



TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 75/20

14 SEPTEMBER 2020

The purpose of this Report is to record developments since the last meeting not requiring an Agenda item at this meeting.

No. DETAILS

1) OPENING THE OFFICE

- a) In a virtual meeting of our office-based staff on 1 September we agreed to re-open the office from 1 October with one member of staff in the office from 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday.
- b) We have already used the office meeting room for occasional meetings of no more than four people.
- c) For the rest of our work, current home-working arrangements enable all of us to progress fully the areas of work we're responsible for.
- d) Daily contact by email and phone, augmented by informal use of gotomeeting as required and regular staff meetings ensure our work is fully co-ordinated.
- e) We will continue to review the arrangements.

2) TOILETS

- a) We were very pleased to be able to re-open the Marlborough Street Public Toilets from Friday 11 September.. As with our other open toilets, they will be fully cleaned three times a day while Covid-19 persists.
- b) The *Non-Domestic (Public Lavatories) Bill* passed its final stage in the House of Commons without opposition on Thursday 3 September and once through the House of Lords and Royal Assent stages will save the town over £7,500 a year.

3) BOB SEELY MP MEETING

- a) I attended the regular meeting the Island's MP holds for Town & Parish Councils on Friday evening 5 September.
- b) He opened with three current issues:
 - o *Britbox Filming* on the Island that he said could result in £50k-£100k a day increased spending in Island businesses.
 - o *Island Line*: he said that the Island had put in a bid for £50k for a feasibility study of the possible extension of the Line from Shanklin to Ventnor and Ryde to Newport.
 - o *Planning White Paper*: he said that he was strongly opposed to the government's plans that he thought were 'breathtakingly bad' and he would oppose them strongly.

4) 31 BUS

- a) The service restarted on 18 August with passenger numbers limited to 8 at any one time, sanitiser available on the bus for passengers to use and face masks required except for those to whom exemptions apply.
- b) The service is running on Tuesdays and Fridays each week for a six month trial with a review at three months of the level of use.

5) WORKING GROUPS

- a) The Assets & Services Working Group met on 25 August and 8 September with its next meeting planned for 22 August.
- b) The Community Development Working Group met on 14 August and will meet next on 23 September.