



TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

8 OCTOBER 2012

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

No. DETAIL

1) QUALITY COUNCIL

- a) The Mayor and Town Clerk attended an interview in Newport on Thursday 20 September with the Island-based Panel responsible for assessing applications from Town and Parish Councils for Quality Council status.
 - b) As the process requires, we had previously submitted a 200-page evidence file in response to a series of 10 tests and the purpose of the interview was for the Panel to ask any question prompted by the file and to explore related ways of working.
 - c) We left the room while the Panel arrived at their assessment and were invited back to be told that they would recommend to the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) that Ventnor Town Council be awarded Quality Council Status. Subject to NALC's endorsement of that recommendation, the Mayor will be presented with the Certificate at a future Town Council meeting.
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2) CHRISTMAS IN VENTNOR

- a) The plans for the Christmas in Ventnor event are well advanced and have been enhanced by the engagement of the town's traders through Nicky Cox's relationships with them.
 - b) The joint meeting of Carnival Committee members, Councillors Debby Robinson, Harry Rees and Jim Toogood is continuing its work supported by the Assistant Town Clerk.
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3) PUTTING GREEN

- a) The Isle of Wight Council have agreed to not take any further action in respect of the management of the Putting Green until the end of the current two year contract period that runs to the end of September 2013.
 - b) Consequently, we've confirmed to Sue and Chris Cooper our agreement for them to operate the facility next season.
 - c) There will need to be further discussions with the Isle of Wight Council about its longer term future.
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4) CHRISTMAS TREE

- a) Preliminary enquiries have shown that pricing is not sufficiently available for decisions to be made for either tree or solar lights.
 - b) The decision can either be made at the next Town Council meeting on 12 November or left to the Town Clerk, advised by Councillors Leigh Geddes and Debby Robinson to make the purchases within the £1,000 budget for Town Decorations.
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