

## Parish Council report – Chichester District Council

*June 2023*

### Midhurst Fire

The shoring up of the Angel Hotel and adjacent building has commenced and contractors are reporting that they are running to schedule. This should result in the road re-opening to vehicles by no later than 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023. There are financial incentives for the contractors to complete this work early and penalties if they overrun.

The scaffolding has been designed so that the carriageway will re-open in both directions and access to and from Angel Yard for the residents living behind the hotel will be available.

SDNPA are in charge of the shoring up process and the bill for these works will be shared between SDNPA, WSCC and CDC. These are public funds and all bodies involved will seek to recoup this money.

In addition to this, CDC has set aside £300,000 to help Midhurst to recover following the fire. The money is being used in a variety of ways to help the town get back on its feet and support businesses in Midhurst. As part of this, a grant scheme for Midhurst businesses was created, with businesses able to apply for up to £1,800, with hospitality able to apply for an additional amount. The Town Team were provided with a further £10,900 for promotional and marketing purposes. A member of the CDC Economic Development team was also seconded to support the businesses for the two months following the fire and a business recovery group, involving local businesses from the town. So far 70 businesses have requested application forms and we expect there will be more to come.

Whilst there is no official funding sources are currently available from central government, CDC is petitioning government officials to look into any opportunities which potentially might be available. There are funds for flooding, but a fire that closes an A road for this length of time is unprecedented.

The Initiatives magazine, which goes to every household in the District, will feature Midhurst when it goes out at the end of June. CDC are also running a campaign with the Observer Series to advertise the town and encourage tourism back to the area.

For Updates please go to <http://www.chichester.gov.uk/latestnews> and we have created a Frequently Asked Question page which is very useful and can be found

at: <http://www.chichester.gov.uk/midhurstfaqs>

## **The Novium**

[The Magic of Middle-earth - The Novium Museum](#) 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.

*Open 1 April - 24 September 2023*

## **Supporting you**

The Supporting You campaign continues to support residents across the district who are struggling financially with the cost of living crisis. If you wish to make a referral, please email [supportingyou@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:supportingyou@chichester.gov.uk), or direct residents to refer themselves online via this link [www.chichester.gov.uk/supportingyoucampaign](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/supportingyoucampaign).

Other localised support is the Midhurst Community Hub, which runs from the Grange Centre on Monday afternoons between 2pm and 5pm and Saturday mornings 9.30am-1pm. This is a volunteer organisation that is taking a holistic approach to supporting residents, rather than just signposting them on. More information can be found at [www.midhurstcommunityhub.co.uk](http://www.midhurstcommunityhub.co.uk)

## **Public Spaces**

It is proposed that the current rules are extended for a further three years from October 2023 with no changes. Items include: 'it is an offence in public locations — such as footpaths and verges, parks, playgrounds and the foreshore — to fail to remove dog mess immediately; to not put and keep a dog on a lead when instructed to do so by an authorised officer; and to allow a dog to enter an area from which dogs are excluded.' A breach of the order can result in offenders being issued an on-the-spot Fixed Penalty Notice of £100.

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

