

HARBOUR VILLAGES COUNCILLORS REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS

Penny Plant - David Rodgers - Adrian Moss

CHIDHAM & HAMBROOK – February 2023

VILLAGE MATTERS

Cala Homes: site meeting Thurs Jan 12th Developers attended with CDC Councillors, Planning officers and Drainage Officers. See Stephen Johnson's report for details. Work is on-going to resolve the issues around drainage and the responsibility of landowners, including National Highways.

Willowbrook Planning Application: Concern is also expressed regarding off-site drainage for the nearby Willowbrook application. This has been taken this up with Officers. This application (and all others pending in the southern plan area) have been temporarily held while legal advice is sought on the timing of the introduction of new policies in the new Local Plan 21-39, particularly Transport Policy T1, page 206.

Planning Appeal APP/L3815/W/3305923 - Cockleberry Farm: This is a Part 2 item at the CDC planning committee on Wed 8th February. The Parish will be provided with a report after the meeting.

The Ham brook: Issues concerning the water quality in the Ham brook and unconsented potential effluent entering further down the Ham has also been raised with Environmental Officers and Southern Water.

COUNCIL MATTERS

THE LOCAL PLAN 2021-2039

The Local Plan has now been approved for public consultation from Friday 3rd February to Friday 17th March. Respondents will only be asked if the plan has (1) met the legal requirements (2) been positively prepared, is justified, effective and consistent with national policy and (3) if the Council has engaged and worked effectively with neighbouring authorities and statutory bodies. All the comments received will be sent direct to the Planning Inspector to consider as part of the independent examination on behalf of the Government.

All the information and the comment links are here [Chichester Local Plan 2021 - 2039: Chichester District Council](#) ie **Home>Planning and development>Planning Policy>Chichester Local Plan 2021-2039** if you can't find it on the website.

Three overview documents have been created for the (1) East/West corridor, (2) Manhood peninsula (3) and area North of the plan area. All documents are available to all Parishes.

LOCAL ELECTIONS Thursday 4th May 2023

All residents voting in person at this year's will be required to provide photographic ID at the polling station. Anyone without photographic ID must apply online before 5pm on 25th April [Apply for photo ID to vote \(called a 'Voter Authority Certificate'\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#). You will still need a recent digital photo of yourself and your N.I. number (or other ID if you don't have an NI number). Full summary attached on the last page.

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UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund

Following the approval of £1million of government funding for Chichester District from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund by the Department for Levelling Up Housing and Communities, CDC officers have been working on the grant allocation process to award a large proportion of this fund.

The allocation in the linked Rural England Prosperity Fund is anticipated to be £718,000 and will also be awarded through a grant allocation process.

The CDC grant fund process will run from 1 April 2023 until 31 March 2025. Communications will shortly be shared with Members, business, and community groups across the district to set out the process for applying for the fund and the criteria for expenditure.

GROWTH & PLACE

The Novium Museum

The new exhibition that opens on Saturday 1st April and runs until Sunday 24th September is ‘**The Magic of Middle-Earth**’, which presents a magical treasure trove of objects and artworks celebrating the epic fantasy novels ‘The Hobbit’ and ‘The Lord of the Rings’. This exciting exhibition is dedicated to the incredible fantasy worlds brought to life by J.R.R. Tolkien and the generations of creators his writing has influenced. Featuring over 200 incredible artworks and objects from across the decades, as well as an interactive ‘Hobbiton’ family area (featuring a Hobbit chair and animatronic version of Smaug the Dragon!) this exhibition will capture the imagination of all ages.

Tickets to the exhibition are available to book now and cost £4 for adults, £2.50 for a child and £12 for a family of up to five (maximum 2 adults). For more information and to book, visit www.thenovium.org/magicofmiddleearth

The Wild Escape: From Novium to Nature

The Wild Escape invites children to find a favourite animal in their local museum and create an artwork imagining its journey to a natural habitat. The young artists will work with textiles to make prints of their chosen animals which will be combined to create one large piece, which will be unveiled at a community event in Priory Park on Earth Day, Saturday 22 April.

