



# TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 35/19

8 APRIL 2019

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

## No. DETAILS

### 1) TOWN CENTRE

- a) Island Roads have now confirmed that their resurfacing of the High Street and Pier Street is not scheduled for the current calendar year and that the earliest date will therefore be March 2020.
- b) Given the significance of this for the Town Council's discussions of potential other enhancements of the area in the light of the Isle Access Accessibility Risk Assessment this clarification is welcome for our forward planning purposes.

### 2) CAR PARKS

- a) A response to the Business Case we submitted in December for the management of all eight car parks has had a response in an email from the Isle of Wight Council's Head of Commercial Services Alex Minns:  
*members have decided that they wish to undertake a further review of Island wide parking over the next year and once again this can be considered as part of that review. I am also aware that the business case you have supplied focuses on regeneration of the town and that parking is the smaller part of a bigger picture for the town. I understand that discussions have been had with the Director of Regeneration and I am happy to assist in anyway I can with regards to any consideration with regards to parking.*
- b) I'm pleased to report that we have once again managed the four car parks during the 2018/19 financial year at no cost to the Precept as income exceeded the combined cost of rent and business rates.
- c) The Town Council's Assets and Services Group decided that the overnight £1 parking charge introduced to their car parks would not be applied to those we manage.

### 3) VENTNOR BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

- a) Another very useful meeting with Ventnor Business Association officers took place on Wednesday morning 13 March.
- b) It was good to hear of three new leases for currently empty shops and plans for the VBA's its future to be discussed at its Annual General Meeting on 7 May.

### 4) ALLOTMENTS

- a) All the Boniface Fields allotments are now allocated with signed agreements in place from 1 April with the majority having already paid the £100 charge.
- b) Alison attended last Monday's meeting of the Association to progress the paperwork and payment arrangements.

### 5) VISITING STUDENTS

- a) Another round of meetings with students at mainland schools and colleges staying at the Medina Valley Centre as part of their A-level course at which Councillor Jason Mack answers their questions about the town's regeneration started on Friday afternoon 15 March with a group of 30 students from Brighton College.
- b) It continued with another meeting on Thursday 20 March with a group of 19 sixth form students from the Dame Alice Owen School. The School was founded in 1613, initially for boys and set up in Islington but co-educational since 1973 when it moved to its current site in Potters Bar, Hertfordshire.

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**6) WORKING GROUPS**

- a) The Assets & Services Working Group met on 12 and 26 March and its next meeting is booked for 9 April.
  - b) The Community Development Working Group met on 13 March and its next meeting is on 17 April.
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**7) ANNIVERSARY!**

- a) This meeting is the ninth anniversary of my appointment – on a temporary basis! – as Ventnor’s Town Clerk on 9 April 2010.
  - b) So, as usual at this time of year, it’s my opportunity to thank the Town Councillors and staff I’ve had the privilege of working with in a shared commitment to the town’s best interests that for me has proved uniquely stimulating and rewarding.
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