



TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

20 FEBRUARY 2012

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with updates on some areas of the Town Council's ongoing work.

No. DETAIL

1) GRIT BINS

- a) Unfortunately it has not been possible to implement the proposed introduction of salt/grit bins into the town for this winter.
- b) Staff pressures at the Isle of Wight Council resulted in a two month gap between the Assistant Clerk supplying details – including photographs – of each proposed site and the changes and processes then advised to be needed.
- c) The Officer involved has apologised for the delay and offered full support in progressing the installation.
- d) He has also advised that in addition to changing almost all the initially proposed sites an application for a licence in respect of each bin has to be completed before work can begin.
- e) We propose to return to this project in the summer.

2) QUALITY COUNCIL RE-ACCREDITATION

- a) We have been informed that the Town Council - along with Sandown,, Totland, Shanklin, Freshwater, Gatcombe & Chillerton and Arreton town and parish councils - is due to apply for reaccreditation under the Quality Parish scheme this year.
- b) This requires the production of a Portfolio to be handed to the Panel who judge them four weeks in advance of their September meeting date. It therefore has to be completed no later than 22 July 2012 and probably requires around a week of staff time.

3) OUTFIT LAND LEASE

- a) We have now been supplied with a draft lease for the land on which the Outfit equipment is placed.
- b) We have been informed by the Isle of Wight Council's legal team that as the lease is for a 10 year term, it will need to be registered with the Land Registry and they advise that the Town Council instructs a solicitor to act on its behalf.
- c) We will explore the costs and benefits of doing so and will report further to the next meeting of the Town Council.

4) WINTER GARDENS' ITEMS SALE

- a) When the planning application for the new Winter Gardens was presented to the Isle of Wight Council it became clear that no decision had actually been made about the disposal of all the items left behind when the Town Council vacated the building at the end of January 2011.
- b) After discussion with Strategic Manager Assets Barry Cooke, it was agreed that the Isle of Wight Council would get a clear decision from the Hambrough Group about which items they would wish to retain while we proceeded with arrangements to sell what they did not.
- c) The Hambrough Group have now formally purchased the Piano, the main Gas Cooker and 10 trestle tables; it is pleasing to note that their reason for purchasing the piano was to ensure that it was retained in the Hall for the planned community use, the purpose for which the instrument had originally been purchased by the Town Council.
- d) Other sales of small items have also been progressed to a total of £2,100 to date. The process

will be concluded with an open on-site sale on Saturday 25 February advertised through the Chronicle.

5) PUTTING GREEN

- a)** The Putting Green concession, for which there were just two completed applications, has been awarded by the Isle of Wight Council to Will Willis, the current landlord of the Mill Bay.
 - b)** We have met with him and agreed a payment pattern for the agreed fee. We are in the process of completing a formal agreement for its operation.
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