



# VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

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TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENTS CONSULTATION

RESIDENT COMMENTS

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# *Emails*

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [David Bartlett - Ventnor Residents Forum](#)  
**Subject:** Re: town centre improvements consultation  
**Date:** 25 October 2019 17:00:20  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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I think if it impacts the town by reducing the amount of spaces in the town then it shouldn't go ahead. The town very much relies on the parking spaces down the road. It is a small town which probably struggles as it is. There just needs to be enough dropped curbs for people getting around on their disability scooters, I assume there is dropped curbs where it is safe to cross which I would have thought would be sufficient.

If money can be spent, how the council can help with people coming to Ventnor town is giving free parking at certain times of the day in the main carpark, this surely cant be a huge cost in comparison.

Regards

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [David Bartlett - Ventnor Residents Forum](#)  
**Subject:** Re: town centre improvements consultation  
**Date:** 26 October 2019 19:26:41  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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David

Thank you for passing this information on-I support any improvements that makes the pedestrian experience of shopping in Ventnor a more pleasant less car orientated one.As a frequent visitor to the town and home owner locally my family and I find the worst pinch point for pedestrians is on the south side on the curved pavement alongside 16-20,14,8-12 shops including Hursts.The camber of the pavement here goes the wrong way almost throwing you into the road and long vehicles feel they are about to mount the pavement.Basically one feels vulnerable as a pedestrian on this very narrow stretch especially at busy times with.If the pavement here cannot be widened then some form of physical barrier would make my family and I feel safer from passing vehicles.

Again many thanks-[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [David Bartlett - Ventnor Residents Forum](#)  
**Subject:** Re: town centre improvements consultation  
**Date:** 24 October 2019 14:32:29  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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Hi David,

Looks great. Thanks for taking the initiative as always. Anything to avoid feeling like you're going to be clouted by a vehicle wing mirror as you walk along the High Street is most welcome.

[REDACTED]

On Thu, 24 Oct 2019 at 14:12, David Bartlett - Ventnor Residents Forum  
<[david@ventnorresidentsforum.org.uk](mailto:david@ventnorresidentsforum.org.uk)> wrote:

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [David Bartlett - Ventnor Residents Forum](#)  
**Subject:** Re: town centre improvements consultation  
**Date:** 30 October 2019 15:45:28  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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Hello David

Thank you for this - I have only had time to skim through the risk assessment reports. I find the Island Roads suggested improvements map very odd on the face of it - By widening the pavements they have eliminated all the on-street parking, and there appear to be no disabled bays at all. It seems to me this could well eliminate the risks but will also kill off the high street altogether. The only way of mitigating this would be to make parking free in the car parks - at least for say an hour - I understand that the car parks are under the control of IW council and that this idea is not approved by them, but lots of other places do this. We have just returned from Bayonne in France and all the public car parks offer such a facility.

Could we revive the proposal to make Pier St, Albert St and the eastern end of the High St two-way and make the western end of the High Street as it is today but with access restricted during core hours and with designated blue badge spaces?

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] - Ventnor Residents Forum"

<[david@ventnorresidentsforum.org.uk](mailto:david@ventnorresidentsforum.org.uk)>

To: "David Bartlett - Ventnor Residents Forum" <[david@ventnorresidentsforum.org.uk](mailto:david@ventnorresidentsforum.org.uk)>

Cc: "Alison Killick" <[alison@ventnortowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:alison@ventnortowncouncil.org.uk)>

Sent: 24/10/2019 14:12:29

Subject: town centre improvements consultation

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [David Bartlett](#); [Stephen Cockett](#); [Delian Backhouse-Fry](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Improvements to Ventnor Town Centre  
**Date:** 29 October 2019 18:55:44  
**Attachments:** [ATT00001.txt](#)  
[ATT00002.txt](#)

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[REDACTED]

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Dear All

I feel sure you will have personally witnessed how you 'take your life in your hands' when visiting Ventnor Town Centre. Just last Thursday there was a near miss between a bus and a lady (video footage attached) the bus then had to mount the pavement to proceed as two buses were parked together.

