



TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 58/20

13 JULY 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) ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN (AGAR)

- a) The Annual Governance and Accountability Return and the other nine required documents were submitted to the Town Council's External Auditor PKF Littlejohn on 5 July.
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2) YOUTH OFFICER RECRUITMENT

- a) We have agreed dates for the revival of the recruitment process to the currently vacant post of Youth Opportunities Officer that was halted at the start of lockdown.
 - b) The availability of the four applicants on the initial short-list will be confirmed this week with interviews in the Green Room – with social distancing arrangements in place – on 19 August with a start date of 7 September.
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3) BONIFACE FIELDS & BEES

- a) The introduction of two Beehives owned by a qualified local beekeeper to Salisbury gardens has had to end.
 - b) Discussions are currently underway around the possibility of locating them in the old Town Council allotment in Bonchurch.
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4) ESPLANADE TOILET TEMPORARY CLOSURE

- a) It was necessary to close the Ladies' section of our Esplanade toilets for two days on 30 June due to extensive damage caused the previous day.
 - b) All social distancing markings had been removed, warning notices destroyed, toilet rolls stuffed into toilets and roll holder broken.
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5) TOWN & PARISH COUNCILS' SEMINAR

- a) The Mayor and I joined the quarterly seminar the Isle of Wight Council Dave Stewart holds for Chairs and Clerks on 29 July.
 - b) It focused on the Isle of Wight Council's *Restore & Recovery Plan* from Covid-19.
 - c) He told the meeting that the Authority was currently ranked as the 11th lowest for Covid-19 infections, that they had distributed over £50 million of government funding to local businesses and they have a £9.8 million Budget shortfall.
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6) BOB SEELY MEETING

- a) I joined the virtual meeting the Island's MP holds for Town & Parish Councils fortnightly on Thursday 25 June.
 - b) Arranged by the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils, this was the first time the invitation had been extended to HALC members
 - c) After his summary of his work over the last two weeks, the rest of the 40 minutes was for questions and answers.
 - d) I also attended his meeting on 8 July.
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7) SOUTH WIGHT PARISHES HEALTH AND WELLBEING FORUM

- a) After a brief lockdown break, the Forum had its first virtual meeting on 23 June.
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- b) The speaker this time was Alison Smith, the Managing Director of the island's Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), with a focus on Public Health and its response to the Covid-19 crisis.
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8) WORKING GROUPS

- a) The Assets & Services Working Group met on 23 June, 1 July and 9 July with its next meeting planned for 23 June.
 - b) The Community Development Working Group will meet on 16 July.
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