



TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

9 MAY 2011

The purpose of this report is to provide members with information on relevant areas of the Town Council's work.

No. DETAIL

1) WINTER GARDENS

- a) The three shortlisted bidders for the future operation of the Winter Gardens were:
 - o Robert Thompson's Hambrough Group (Robert Thompson, Kevin Sussmilch)
 - o Klaus Kunhnke (Klaus Kunhnke)
 - o Ventnor Winter Gardens Trust (John Allen, Linda Chester, Tony Careless, David Grocock, Ann Hutchings, Paul Hutchings, Robert Ventress).
- b) They were interviewed for 1 hour each – consisting of a 15-minute presentation and 45 minutes of questions by a Panel consisting of:
 - o John Metcalfe, Assistant Director, Economic Development Tourism & Leisure
 - o Barry Cooke, Strategic Manager Assets
 - o Alex Minns, Strategic Manager Leisure Recreation & Public Spaces
 - o Jason Doughty, Estates Surveyor
 - o Susan Scoccia, Ward Member for Ventnor West
 - o Stephen Stubbings, Member of Ventnor Town Council
 - o Jim Toogood, Member of Ventnor Town Council
 - o David Bartlett Clerk to Ventnor Town Council (as a non-voting member).
- c) The criteria against which the scoring was carried out consisted of:
 - o Financial offer to the Council
 - o Skills and experience of the bidder
 - o Quality of community accessibility to the building
 - o Likely impact of the proposed use of the building
 - o Sustainability of proposals made to maintain the building
 - o Quality of proposals
 - o Ability to finance
 - o Deliverability
- d) The Hambrough Group was selected as the preferred and detailed negotiations are now underway between them and the Isle of Wight Council.
- e) In view of the substantial building works totalling an estimated £1.3M the Group intend to carry out the proposed date for re-opening is Easter 2012.

2) VACANCIES

- a) The Town Council still has three vacancies.
- b) Two of those vacancies – one in each of Ventnor East and St Lawrence – have to be filled by election because 10 electors have asked for one last September. The latest process for those elections has been terminated in the absence of any nominations for them.
- c) The Isle of Wight Council's Elections service are developing a new schedule which will be announced as soon as it is available.
- d) The other vacancy, to represent St Lawrence, can be filled by co-option.

3) ESPLANADE CLOCK

- a) The last Town Council meeting agreed to carry out repairs to the Clock on the Esplanade.
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- b) When Councillor Jim Toogood went to begin the process in accordance with the Minute of the decision, he discovered that the one that needed repair had already been removed – it is not known by whom.
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