Combined with this there is also a complete disregard by some individuals as to what double yellow lines on the road actually represent i.e. no parking. I am attaching some photographs of the culprits; you will also see near the start of the video a van driver parking on double yellow lines outside Hose, Rhodes & Dickson leaving the van unoccupied then walking across the road to shop maybe?

It is not my intention to get anyone into trouble but something urgently has to change because this footage was taken around 10am on an Autumn morning supposedly a quieter time than during the main summer tourist season, at which time it only gets worse.

I, and my husband, will most certainly be attending your Consultation next week. Please be strong as changes are essential to make Ventnor safer to shop, have a bite to eat and enjoy. I understand some businesses may feel vulnerable to change but surely being able to get a better view of what they offer without cars blocking the view will only serve to enhance trade and encourage visitors who might be just passing through to stop and stay. And what a pleasure it will be to be able to walk safely on a wider pavement especially enhancing the experience for mothers with prams and wheelchair users etc.

Good luck, change is good!

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [David Bartlett - Ventnor Residents Forum](#)  
**Subject:** RE: town centre improvements consultation  
**Date:** 24 October 2019 16:00:14  
**Attachments:** [image003.wmz](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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David

Please, please do this. It is only a matter of time before there is a real tragedy. I fully support all of the proposals. It has been talked about too long. Let's do it! Shopping will be a much safer and more pleasant experience, so don't let a few traders bully everyone into thinking it will affect trade. If anything it will improve it.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [David Bartlett - Ventnor Residents Forum](#)  
**Cc:** [Alison Killick](#)  
**Subject:** Re: town centre improvements consultation  
**Date:** 29 October 2019 07:47:51  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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Hi David,

I think the recommendations from Island Roads look very sensible as long as the amount of short term parking is replicated or increased . I am in favour of the proposed changes.

[REDACTED]

On Thu, 24 Oct 2019 14:12 David Bartlett - Ventnor Residents Forum,  
<[david@ventnorresidentsforum.org.uk](mailto:david@ventnorresidentsforum.org.uk)> wrote:

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**From:** [Alison Killick](#)  
**To:** [David Bartlett](#)  
**Subject:** FW: safety and accessibility  
**Date:** 28 October 2019 09:56:50

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fyi

Alison Killick  
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W: [www.ventnortowncouncil.org.uk](http://www.ventnortowncouncil.org.uk)

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 25 October 2019 15:32  
**To:** Alison Killick  
**Subject:** safety and accessibility

Unfortunately I am away next week and unable to come to the consultation meeting so I would like to send you my comments now.

I have very strong feelings with regard to the concept of accessibility and safety for all residents and visitors. If we are fortunate enough to be fit and healthy we tend to ignore the minute by minute challenges that are faced by people who may not be steady on their feet; who may be partially sighted; who may have to use a wheelchair; of a parent with a pushchair and many bags of shopping. On any day in Ventnor you will see all the above, and they are all trying not to impinge on other pavement users and first and foremost not be knocked down by traffic that is far too close for comfort.

I whole heartedly support the proposals for a wider pavement; for the removal of the parking spaces; for the new public toilet; the new road crossing points; the relocation of the bus stop and for the resurfacing of the whole area so that the lumps and bumps and dangerous congestion can be addressed.

I hope many others will agree with these proposals.

Best wishes for a safer Ventnor  
[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [David Bartlett](#)  
**Subject:** Accessibility in the High Street  
**Date:** 26 October 2019 10:25:33

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Hi [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I would like to comment on the plans.

Most members of the Society are of retirement age or well above, and need to be able to socialise, attend doctors and pharmacies, park cars, walk, volunteer at the Centre, meet friends for coffee and cross the road in safety, all with the same ease as younger people.

