

REPORT 25/19

11 MARCH 2019

The purpose of this Report is to ask Members to respond to requests from Refill Isle of Wight to engage with their planned Ventnor event and associate formally with their campaign.

NO. DETAILS

I) BACKGROUND

- a) The Town Council has received a request from Refill Isle of Wight for the Town Council to support its campaign as part of the national movement <u>www.refill.org.uk</u>.
- b) A copy of the email request is attached to this Report for information.

2) SUPPORT

- a) The group is asking that the Town Council formally approves and participates in the event it is organising for either 1 or 2 April details to follow based around the town's Esplanade Water Fountain.
- b) Additionally, it would welcome the Town Council's formal endorsement of the campaign.

3) **RECOMMENDATION**

The Town Council is recommended to support the planned event and to formally endorse the work of the campaign.

Good evening,

We are writing to ask Ventnor Town Council to support Refill Isle of Wight - a scheme that helps tackle plastic pollution by enabling people to refill their reusable water bottles on the Island. People can find their nearest Refill Station by looking for a blue Refill sticker in the window of businesses or by finding a location using a smartphone app.

Refill Isle of Wight is already supported by a number of the town's local businesses - who have signed up to offer tap water for free - indeed the town has demonstrated the highest level of support for the scheme on the Island to date. We are looking to raise the profile of Refill Isle of Wight even further through a short event in Ventnor on either 1st / 2nd April.

This event will be centred around the drinking water fountain, which we would like to dress for the occasion according to the theme of Refill. A local artist will perform a specially written song to promote the scheme and we will pour water for passers explaining what the scheme is all about. There will also be a small display stand.

The event will last no more than an hour and all materials will be cleared away entirely.

We would be delighted if you could support Refill Isle of Wight by approving the event as outlined above, subject to any necessary conditions. Other ways to support Refill Isle of Wight include:

- Offering to provide a Refill Station in the Town Council office (where practicable)

- Agreeing to support Isle of Wight Refill collectively as a Town Council

- Actively encouraging staff to bring refillable water bottles and providing non-bottled water for guests (if you do not do so already)

- Spreading the word about Refill to businesses, individuals and visitors.

Please let us know if you would like further details - you can find more information about Refill on <u>www.refill.org.uk</u>

We look forward to hearing from you!

Best wishes

Sarah Marshall and Anne Sayer Planet Aware --F: @plasticaware E: plasticawareiow@gmail.com W: planetaware.co.uk

Planet Aware is a Community Interest Company, registered company number 11492494. It runs events and projects in the Solent area involving the local community to reduce resource use and promote a better marine environment. Planet Aware is delivering Refill on the Isle of Wight (www.refill.org.uk).