbances.

These incidents were generally contained but required police or security intervention.

D. Safeguarding & Vulnerable Persons

A number of safeguarding interventions were recorded:

- Missing female located safe near retail area and reunited with family.
- Multiple vulnerable individuals engaged and supported (housing, welfare, documentation issues).
- Ongoing monitoring of individuals with known risk factors (eg financial instability, street community vulnerability).
- Liaison with support services (including Stonepillow referrals).

E. Public Realm / Environmental Issues

Issues recorded were intermittent but included:

- Graffiti on vacant buildings and signage.
- Occasional encampment indicators (tents/sleeping equipment near car parks and fire exits).

- Isolated public nuisance reports (e.g., urination incident, intoxication in public).
- Minor infrastructure issues (parking machines out of order).

3. Key Hotspot Locations

Ambassador activity remained concentrated in:

- North Street / East Street / The Cross - youth congregation, retail crime.
- Boots, Co-op, Iceland, Sports Direct, H&M, TK Maxx – repeated theft incidents.
- Train Station area – aggression incidents, youth intelligence, safeguarding concerns.
- South Street corridor – frequent engagement and reassurance activity.
- Car parks (Woolstaplers, St Cyriac's, Southgate) – occasional ASB and environmental concerns.

4. Engagement & Prevention Activity

A significant proportion of operational time was dedicated to prevention and reassurance:

- Extensive Safer Chichester leaflet distribution to all city centre businesses
- Business reassurance visits
- Continuous liaison with:
 - Police and PCSOs
 - BID staff and ChiBAC radio coordination
 - Retail loss prevention and security teams
- Real-time intelligence sharing and CCTV submissions via DISC system.
- Strong business feedback indicating general reassurance and support from patrol presence.

5. Overall Assessment

As usual the Ambassadors reports show a high-volume, high-frequency retail crime environment, driven by repeat offending and opportunistic theft.

However:

- Strong multi-agency coordination is evident.
- Retail engagement and intelligence sharing remain highly effective.
- Patrol presence continues to play a key role in disruption and reassurance.
- Safeguarding interventions were successfully delivered where required.

Report to: Chichester City Council - Community Liaison Sub-Committee
for its Meeting on Thursday 21st May 2026

From: Paula Chatfield, Chair of Chichester Tree Wardens

Date: 13th May 2026

Chichester Tree Wardens' activities to promote trees and encourage protection of and planting trees since we last reported (9/19th February) include:

- **Community Tree Nursery** – 4 pear and 3 apple trees were planted on 19th February and 2 plum and 2 greengage on 19th April. Spring growth has revealed that part of the new plot has field horsetail growing and we are looking into how we can tackle this. (Horsetail is a pernicious weed that can be spread by fragments of root; we cannot risk growing tree nursery stock where this might happen.) The very first seeds may be able to be collected and sown in the next month (for most tree species, seed collecting season is September-October).
- **Street Tree Watering** – despite some recent rain and a wet winter, soils seem to have dried out quickly this Spring. We have been liaising with residents near to street trees planted in the last 3 years to encourage watering (a 30-litre soak once a week is probably fair for these currently). We hope our efforts will soon be supported by an initiative from West Sussex County Council to engage with residents across the county, enabling WSCC to learn where volunteers are watering young trees via an online form.
- **Events**
Booking is now open for our two Festival of Chichester events: Explore Trees at Litten Gardens, sponsored by Chichester Quakers, on Thursday 25th June, and A Tree Odyssey talk by Jon Stokes, Director of Trees, Science and Research at the Tree Council on Tuesday 14th July. Tickets are available via [our TicketSource page](#).
Ray and Jenny assisted with different aspects of the Junior Mayor tree planting that took place on 15th April.
Also in April, I gave a talk to Chichester & District Gardens & Allotments Association and Clare and I attended Whyke Residents' Association's AGM with tree/tree warden resources.
- **Other tree interactions** continue with examples listed below.
 - Rebecca has been supporting Parklands Residents' Association's new tree planting and the ongoing watering regime for PRA-planted trees.
 - We continue to get a steady trickle of enquiries, with a common theme being how to report problems residents notice with trees (occasionally these come from further afield in Chichester District). Sometimes these are from folk who already know us, but we also receive approaches via our website.
 - We have got next to nowhere with following up ongoing concerns about developers' commitment to young tree establishment at Minerva Heights. (We will be looking to increase engagement with residents at Minerva Heights alongside our tree nursery efforts.)
 - The winning entry in Westgate and West Walls Residents' Associations' competition to name the young plane tree on the Dutch roundabout was The Roundabout Tree.

WSSC Tree Plan and Policy

- The updated [WSSC Tree Plan](#) came into effect on 27th February; and
- the protection of highway trees policy (“to protect highway trees from damage, seeking compensation to reinvest in replacements”) on 9th March:

[Decision - Policy for the protection of highway trees affected by Street Works HT12 \(25/26\)](#) .

