



TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 82/16

14 NOVEMBER 2016

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

No. DETAIL

1) STAFF CHANGES

- a) Due to personal circumstances our Youth Opportunities Officer Laura Reid has had to end her employment by the Town Council within its Youth Offer Programme. Thanks are due to her for her innovative and enthusiastic work on the programme during her 18 months with us.
 - b) Lauren Fry, already employed by us as a Youth Worker within the programme, has agreed to extend her hours to 25 a week to take on the responsibilities of both posts.
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2) YOUTH OFFER

- a) The meeting on 20 October organised by the Isle of Wight Association of Local Council to discuss the future of the Youth Offer was attended by around 50 people sharing a concern about the ending of funding for the programme next March.
 - b) Presentations by a number of the 13 current providers of opportunities for young people funded by the programme were followed by our Community Development Officer Tony McCarthy outlining VTC's lead role in the development of a Collaborative Partnership of the providers established to ensure the programme has a future: his contribution was welcomed by Isle of Wight Council Leader Jonathan Bacon.
 - c) Johnathan Bacon subsequently invited Tony McCarthy to meet with him on Friday 11 November to discuss the role of the Collaborative Partnership.
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3) VENTNOR HAVEN NOTICEBOARD

As Members may have noticed, the renovation of the Ventnor Haven Notice Board is now complete in a remarkable transformation from its previous dilapidated state. Thanks are due in particular to Councillor James Toogood for progressing and supervising the work throughout.

4) VISITING STUDENTS

- a) We hosted a meeting on 12 October for 30 first-year A-Level geography students from Gordon's School in Woking as part of their stay at the Island's Medina Valley Centre.
 - b) With their focus on either Regeneration or Coastal Management Ventnor became a case study. Our Economic Development Officer Nick Cox provided a presentation on the town's need for and experience of regeneration in the context of modern geography and he and the Mayor answered questions.
 - c) The students spent Thursday in and around the town and we met those looking at regeneration for a Q&A session on Friday afternoon, concluding with the offer of a video conferring link when they came to write up their work.
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5) VENTNOR ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

The local Branch have thanked the Town Council for its contribution to their very successful celebration of Poppy Day – held in Ventnor for the first time – with the free use of the Car Parks for the day particularly appreciated.

6) IWALC CONSTITUTION

The Town Council's initiative in proposing changes to the Constitution of the Isle of Wight Association of Local Councils (IWALC) that led to the presentation to its September meeting, is now featured on the Agenda for its meeting of 17 November with a proposal that the suggestions

for changes are considered at a workshop arranged for next month.

7) WORKING GROUPS

- a) The Public Buildings Working Group met on 2 November with Island Roads' new Ventnor Steward Paul Wigman joining the meeting for the first half hour. Members raised a total of 12 items of current concern and Paul committed to ensuring responses would be provided soon.
 - b) The Community Development Group met on 18 October to discuss the Youth Offer programme, the new role for Town and Parish Councils in the My Life a Full Life developments and the annual consultation event. Tony McCarthy reported on the encouraging use of the Green Room by community groups, the successful AGM of the Men's Shed and his completed funding applications for £700 to establish a Hate Crime report centre and £3,680 towards the costs of next year's Ventnor Day on 29 May.
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