

Chichester Market Traders

Last year, the Traders at Chichester's Wednesday market were asked by the Council whether they would want to move from the historic Cattle Market site to the Pedestrian Precinct in East and North Streets. They said they would as footfall would be increased. However, they were not informed that all traders would not be included, nor were they told about the long hours they would need to keep, or that certain other Precinct users would take precedence during the Christmas season.

Four local women, regular market shoppers, led by Sarah Sharp, Green Party City Councillor, became concerned about City Council's treatment of the Traders. We crafted a survey and interviewed the Traders about their expectations and concerns. We also wrote to the Council and to the Chichester Observer detailing our resultant concerns. The paper sent a reporter and a cameraman, printed a photograph and an article. This encouraged others to write in support of the Traders.

The Wednesday Market has transferred successfully. Although all Traders were not included, the Traders do all know that they are a respected and valued part of the Chichester community. With Sarah's guidance and support, we hope to ensure the future of this ancient market.