



VTC LAND & BUILDINGS UPDATE

VENTNOR CENTRAL

28 DECEMBER 2015

TERM OF LEASE	2.5 years
START DATE	1 October 2014
END DATE	31 March 2017
RENT	£1

- VTC took on responsibility for the Youth Centre when IOWC closed its Island-wide Youth Service on 30 September 2014 and rebranded it as Ventnor Central. It has been part of Ventnor's life in various uses for 135 years.
 - The land on which the building is situated was purchased by the Ventnor Bible Christian Chapel – of Elm Cottage, St Catherine Street – in July 1877 and the building erected on it in 1880.
 - The name 'Methodist' was added in 1907 giving the building the complete name of Bible Christian Methodist Church, merging with both the Methodist New Connexion and the United Methodist Free Church. In 1932 it became merged with the Methodist Church.
 - In April 1949, following post-war amalgamation with the High Street Chapel as Ventnor Methodist Church, the congregation transferred to the High Street Church.
 - The Victoria Hall, as it had become, was leased to the Education Committee and in a conveyance dated 21 October 1960 it was purchased by the Council for the Administrative County of the Isle of Wight and became Ventnor Youth Centre.
 - In 1998 the IOWC installed a mezzanine floor at a cost of £100k
 - Its use is now restricted by its failure to comply with modern fire regulations and the very substantial cost of its necessary refurbishment.
 - But VTC has accepted an extended lease to 31 March 2017 in order to explore options for its future including as the preferred future site for Ventnor Library.
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