

LOCAL MATTERS

A verbal report will be provided.

DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

The Cabinet (April 16th)

- Recommended adopting of the Chichester Harbour Management Plan 24/25
- Approved the Consultation on the second Climate Emergency Action Plan
- Agreed the funding to recruit a Gypsy Traveller Liaison Officer
- Approved an addendum to the Events Policy for guidance on the use of car parks for events and activities.

Other: The Development Plan and Infrastructure Panel (April 10) and the Planning Committee (April 17), also met.

Flooding: Land Drainage Roles and Responsibilities

There were several flooding incidents in the past month in Harbour Villages and around the rest of the harbour. West Sussex County Council led the emergency response. CDC, WSCC, the EA and SW all have roles depending on the circumstances.

CDC has drawn up a simple guide which explains which authority or company to approach. pdf attached.

In the longer term the intention is for Coastal Partners to develop a sustainable plan for the Chichester Harbour and coastal area to respond to flooding, sea level rise and coastal change, and to protect and restore the harbour's habitats and ecosystems.

Local Plan submission

The local plan will be submitted to the Planning Inspector this week (w/c April 29), together with the evidence and suggested modifications addressing consultation feedback. Once submitted, the council's examination webpages will go live (accessed via the council's main web page address), which will contain important information regarding the next steps and updates as the Plan moves through the examination process.

Climate Emergency Plan

The second Climate Emergency Plan was approved by Cabinet for consultation. CDC will consult with residents over the summer, to gain approval in 2025 for the plan when the current plan ends. The new plan would run until 2030. It focuses on helping individuals and communities in the district to reduce their emissions.

Hyde

Hyde's social rents are set using the social formula rent which is linked to the Sept CPI values. CPI rates in Sept were 6.3%. Social rents therefore either increased by 6.3% or 7.3% depending on the current rent charged.

Service charges increased in the 2022/23 financial year mainly because of increased energy costs and high inflation. The cost of keeping homes and buildings decent and safe has also increased.

Unauthorised vehicle deterrents

Earth bunds and vehicle barriers have been installed at Florence Park, Whyke Oval, Sherborne Road and Oaklands Park to deter unauthorised vehicle access and protect these

parks for the enjoyment of their local communities. The bunds have been sewn with grass seed, so they blend in with the park surroundings. Vehicle access barriers have been installed to enable legitimate entry for grounds maintenance and events purposes.

Temporary accommodation in Bognor Regis.

CDC has secured additional temporary accommodation in Bognor Regis. This is needed to meet the increasing demand.

The Growth & Sustainability Officer has been progressing options to design and deliver a SME (Small and Medium Enterprise) sustainability support programme for the coming year. Several suppliers and initiatives are being reviewed – watch this space.

Grants

The new Grants budget for 2024/25 is £175,000. Businesses, Community Groups and other constituted organisations can apply. It is expected to be popular. Changes mean that previously supported projects may no longer fit the scheme. For eligibility and details see: www.chichester.gov.uk/grants

The Novium

‘Dinosaurs: Hungry Hatchlings’, the latest exhibition, is opening on Saturday 11 May. There has been huge interest in this and so to find out more and book your tickets visit: www.thenovium.org.uk/dinosaurs The exhibition runs until 9 November. Tickets cost £5 for adults, £3 for children or £14 for a family of up to five.

Chichester Roman Week will run from Monday 27 May to Saturday 1 June. (May half term) and has activities across the city and surrounding areas, designed to engage visitors of all ages. The highlight of the week on Wednesday 29 May is a re-enactment of the Roman period with everything from gladiators in combat, to Roman soldiers in action. To find out more about free event visit: www.thenovium.org.uk/romanweek

Fire & Rescue Exercise

Firefighters will simulate a major fire at Chichester Cathedral on Monday 20 May; this is set to be the biggest training exercise that West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service has carried out for several years. From 7pm until 11pm there will be a significant amount of smoke issuing from the landmark as fire crews simulate the rescue of a young person trapped inside. Some road closures in Chichester will be in place throughout the duration of the because firefighters will be taking water from the canal and pumping it to West Street.

Guildhall Open Day

The Guildhall in Priory Park, a Grade 1 listed building built in the 1270s, is open on the first Thursday morning of every month from 11am – 12.30, to give members of the public a chance to see inside this magnificent building. Entry is free.

Centurion Way Extension and West Dean access-ramp update

SDNPA has been working on a three-mile extension of the Centurion Way from West Dean Village to Cocking Hill where it will link with the Southdowns Way. The whole extension is forecast to be completed 2026/2027 and the first section should be open for public use in the spring of 2025.

A new access ramp to Centurion Way at West Dean was opened in March 2024 to facilitate access for all user groups.

Principal May meetings

Cabinet	May 14
Planning Committee	May 15

Development Plan and Infrastructure Panel May 22