They address a lot of what we’ve been trying to achieve and I’d expect to provide future opportunities, including in relation to improving [Tree Equity](#). The Plan includes recognition of the value of volunteer Tree Wardens with its intention to “Continue to facilitate and coordinate the West Sussex Tree Warden network” as part of Objective 5 (Working with partners and supporting communities and individuals).

Pests and Diseases

It's that time of year again, **please look out for oak processionary moth:**

"Caterpillars start emerging in April from eggs laid in oak trees the previous summer. The most effective control method is to treat affected oak trees with insecticide during the spring and summer while the caterpillars are about."

(Source: [public information leaflet](#))

We're in the Buffer Zone, "This area has an annual programme of surveillance and control led by the Forestry Commission. This programme involves detecting the pest and treating infested oak trees (and those trees in close proximity)."

Last year an OPM-infested tree was found in Pulborough (see [Forestry Commission Oak Processionary Moth Monitoring map](#)).

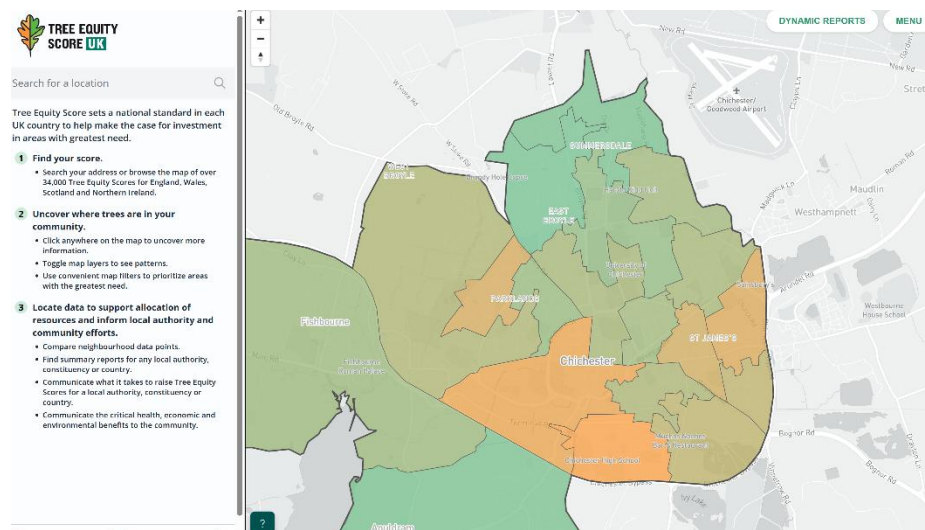
Our printed resources include a handout we first created last year: a Guide to Helping Trees, which is intended to inspire confidence to take positive action in people who care about trees. I'll aim to bring copies for Councillors to your meeting.

With best wishes,

Paula

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

www.treesinchi.org



Map (left) taken from [Tree Equity Score UK Map](#). Scale ranges from orange (fewer trees – Kingsham has a TE score of 67) to deep green (Lower Super Output Areas in East Broyle and Summersdale scoring 97/98). Other map layers represent these LSOAs in terms of air pollution, income, health, employment and heat disparity.

Report from The Friends of Chartres for City Council Community Liaison Subcommittee meeting 21st May 2026

This is the first report since my re-election as Chair at our Annual General Meeting on 19th March 2026

Our first event of the new year was on 16th April when committee member and former Mayor, Martyn Bell gave a fascinating talk about the Resistance leader Jean Moulin who had been the Prefect of Eure-et-Loir at the beginning of the Second World War.

Martyn's talk was followed by a pre-exchange briefing in preparation for our visit which took place between 30th April and 4th May.

As I had reported at the last sub-committee meeting the decision was taken to change the way in which the majority of the party of 20 of us travelled this year. We hired a mini coach which took us to Portsmouth where we boarded the Brittany Ferries vessel Guillaume de Normandie for the voyage to Ouistreham where we boarded a another mini coach to take us to Chartres. It was generally agreed at this proved a cheaper and less stressful way of travelling compared with Eurostar and I think is an option we will take in the future.

On arrival in Chartres we were welcomed and while many of us who was staying in families then went to catch up with our hosts, those who were staying in hotels were also well looked after.

The following morning the two committees met and it was decided that we will host the Chartrains between 29th April and 3rd May 2027. At the meeting Martyn Bell mentioned his talk about Jean Moulin and we discovered that as part of an effort to keep alive the memory of the wartime resistance certain towns have been designated 'Villes Jean Moulin' In view if him having been in Chichester after his famous meeting with de Gaulle before returning to galvanise the resistance movement it seems that Chichester might be worthy of this designation. This will be a matter for some further interesting research.

1st May is always a bank holiday in France and so we were pleased to be formally received at the Hotel de Ville by Ladislas Vergne who has only very recently been as elected as Mayor of Chartres in succession to Jean-Pierre Gorge who had been Mayor for 25 years.

We were warmly welcomed by the Mayor and I read to the assembled company the letter in french from our Mayor Councillor McHale who was not able to attend and also presented the gift from the council to M Vergne.

