



TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 41/14

9 JUNE 2014

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with updates on some areas of the Town Council's ongoing work for information.

No. DETAIL

1) VBA MEETING

- a) The Mayor and Town Clerk's monthly meeting with the VBA's Chair and Liaison Officer took place last Friday and was again a very useful exchange of concerns and ideas.
 - b) Discussions included the increasing damage caused by growing numbers of pigeons to premises, pavements and vehicles, the frequency of Island Roads' street cleaning in the town, the new Ventnor Map produced and circulated by the VBA and plans for an improved version for next year and the varying experiences of the level of tourist related activity this year.
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2) NEW BENCH

- a) The Assistant Town Clerk has received another memorial bench request and subsequently met up with the client and the Isle of Wight Council's Steve Critchlow from Parks and Beaches.
 - b) The bench will be located either near Steephill Cove or at Flowersbrook, once formal agreement has been received by Isle of Wight Council.
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3) CAR PARKING CONSULTATION

As agreed at the 19 May Town Council Meeting, a letter expressing the Town Council's opposition to the proposed extension of parking charges from 6pm to 8pm was submitted to the consultation process.

4) TIMEBANK'S BRING & FIX IT EVENT

- a) The Bring & Fix Event was held at Ventnor Baptist Church on Saturday 31 May.
 - b) The first event of its kind in Ventnor was a success, with Timebank members volunteering to fix and mend items for local people, to include fixing/debugging laptops, repairing toys, sewing, fixing household items and repairing bicycle punctures.
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5) DEFIB COURSE

- a) The Isle of Wight Ambulance Service ran a defib training course at Ventnor Bowls Club on the morning of Wednesday 25 May.
 - b) The course was very successful and attendees included Beach Safety Officer Dave Gray and volunteer Davin Gibbs together with Councillor Jim Toogood.
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6) FEEL GOOD VENTNOR

- a) In spite of the wet Bank Holiday weather, over 80 people attended the first event of this new project.
 - b) Steph Toogood organised family fitness at OutFit together with fitness instructor Maria with both on hand to provide assistance, advice and support
 - c) Free putting and healthy snack options of fruit and veg pots were provided by Jackie Tiller at the Putting Green and Huxley the Magician proved to be a success.
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7) DEVOLVED SERVICES MEETING

- a) I attended a meeting of Clerks and Town & Parish Councillors on the situation about the Isle of
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Wight Council's plans for devolving services to Town & Parish Councils held at Sandown's Broadway Centre on Friday 23 May.

- b) Councillor Steve Stubbings also attended in his role as Deputy Leader of the Isle of Wight Council to respond to the widely shared concerns about the importance of data being available about the contracts and costs of beach cleaning, grass cutting and managing public toilets.

8) NALC CONFERENCE

- a) Following the opportunity this time last year to share the Town Council's experience of using the Community Rights to Bid and Challenge as a case study in the National Association of Local Council's national conference, I was invited back to this year's event in London, *Making Localism Work* on 5 June.
 - b) This time Ventnor's experience was presented to the whole Conference in plenary session and not just to one Workshop, in a session shared with Freddie Gick of Civic Voice.
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