So the introduction of wider pavements, new tactile surfaces and untangling the pedestrian crossings from the overcrowded bus stop are welcome if they facilitate that ease. If these changes mean that buses no longer overhang the Southern pavement outside Tramezzini, that alone would improve the town.

The joined-up thinking that is illustrated by these plans is very welcome. I hope that Ventnor Town Council is supported in this plan and that our High Street layout can be made more usable and friendly for pedestrians.

Kind regards

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [David Bartlett - Ventnor Residents Forum](#)  
**Cc:** [Alison Killick](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Town centre improvements consultation  
**Date:** 24 October 2019 19:17:13  
**Attachments:** [Town\\_centre.pdf](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)

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Dear David and Alison,

Having just examined Island Roads proposed plan, my instinctive reaction is one of horror that all the parking spaces will be lost along Pier Street and the High Street. Please recall my suggestion that parking spaces are retained (albeit fewer of them) and the problem of hold-ups caused by traffic reversing into spaces is avoided, by creating individual parking bays with diagonal entry and exit profiles - to allow parking vehicles to drive straight in and straight out. This would improve the flow of traffic and reduce pollution caused by stop-start motion of vehicles. The wider pavement between vehicles would create the space required for pushchairs, buggies etc. travelling on the pavement to pass each other and make it easier for pedestrians to cross the road. Bollards could be strategically placed to prevent vehicles encroaching onto the pavement. This compromise solution might satisfy those completely against the proposal to do away with parking spaces altogether.

In the attached document (I sent you last year) I made several suggestions and this was one of them. The first image illustrates three drive-in - drive-out parking bays in pink. This zone could be extended along the whole length of the High Street and Pier Street (but I can't be bothered to modify the presentation).

The third image shows how the Central car park could be improved using a one-way system and diagonal parking spaces.

The fourth image shows how wasteland opposite Madeira Road could be used as a car park.

I hope you can take these ideas into consideration.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [David Bartlett](#)  
**Subject:** Town Centre consultation  
**Date:** 03 November 2019 17:22:25

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I am in agreement with the suggestions made.

Moving the High Street car parking spaces to within Central Car Park would make the town centre a better place. Widening the pavement on the north side of the High Street would improve pedestrian access and amenity, open up the north side shops so that people could see them, and make the street pleasanter and safer for all pedestrians. The problem of buses crowding the pavements would be solved. Moving 12 free car parking spaces to the Central Car Park will not 'ruin' the town or 'kill' trade and I do not believe that car drivers are unable to walk from the car park to the shops, a distance about as far as walking across the car park of any out-of-town store.

I agree with moving the bus stop so it does not create a pinch point outside Boots, often impassible for pedestrians. I remember when the main bus stop was in Albert Street and the buses parked up at night in the area behind the street, which has now been developed. The bus looped past Boots on the way in from the West (via Church Street) but did not stop. If passengers wanted to alight at Boots, they would stay on the bus as it performed its second pass after dropping off passengers at Albert Street. It wasn't an ideal arrangement but I never heard any complaints about it while working as a bus conductor. Failing returning to that arrangement, I would like to see the bus stop near where it is now rather than at Central Car Park.

While we are lucky as a town to have public toilets at all, while many towns nationally no longer have any, the position of the building, halfway up a steep hill, very difficult for wheelchair users and anyone who struggles with mobility is pretty awful. A more accessible set of public conveniences would be a real plus.

Town Council control over the remaining four car parks, with the agreement of IWC, would allow a better response to local needs and there seems broad agreement that this is a practicable scheme.

I have listened carefully to the presentations, studied the plans and accessibility report and heard various points of view expressed at the meeting last week. It is unfortunate that some influential traders cannot see any virtue in the suggestions and will not listen to any suggestion for positive change. I believe they are working against the interests of the town and against their own best interests.

With kind regards,

[REDACTED]