



VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

THE CLERK'S COLUMN

EDITION 45

MONDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2021

Welcome to the sixth 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.

BUDGET & PRECEPT FOR 2021/22

February is the month that all 33 of the Island's Town & Parish Councils are required to set their Precept for the following financial year.

Ventnor Town Council's meeting last Monday agreed that its Precept for 2021/22 will be £355,889, a reduction of £16,137 or 4.4% on the current year's Precept. Councillors are pleased to be able to achieve this decrease at such a difficult time for so many.

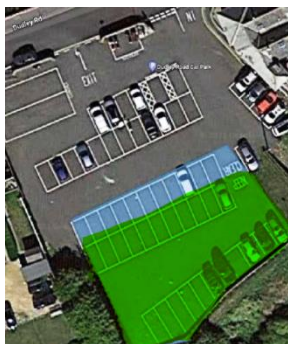
The predicted total spend in the year is £487,682 with the balance being offset by income from the activities that incur the costs such as the four car parks we currently manage.

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. These variations are mainly due to the impact of Covid-19 on activities during the year.

DUDLEY ROAD CAR PARK



From today (Monday) for three weeks the Isle of Wight Council is taking over a large area – coloured green - of Dudley Road Car Park for use by its Belgrave Road contractors.

Permit holders for Dudley Road who can't find a space during this time will be free

to use that permit in the Market Street Car park

NEW PUBLIC TOILET

Monday's Town Council meeting voted to start the building work with its Preferred Contractor as soon as a reasonable charge by the Isle of Wight Council for the use of the four bays the Toilet will occupy is agreed and borrowing Approval is received.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Planning Committee's meeting on Tuesday had three items on its Agenda. It supported two: a two storey side and single storey rear extensions at 18 Mitchell Avenue and 103 Lesson Road's plans for alterations to an existing loft conversion to include extension to existing dormer and juliet balcony. The Committee saw no reason to oppose the change of use to residential of the old Bonchurch Post Office.

JANUARY WEATHER

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

Rainfall (mm):		Date
Total amount	100.8	
% of average	113	
No. of dry days	8	
Highest	25.8	29th
Temperatures (deg C):		
Mean	5.3	
Difference from average	-0.9	
Highest	12.1	29th
Lowest	-2.7	10th
Coldest day	3.1	7th

There were eight air frosts this month, on the 1st, 2nd, 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th, 24th and 25th.

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.

VIA MY TWITTER FEED LAST TWO WEEKS

- A new report from children's charity [Little Village](#) finds 'We've released new research supported by [@jrf_uk](#) showing that 1.3 million of the 4.2 million children in poverty in the UK are babies and children under the age of 5.'
- An [IPPR Blog](#) states: 'almost one third of UK firms are at risk of collapse in the spring if support is not extended. This corresponds to almost 600,000 employers at risk, together employing approximately 9 million people.'

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