I am pleased to report the new Council in Chartres led by their enthusiastic young mayor is as supportive of their various twinnings as the previous regime.

We also met Mme Natalie Mardet who is the newly appointed Councillor with responsibilities for International Affairs and the twinnings and President of Chartres International in succession to Patrick Geroudet who previously held the post under Jean-Pierre Gorge.

Many of us have enjoyed being entertained over the years by M Geroudet and have got to know him well. We are glad therefore that he will continue to be involved in the twinning on a personal basis in the future.

On Friday afternoon we split into two groups. One went to the Eure-et-Loir fire service museum where we were shown round by an enthusiastic group of 'ancients pompiers' while the other went to the church in Mesley-le-Grenet to see the fresco of the 'Danse Macabre'.

Part of every visit is a day trip to a place of interest and this year we enjoyed a canal boat lunch cruise with a four course meal along the Briare canal including crossing the river Loire on an aqueduct designed by Gustave Eiffel. This was followed by a conducted tour of the museum of the nearby Gien ceramic factory with the usual retail opportunities.

Sunday was a free day. Some of us attended a concert of baroque music in the church of Saint-Aignan in Chartres given by Les Clavecins de Chartres. Sunday evening was a final get together of the whole group with a 'bring and share' dinner in the Maison Pour Tous des Hauts de Chartres community centre at which I thanked our hosts for a wonderful programme and presented a small gift of the Chichester edition of the monopoly board game to Patrick Geroudet.

The Monday which was a working day in France saw us back on the coach to Ouistreham end then the ferry and we arrived home at about 11pm tired but happy after another successful trip which has helped to renew the longstanding link between our two cities.

In the coming months we will be holding our summer garden party and fish and chip quiz at the start of September as well as continuing with our usual round of language circle meetings.

Michael Bevis Chair Friends of Chartres.

Community Warden report May 2026

There has been quite a lot of graffiti throughout the city recently. On the April joint Security Walk we noted that the same tag appeared all around the city. It is on doors, windows, bins. Lights, signs, wherever there is a surface really. It is mostly in bright pink or yellow and is CTRL. Then a week later another new tag 'Spark' has started appearing in bright blue paint. Marshall Abbott, Piers Taylor and me have been out cleaning some of it. We have no information on who is doing the graffiti but we would like to find out.

The back of some of the shops continue to be used as a sleeping place for the homeless. Some are a nice quiet spot with good cover which makes it a very sheltered spot from the weather. There have been quite a lot of related problems with this. The shops both have their fire exits that open out into this area and so the people opening up the shops are sometimes met with sleeping people or person that often interferes with the fire doors. There has been human waste, food, drugs, alcohol and smoking connected litter strewn around the area. It is generally mostly quite unpleasant for the people who have to use the area. I am in constant contact with the managers of the shops, popping in regularly to see them. They send me photos of what they face on a morning when they open up. We include this area on our security walks as well and have a multiagency approach in trying to keep the area clean and let the staff know that they are supported. A one off clean was arranged as a token of goodwill and the cleansing team went along and picked up all the rubbish and used the road sweeper to clean the floor. It was all clean for a couple of nights, then I got a message to say that there were signs that someone had slept there overnight. As there were no personal items there I removed the cardboard and put it in the recycling bin.

We have been working very closely with the owners of the Tower Street car park. It has seen a stream of homeless people bedding down at the location. There was a tent in the car park for a over a week with people living in it. There was a lot of litter and human waste and it is generally unpleasant. The owners were asked to do regular inspections and cleans because it can be unpleasant for the people who park their cars

there. I always contact the homeless team to ask them to visit the street sleepers and Stonepillow offer support.

Cycling through the city is still a problem. I have many people who come up to me and tell me about cyclists and near misses. I do try and educate people about the times they can cycle in North and East Street and some of those people are happy to comply. There are many others who simply ignore me, don't hear me because they have their earphones in or are just plain rude. I do have people thanking me when they see me talking to cyclists.

There has been some work going on behind the scenes to tackle begging in Chichester. People sometimes feel intimidated by the beggars because they ask for money or do a praying motion. Not all the people who beg are homeless despite what their signs say! I ask them to remove their signs, but I cannot confiscate them. The PCSO's and Police can and do.

Now we are finally having some better weather the city feels much busier. The Wednesday market brings extra footfall and is a real asset to the city. That said when I speak to shops and stallholders, they say that although there is a lot of people around their sales are not always a reflection of that. I guess that people are being cautious about how they spend their money and are not buying so many non-essential items. This doesn't seem to be affecting the cafes.

We have quite a few different buskers that come and provide entertainment in the city. Most of them are very welcome and people enjoy listening to their music. There have been some complaints again about a couple of the buskers who are very loud. This affects the people working in the shops and their customers, people who live in the vicinity and even shoppers who can't hold normal conversations. I am working with Environmental Protection to resolve these issues, and they have given me a Busker Code of Conduct with guidelines. I have passed this on to the BID as well so we all know what is and isn't allowed.

Dawn White

Community Warden for Chichester City