



TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 100/15

9 NOVEMBER 2015

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

No. DETAIL

1) ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL LEADER'S MEETING

- a) The Mayor and Town Clerk joined representatives from Sandown, Shanklin, Newport, Ryde, Freshwater and Cowes Town and Parish Councils in responding to a short-notice invitation from the Isle of Wight Council Leader to meet with him at County Hall on Tuesday 3 November at 5pm.
 - b) A matching meeting with the smaller Town and Parish Councils was held the following day.
 - c) The invitation was to discuss further devolution of services and transfer of assets along with the fact that their retention of the Local Council Tax Support Grant from the government intended for forwarding to Town and Parish Councils was under consideration.
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2) PLANNING COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

- a) A special meeting of our Planning Committee was arranged at their request on 13 October with the Isle of Wight Council's Head of Planning Services Wendy Perera to discuss growing concerns about the frequency with which the Committee felt their local knowledge was being ignored by the Local Planning Authority.
 - b) We want to thank Wendy Perera for her readiness to meet to discuss those concerns directly and the very positive meeting, based on several specific instances, concluded with better understandings all round of how co-operation can be improved.
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3) WORKING GROUPS

- a) The Working Groups are continuing their regular pattern of meetings and are much valued by all involved, not least by the Clerks.
 - b) The Public Buildings Working Group met at 10am on 20 October and 3 November with their next meeting planned for 16 November.
 - c) The Community Development Working Group meets at 6pm for its monthly sessions, the last of which was on 13 October and the next will be on 16 November.
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4) OUR PLACE GRANT APPLICATION

- a) An email from Locality on 13 October informed us that grants of £10,000 were on offer for up to 10 applicants from the 120 areas involved in the last year's Our Place programme with a deadline of 2 November.
 - b) Nicky Cox, our Economic Development Officer, provided the basis for our application based on the implementation of his proposal for the Breaking New Ground element of our Operational Plan and based around the development and implementation of the proposed E-Forums.
 - c) A decision is expected later this month and, if successful, the funding will have to be used by 31 March 2016.
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