The Wild Escape workshops will take place at the Novium Museum on 4, 5, 11 & 12 April. Workshops are strictly for children aged 7-11 years old and will be limited to one session per participant. For more information and to book a space visit: www.thenovium.org/wildescape.

February Half Term – Pirate and Smuggler Week!

- Pirates Ahoy! On Tuesday, 14 February at The Guildhall in Priory Park. Dress up, create, and perform stories from the seas. £6 per child
- Sword decorating craft on Thursday, 16 February at The Novium Museum. £4 per child
- Pirate & Smugglers Trail - all week at The Novium Museum. Free of charge

For more information and to book any of the half-term events, visit www.thenovium.org/whatson.

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Tesco Blue Tokens

The money we receive from the grants above will go towards funding this year's Chichester Roman Week, including the free Roman Re-Enactment in Priory Park.

Tesco customers can vote now using the blue tokens received at checkout, so please support us next time you shop at Tesco. Voting is open until March:

- Chichester Extra PO19 3JT
- East Wittering Express PO20 8BJ
- South Street Chichester Express PO19 1EL

Coffee championship comes to Chichester.

On Friday 10th February between 9am and 6pm, CDC is hosting the regional heat of the UK Barista Championships at the Assembly Rooms in Chichester. We're encouraging people to come along and cheer on the competitors and enjoy some free coffee. If you're interested, please register at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ukbc-regional-heats-chichester-tickets-512905633557?aff=ebdsoporgprofile

To celebrate, we have also organised our own Latte throwdown competition on Thurs 9th February at the Assembly Rooms, where local baristas will compete against another to create the best coffee art. Please do come along and watch. Our team will be there from 6pm until 9pm.

A coffee trail is also being organised across Chichester by the BID: www.chichesterbid.co.uk/events/.

Laser Extravaganza show!

CDC is arranging a free laser extravaganza show at the Canal Basin in Chichester on Fri 17th and Sat 18th February to mark the half-term holidays. We will be running two 20-minute laser shows at 6pm and 7.30pm, both will be set to music. There will also be 'light' jugglers and hula-hoop jugglers to entertain the audience, as well as food stalls. This is thanks to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. More information will follow.

Cross, Market & More

The first of this year 'Cross, Market & More' market will return on Sunday 12th March. At the markets you'll be able to browse handmade crafts and designs, sample delicious street food, and enjoy the family entertainment on offer. Put the date in your diary!

You can find out more about events and markets across the district at www.chichester.gov.uk/events and on the CDC Events and Markets Facebook page www.facebook.com/ChichesterDistrictEventsAndMarkets.

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT

Consultation on reforms to national planning policy

There is currently a consultation on the Government's proposed approach to (1) updating to the NPPF. It is also seeking views on (2) the Preparation of National Development Management Policies; (3) how policy may be developed to support levelling up; and, (4) how national planning policy is currently accessed by users. The consultation may be accessed via the following link and closes on Thurs 2nd March 2023. Note: CDC officers will be responding on behalf of CDC

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/levelling-up-and-regeneration-bill-reforms-to-national-planning-policy>.

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Consultation on Water Resource Management Plans

Both consultations on draft Water Resource Management Plans close on 20th February, and CDC officers will also be submitting a response, as above.

- Southern Water (<https://www.southernwater.co.uk/our-story/water-resources-management-plan/our-draft-water-resources-management-plan>)
- Portsmouth Water (<https://www.portsmouthwater.co.uk/news/publications/water-resources-planning/>)

New air quality monitor at Stockbridge, Chichester:

A recent DEFRA grant will buy a new monitor for two types of small airborne particles known as PM2.5 and PM10. The monitor will be installed at Stockbridge roundabout close to the A27, and data will be loaded in real-time onto Sussex-Air's web pages. This adds PM2.5 to the council's air quality monitoring, as the Government has introduced two new air quality standards for PM2.5 under the Environment Act 2021. See below.

