



TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 63/17

14 AUGUST 2017

The purpose of this paper is to record developments in the past month not requiring an Agenda item at this meeting

No. DETAILS

1) ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND GRANT

- a) Arts Council England has approved an application submitted by our Community Development Officer Tony McCarthy for a grant to the Town Council of £13,685.
 - b) The project, developed with the New Carnival Company and Ventnor Carnival Association is for a 15- month programme of workshops, masterclasses and leader training – in the production of a theatrical carnival presentation based on the mythology of the Isle of Wight – The Snaak Stang.
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2) WELCOME TO VENTNOR SIGN

In the absence of a response from Island Roads on responsibility for the repair of the Welcome to Ventnor sign on the road from Wroxall, new art work has been commissioned and is currently at the production stage with Signpost Express.

3) MAINTENANCE WORKS

- a) The annual maintenance work on the Outfit equipment has been successfully completed to a good standard by Freshair Fitness.
 - b) The Isle of Wight Council has completed its 2017/18 maintenance responsibility for the Sea Breeze Play Area.
 - c) The repair to the valve on the underground supply pipe for the Paddling Pool and Public Toilets was successfully completed at a cost of £1,636.
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4) PADDLING POOL SPONSORSHIP

The new sign for the Paddling Pool sponsorship by Central is now completed and in place and the agreed income of £1,050 has been invoiced.

5) WHEELERS' BAY PROJECT

- a) With the Natural England grant paperwork for the Glanville Fritillary Butterfly project in Wheelers' Bay now adjusted, the quotation from Brighstone Landscaping for the production and installation of the fencing to the front of it has been accepted in a total of £800.
 - b) The Natural England Project Officer Mark Later has informed us that work on the Information Board is approaching completion.
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6) WORKING GROUPS

- a) Our Assets & Services Working Group has met twice since the last Town Council meeting – on 11 and 25 July - and will meet next on 15 August.
 - b) The Regeneration Working Group met on 24 July for a more detailed discussion of the three potential development areas agreed by the July Town Council meeting.
 - c) The Community Development Working Group met on 12 July with its next meeting agreed for 6 September.
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7) NALC REPRESENTATION

- a) The Mayor had his first meeting as the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils' representative at the National Association of Local Councils' (NALC) National Committee in London on 12 July with a lengthy Agenda for a five-hour meeting.
 - b) Items included Strategic Plan Delivery, Governance, Finance – it has a £1.2 million annual budget – membership recruitment and retention and Committee membership. It meets next on 31 October.
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8) MEN IN SHEDS

- a) Saturday 29 July morning saw the official opening by the Mayor of Ventnor Men in Sheds' new premises at 149 High Street.
 - b) The event reflected the relaxed informality and welcoming approach that characterises the group and its activity. The organisation has developed remarkably over the last two years of its time in the lower ground floor of Ventral Central.
 - c) The move gives them a shop-front presence on the High Street and the opportunity to significantly extend its opening hours.
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9) REGENERATION CONFERENCE

- a) On Thursday 20 July the Mayor, our Economic Development Officer Nick Cox and I joined the Isle of Wight Council's major Regeneration Conference from 12 – 4pm at Cowes Yacht Haven.
 - b) Aimed at attracting interest from developers and investors in the opportunities available on sites currently owned by the Council, the audience of around 150 shared three main presentation sessions: first were keynote speakers from the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and Ascensos (the owners of the new 600-staff Call Centre) followed by Councillor Wayne Whittle and Assistant Director of Regeneration Reniera O'Donnell setting out the Council's new Regeneration Programme.
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