

WARD COUNCILLORS REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS Names

OCTOBER 2023

Lavant ward report to Parish councils
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October 2023

Dear all, I hope you are all keeping well as we enter Autumn.

Help wanted! I am looking for volunteers who can spare a couple of hours or so a month to help deliver Liberal Democrat literature that include surveys to see how local residents feel about a wide range of issues that are actively affecting us- from sewage issues to the local economy and infrastructure, housing and much more- you can be a part of the difference that ensures all voices are heard across the ward! Please contact me directly to arrange.

Surgeries: Thank you to all who attended the two surgeries, the idea is to grow these over time. The next surgeries will be in November, more details to follow in the next report.

Please encourage all residents to attend- it is a fantastic way to meet and have a friendly get-together to encourage different viewpoints to be heard. For any residents who would like to contact me directly, please direct them onto the Chichester District Council councillor's page; <https://chichester.moderngov.co.uk/mgMemberIndex.aspx?bcr=1>

As always- please do not hesitate to contact me if I can help in any way.

Best wishes
Joseph

COUNCIL MATTERS

Cabinet September

Cabinet approved the setting up of a **Budget Review Group**. This group will look in depth at all aspects of the Councils budget, making recommendations to Corporate Governance & Audit Committee and Cabinet. Full Council is responsible for the final setting of the annual Budgets.

Cabinet approved the funding of repairs to the **Public Access Ramp at East Beach Selsey**. This is considered essential to support tourism and the wider community on the Manhood

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The **A27 Chichester By Pass Mitigation Supplementary Planning Document** (SPD) was approved for Public Consultation

[Current planning policy consultations - Chichester District Council](#)

£60,000 was approved to fund the **Energy Advice Service** delivered by Arun and Chichester Advice Service. This service is a “one stop shop” for all energy related advice to residents in West Sussex. This funding will secure the service for our residents for three more years.

[Arun & Chichester Citizens Advice - Help with the Cost Of Living in Arun & Chichester \(arunchichestercab.org.uk\)](#)

Approval was given to the update “**Public Spaces Protection Order** (PSPO)– Dog Control 2023”. A PSPO is made by a local authority to address antisocial behaviour in public spaces. It can cover all public spaces in a district or a smaller defined area. A PSPO regulates activities that have a negative impact on the local community and, in this case, can enforce requirements and restrictions that encourage responsible dog ownership.

[Lets Talk: Dogs in Public Spaces - Chichester District Council](#)

Full Council September

Trees Outside Woodland Project extension

The Council approved the additional funding of £120,000 for the extension of the Trees outside Woodlands project. Council also approved any additional funding that may be offered in the future. More details available Tree Project Officer at treescheme@chichester.gov.uk

Motion against Office Closure in Train Station

This motion was proposed by Cllr James Vivian and passed by Council.

The motion requested that the Leader writes to the Secretary of State for Transport and the Chief Executive of the Rail Delivery Group, as well as Southern Railway, to express this Council's opposition to the possible closures of staffed rail ticket offices, particularly at Chichester, Bosham and Southbourne stations.

These letters will be sent week beginning 2nd October.

GENERAL

Use of Local Hotel for Asylum Seekers

As you will be aware, the Home Office is using a hotel in the Chichester area as contingency accommodation for people seeking asylum. The District Council has not been consulted on this decision and has very limited details. CDC and WSCC have issued a joint Press Release.

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“West Sussex County Council and Chichester District Council have recently been advised by the Home Office that a hotel in the Chichester area is being considered for use as contingency accommodation for people seeking asylum. Decisions around use of hotels and placements for those seeking asylum are made by the Home Office. We are not involved in the decision-making process. Should members of the public wish to contact the Home Office directly they can be contacted on public.enquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk or by calling 0207 035 4848.”

To help residents the Council has created a range of FAQs

[Frequently asked questions about contingency accommodation for asylum seekers in Chichester - Chichester District Council](#)

Local Plan

The Local Plan continues to be a challenge with on going discussion with statutory authorities. The intention is still due to submit the Local Plan to the Inspector this autumn. A fuller verbal briefing can be given by Councillors at Parish Council meetings.

GROWTH & PLACE

Manhood Peninsula Partnership

The Manhood Peninsula Partnership (MPP) is a Standing Conference for the Manhood Peninsula. Its aim is to promote, develop and support initiatives that deliver economic, social, and environmental benefits to the coastal communities on the Peninsula. The MPP is comprised of Chichester District Council, parishes, community groups, and local representatives of national organisations such as the Environment Agency, RSPB and Natural England. [Manhood Peninsula Partnership](#)

COOMUNICATION, LICENSING & EVENTS

Evening and Night Time Economy

As part of the council’s commitment to support Chichester’s evening and night-time economy and in direct response to what residents have told us that they want to see and enjoy, the free City Sounds music festival is returning to Chichester on Saturday 25 November. The organisers are also working with students from Chichester College and the University of Chichester, who want to kick start their music career. Attendees will be able to follow a musical map of the city and soak up the original sounds of local musicians at a variety of venues from midday until 10pm.

www.facebook.com/ChichesterDistrictEventsAndMarkets

Cross Market & More

Chichester city centre will once again host its popular **Cross Market & More** events on Sunday 15 October and Sunday 19 December between 10am and 4pm on East and

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North Street Chichester.

Farmers' Market

Please encourage residents to support Chichester Farmers' Market on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month on East Street between 9am and 2pm.

<https://www.chichester.gov.uk/aboutfarmersmarket#dates>

HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES

Supporting You team update

The Supporting You Team continue to make a real difference to residents and the success of this team is very evident. Please do encourage residents to use the service.

[Supporting You Campaign - Chichester District Council](#)

WELLBEING

Chichester Wellbeing provides a Well Being Service across our District. This includes:

- Smoking
- Alcohol
- Falls
- Fitness advice

[About us / Chichester Wellbeing / Provided by West Sussex County Council and Chichester District Council \(westsussexwellbeing.org.uk\)](#)

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ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Protection

New air quality analyser: Using £25,000 of DEFRA air quality grant monies the council has procured a new air quality analyser which has been installed at the council's air quality monitoring station at Stockbridge.

[Sussex-air :: Promoting better Air Quality in Sussex :: sussex-air.net :: Home](#)

CHICHESTER CONTRACT SERVICES

Recycle Week 2023 – Join the Big Recycling Hunt!

This year we will be promoting Recycle Now's annual Recycle Week through our social media channels during 16-22 October 2023. This year's theme is focused on items that can be recycled around the home but are commonly missed, for example shampoo bottles, aerosols, plastic pots, tubs and trays. The campaign will also be inspiring families and children to get involved with fun activities being shared throughout the week. The business waste and recycling team will be sharing these activity packs with all primary schools in the district as part of their ongoing engagement and support for the school's waste and recycling contract.

[Recycle Week campaign | Recycle Now](#)