Environment Act 2021

Following consultation, the thirteen National Statutory targets have been announced by government and these will be 'laid' through statutory instruments:

Biodiversity on land

1. To halt the decline in species abundance by 2030.
2. To ensure that species abundance in 2042 is greater than in 2022, and at least 10% greater than 2030.
3. Improve the Red List Index for England for species extinction risk by 2042, compared to 2022 levels.
4. To restore or create more than 500,000 hectares of a range of wildlife-rich habitat outside protected sites by 2042, compared to 2022 levels.

Biodiversity in the sea

5. 70% of the designated features in the MPA [Marine Protected Areas] network to be in favourable condition by 2042, with the remainder in recovering condition

Water quality and availability

6. Abandoned metal mines target: Halve the length of rivers polluted by harmful metals from abandoned mines by 2038, against a baseline of around 1,500 km.
7. Agriculture target: Reduce nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and sediment pollution from agriculture into the water environment by at least 40% by 2038, compared to a 2018 baseline.
8. Wastewater target: Reduce phosphorus loadings from treated wastewater by 80% by 2038 against a 2020 baseline.
9. Water Demand Target: Reduce the use of public water supply in England per head of population by 20% from the 2019/20 baseline reporting year figures, by 2037/38.

Woodland cover

10. Increase total tree and woodland cover from 14.5% of land area now to 16.5% by 2050.

Resource efficiency and waste reduction

11. Reduce residual waste (excluding major mineral wastes) kg per capita by 50% by 2042 from 2019 levels.

Air quality

12. An Annual Mean Concentration Target for PM2.5 levels in England to be 10 µg m⁻³ or below by 2040.
13. A Population Exposure Reduction Target for a reduction in PM2.5 population exposure of 35% compared to 2018 to be achieved by 2040

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Elections on Thursday 4th May 2023

The Elections Act 2022 will be implemented in May 2023 and several changes are due to take place.

Voter ID – the Government has plans to introduce electors having to show identification at the polling station from the polls on 4 May 2023. Most electors will already have an acceptable form of identification but if they don't, they are able to apply for a "Voter Authority Certificate" (VAC) through the gov.uk web portal or in person at the council offices. *Staff in polling stations will not be able to issue a ballot paper unless photo-identification or a Voter Authority Certificate is shown.*

Poll cards will also be A4 size to allow for information on what must be shown in the polling stations to be put on them. More information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/voter-identification-at-polling-stations-and-the-new-voter-card>

First Past the Post – the voting system for any Mayoral or Police & Crime Commissioner elections in England and Wales will be changed to First Past the Post.

EU citizens' Voting & Candidacy Rights (EUVC) – the automatic right of EU citizens to register to vote, to vote and to stand in UK elections will be removed. However, two groups of EU citizens will retain their voting and candidacy rights and therefore remain on the relevant register: these are 'qualifying EU citizens' and 'EU citizens with retained rights'. Qualifying EU citizens are those citizens of a country with which the UK has bilateral voting and candidacy rights treaties. EU citizens with retained rights are those persons who have been resident in the UK or Islands since the end of the EU Exit Implementation Period (31 Dec 2020). As long as they have maintained unbroken immigration status, they will retain their voting and candidacy rights. Those that are ineligible will be removed in December 2023.

Postal & Proxy Voting Rule Changes (from July 2023) – there will be a new requirement for postal voters to reapply for a postal vote every three years instead of 5 years. There will also be new identity verification requirements for absent vote applications to try and make the system more robust and secure. An option to apply for a postal vote via a new central government online system will be introduced.

Overseas Electors Changes (from July 2023) – Overseas electors will be able to register at the last UK address they were registered at, or the last UK address at which they were resident if they were never previously registered. Currently electors living overseas are only entitled to register to vote for up to 15 years from leaving the UK and the new legislation removes the 15-year rule.

Postal Vote Handling Rules Changes (from Autumn 2023) – there will be a ban on postal votes being handled by candidates and campaigners. Postal votes being handed in to a polling station will also be limited to 5 and they must complete a form to establish who has delivered the postal votes and for whom.

Please get in touch on 01243 534592 and CDC will answer any questions.