



VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

THE CLERK'S COLUMN

EDITION 40

MONDAY 11 JANUARY 2021

Welcome to the second Clerk's Column of 2021 circulated as usual to the 490 residents on our Residents' Forum email list and through the Chronicle's page 4.

CASCADE OVERFLOW



The Cascade was overwhelmed by its water flow towards the end of last week. The overflow into parts of the area near the Esplanade Toilets led to dangerous ground as it froze in the below seasonal average

temperatures.

At the time of writing the exact cause is unclear but investigations start today.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Planning Committee's first meeting of the new year was on Tuesday with a longer than usual Agenda of seven applications

Generally, Members liked what they were looking at and were able to support six of them. Only the proposed roof deck at Friston, Bonchurch Shute failed to gain their support in view of its intrusion of privacy to habitable rooms of neighbouring properties. The Committee were pleased that their concerns about the proposed development at Shore House, Shore Road that they had recorded at their September meeting had been addressed to the point where they could now support it.

ASSETS & SERVICES WORKING GROUP

The Group's latest virtual meeting took place on Tuesday. Its Agenda included the new Public Toilet, the 31 Bus, traffic flow on the Esplanade and Ventnor Park. We heard that around 100 leaflets had been circulated to Esplanade businesses and residents with an outline of the proposed changes and a very positive response agreed. The only remaining issue with the Lease for Ventnor Park is the definition of 'Permitted Uses'.

DECEMBER FINANCES

The balance on the Town Council's bank accounts at 31 December was £255,342. Payments during the month totalled £42,002 of which £6,593 was due to Salisbury Gardens. Income during the month totalled £4,946 of which £4,334 came from Salisbury Gardens' rents.

The list of payments and receipts in the first 9 months of the year showed payments £42,045 under Budget and receipts £1,917 under Budget.

DECEMBER WEATHER

Our weather readings are collected daily from our Weather Centre by Christopher Watts.

Rainfall (mm):		Date
Total amount	130.4	
% of average	146	
No. of dry days	7	
Highest	23.9	26th
Temperatures (deg C):		
Mean	7.1	
Difference from average	-0.2	
Highest	12.9	23rd
Lowest	-0.9	31st
Coldest day	3.6	29th

There were four air frosts this month, on the 7th, 8th, 25th and 31st.

SUPPORT FOR VULNERABLE RESIDENTS

Our volunteers are still providing support with shopping and collecting medication for those unable to go out and without others to support them

If you need help, or know someone who does, contact us by phoning our help lines: 853775 or 857848.

ROAD CLOSURES THIS WEEK

The main road between Lake and Shanklin is due to close between 9am and 5pm on Wednesday 13 January for the removal of the *Shew Bridge* structure. There will be a further one-day closure around 5 weeks later for the installation of the new bridge.

Madeira Road is due to close for one day between Tuesday 12 and Thursday 14 January.

VIA MY TWITTER FEED LAST TWO WEEKS

- New Year's Message from the IFS's Review of Inequalities finds: 'Between March and July, mortality rates from COVID-19 were twice as high in the most deprived areas as in the least deprived.'
- The Centre for Retail Research's 2020 Forecast is that 'total retail sales in 2020 will fall overall by -4.6% compared to 2019 (or a reduction of £17,281m). The level of retail sales will not regain last year's level (2019) until 2022.'

MORE INFORMATION: including contact details for Town Councillors is available from the Town Council's website and @ventnorclerk

. Readers of the print edition can access the digital version via the news block on the home page of our web site
