



# TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 23/17

13 MARCH 2017

The purpose of this paper is to record developments in the past month not requiring an Agenda item at this meeting.

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**No.    DETAIL**

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**1)    BACKGROUND**

- a) The Recruitment and Selection process for our Maintenance Manager post concluded with the Panel's unanimous decision to appoint Brian Roberts who will start work with us on Monday 27 March.
  - b) Brian, a Ventnor resident, was previously employed by the Town Council at the Winter Gardens until its closure in January 2011 when he went on to become the YMCA's Maintenance Manager.
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**2)    MEDINA VALLEY VISIT**

- a) Newport's Medina Valley organisation provides residential fieldwork opportunities for 'A' Level students and on Thursday 2 March we hosted an afternoon session for their latest group of 14 students from London's St Paul's Girls' School.
  - b) The Mayor and Economic Development Officer led a discussion of the town's regeneration potential after they had spent the earlier part of the day exploring the town.
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**3)    BUTTERFLY PROJECT**

- a) Work started on 7 March on our shared project with Natural England for the development of a suitable habitat for the rare Glanville Fritillary Butterfly on part of Wheelers Bay next to the boat park.
  - b) In addition to the habitat itself, Natural England are also funding an Information Board about the Butterfly.
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**4)    SOUTH LOCALITY ADVOCATES GROUP**

- a) Our Community Development Officer Tony McCarthy and the Mayor were at the latest meeting of the South Wight Health & Wellbeing Advocates meeting held this time at Chillerton Village Hall on 16 February.
  - b) The Advocates from six of the area's Town & Parish Councils attended and had the opportunity to meet directly with members of the My Life a Full Life's South Wight Locality Management Group.
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**5)    PRINCIPAL PARKS**

- a) I attended a meeting on 16 February arranged by the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils to hear from the Isle of Wight Council Officers – Alex Minns and Lee Matthews – responsible for the Island's Principal Parks of the Councils plans for their future funding.
  - b) The current arrangements will continue for the remainder of the existing contract to 31 March 2019. Meanwhile their intention is to develop a new contract to go out to tender based on maintaining minimum levels of litter collection and grass cutting only for all twelve Parks.
  - c) The Town/Parish Councils in which they are based will then have the option to fund enhanced arrangements that will include plants and gardening, activities that are particularly vital for Shanklin's Rylstone Gardens and Ventnor's Park. We will know the cost of the enhanced service later this year.
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**6) SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA**

Changes to the Formula will have a significant impact on St Francis Primary School and the Mayor will ask Members if they wish to enter a submission to the current national consultation that closes on 22 March.

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**7) WORKING GROUPS**

- a) The Community Development Working Group met on 15 February and in addition to other items on its Agenda agreed the date for this year's Ventnor Day as Saturday 1 July to coincide with the Round the Island Yacht race.
  - b) The Public Buildings Working Group met on 21 February and 7 March.
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