



# TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 19/22

14 FEBRUARY 2022

The purpose of this Report is to record developments since the last meeting not requiring an Agenda item at this meeting.

## NO. DETAILS

### 1) LATEST LITTER PICKING

- a) Over 40 Locals with Councillors, St Catherine School Pupils, local joggers and residents of all ages from toddlers to pensioners spent an hour walking, talking and picking to rid the streets of bags and bags of trash on Sunday morning 23 January.
- b) Chat in the Green Room with hot drinks and biscuits finished the morning pick.

### 2) HIGH STREET CLOSURE MEETING

- a) The consultation meeting on the 3-week closure of the High Street we'd asked Wightfibre for took place at St Catherine's Church on Monday attended by around 25 people including a number of business owners.
- b) Two senior Wightfibre Directors were there and a full presentation including samples of materials used prompted a lively Q&A session.
- c) The meeting heard that a specialist company had been engaged to lift and replace the blocks that form the pavements and that although the area will be closed to vehicles throughout, pedestrian access will be maintained. Arrangements for deliveries will be made.

### 3) HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT GRANT

Our application to the Isle of Wight Council's Housing Support fund was accepted and that provides £17,900 for us to distribute to local households in need of assistance with food and heating.

### 4) VENTNOR PARK TREE WORKS

The Isle of Wight Council has agreed to contribute half the cost - £3,290 – of the required Tree Works in Ventnor Park totalling £6,580.

### 5) SOUTH WIGHT HEALTH & WELLBEING FORUM

- a) The Health & Wellbeing Forum we organise for representatives of our area's 13 Town & Parish Councils to meet with senior staff of the Island's services had its latest (virtual) meeting on Wednesday 12 January.
- b) Its guest speakers this time were Andy Savage of Breathe Easy Isle of Wight and Arc Consulting's Ian Lloyd on Community Resilience.

### 6) WORKING GROUPS

- a) The Assets & Services Working Group met on 11 and 25 January and 8 February and will meet again on 1 March.
- b) The Community Development Working Group met on Thursday evening 3 February and plans to meet next on 3 March.
- c) The Sustainability & Biodiversity Working Group met virtually on Wednesday 26 January and will meet again on 26 March.
- d) The New Website Working Group met on 31 January and its next meeting will be on 7 March.

### 7) SALISBURY GARDENS

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- a) Our Insurers have agreed to reimburse the costs of repairs to Salisbury Gardens resulting from the July storm for which the Town Council will receive £3,875.
  - b) The claim in respect of the October storm is waiting for receipt of final invoices.
  - c) The construction of a new, safe, internal access route to the roof is now complete and Room 13 can now be re-let.
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