



The purpose of this paper is to provide an update on the development of Salisbury Gardens.

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**No.    DETAIL**

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**1)    REFURBISHMENT**

- a) The builders have now left the building; with our thanks for a remarkable transformation of Salisbury Gardens completed in just over six months.
  - b) As a staff team we also want to record our thanks to them for enabling us to continue to work in the building during the process and for their ready support and consistent good humour throughout.
  - c) Only the lower ground floor remains to be completed. The room divider between its two meeting rooms on the building's southern side has been installed leaving the remainder of the decorating and the carpeting throughout to be done before the holiday break.
  - d) External lighting is now in place to ensure safe entry and exit to and from the building when daylight is not available.
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**2)    TENANTS**

- a) Another tenant moved in on 1 December – Bellwade Solutions – and one new tenant has taken up a previously unbooked room, leaving only two vacant rooms in the whole building.
  - b) Although the four ground floor rooms allocated to the Safer Neighbourhoods Police team are ready, their move in to the building has been delayed by changes at Constabulary level to the scheduling of the availability of the team responsible for installing their IT system.
  - c) In a meeting Councillor Jim Toogood and I had with Inspector Bill Pinnell last week it was agreed to reduce the planned accommodation for bicycles from five to three and to proceed with the necessary planning application.
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**3)    RISK ASSESSMENTS**

- a) With the refurbishment programme also complete, work has begun on the associated Risk Assessments.
  - b) The Health & Safety Risk Assessment will be completed internally but the Fire Risk Assessment has been commissioned from a qualified inspector with work on that starting on 6 January 2015.
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**4)    CELEBRATION EVENT**

- a) Restoring Salisbury Gardens and retaining it for services to Ventnor – rather than its continuing deterioration or replacement by yet more flats - is something the Town Council is keen to celebrate with residents and those who've contributed to it.
  - b) Planning for a Celebration Event on Saturday the 17 January is progressing, led by our Community Development Officer Julia Aratoon.
  - c) It will be open house at Salisbury Gardens from 11am – 2pm. Its purpose is to ensure residents have an opportunity to see and learn what the building will now offer and how they can engage with it as well as facilitating networking with service providers
  - d) It will be relaxed, informal and fun with light refreshments, walk about magic, face painting and a declaration of the building's future role by both the current and previous Mayors, representing the Town Council's work of the last four years that has made this possible.
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