



VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

THE CLERK'S COLUMN

EDITION 70

MONDAY 9 AUGUST 2021

Welcome to edition 70 of our Clerk's Column circulated as usual to the 490 residents on our Residents' Forum email list and through the Chronicle's page 4.

JULY FINANCES

The Finance Report to this evening's Town Council meeting records the combined balance of our two Bank accounts at the end of July as £414,422 compared with £423,563 at the end of June. During July we spent a total of £45,084 and received £35,944.

We received a repayment of £10,281 from the Business Rates we had paid on the Esplanade and Marlborough Road toilets since 1 April 2020, following the government's cancellation of Business Rates on Public Toilets since that date.

Receipts also included £7,200 for 80% of the Holiday Activities Funding from Isle of Wight Council, the £11,500 payment by Island Roads for their use of the Dudley Road Car Park and the £2,991 VAT reclaim for quarter one of the current financial year.

The year-to-date list showed payments in the period were £14,324 under Budget and receipts were £4,153 over Budget.

CAR PARK MANAGEMENT

The good news is that the new administration at County Hall are committed to working with Town & Parish Councils and discussions are underway with their officers

Parking income 2016 to 2021					
Income	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21
Off-street income	1,955,259	1,941,143	2,255,012	2,266,701	1,249,011
On-street income	1,048,487	1,017,484	1,191,662	1,195,694	669,061
Long stay permits	229,035	241,219	248,927	244,594	187,429
Penalty charges	658,581	661,462	643,096	668,641	409,130
Tourist permit	132,082	142,473	126,763	141,806	107,242
Staff permits	86,719	87,712	93,671	124,530	1,109
Residential permits	114,761	112,843	120,241	154,352	111,684
Misc. income	28,990	25,519	34,807	60,744	93,335
Total	4,253,913	4,229,855	4,714,179	4,857,062	2,828,000

about our plans for ours. They have provided this summary of the importance of parking income to their budget.

DELAYED SCENE CHANGE

The plan for artist Stevie Unknown (actually Croad) to transform the corrugated shield of the old Gaiety site into a lively beach scene has been delayed by two weeks as Stevie was 'pinged' and had to self-isolate. Ready to go now, though.

THE BUSKERS ARE IN TOWN

The programme of Saturday Buskers arranged by our Deputy Mayor Steph Toogood got off to a flying start on Saturday at Spring Hill Gardens. Lacoustic (the town's popular window cleaner) was first up followed by a debut gig by The Pact Band, between them providing joyful entertainment for an average audience of 40 to 50 throughout the two hour 11am – 1pm slot.

The programme runs for each Saturday in the same place and same time slot up to and including Saturday 25 September. Next Saturday's audience will be entertained by Lee Greenwood from 11am and by Amy Joliffe from 12 noon.



our Deputy Mayor Steph Toogood got off to a flying start on Saturday at Spring Hill Gardens. Lacoustic



VENTNOR'S JULY WEATHER

It was a turbulent week for the Fringe weather-wise.

Rainfall (mm):		Date
Total amount	97.2	
% of average	224	
No. of dry days	18	
Highest	26.8	25th
Temperatures (deg C):		
Mean	18.0	
Difference from average	+1.3	
Highest	26.0	21st
Lowest	12.1	11th
Coldest day	16.6	7th

Temperatures hit 24.5°C (24th), but only 17.7°C (27th). Between the 23rd and 27th thunderstorms became quite a feature, and rainfall over these five days

totalled 62.1mm. Finally, storm Evert brought unusually strong winds for July on the 30th.

NEW POST

We're interviewing two of the applicants for our new post of Business Development Officer on Thursday this week.

VIA MY TWITTER FEED LAST WEEK

- A [National Housing Federation](#) survey of Housing Association tenants on Universal Credit finds '79% of respondents reported that they had struggled to pay for at least one essential item when claiming, with 43% saying they struggled to pay for food.'
- The [Royal Meteorological Society's](#) State of the UK Climate 2020 report finds 'The most recent decade (2011–2020) has been on average 0.5°C warmer than the 1981–2010 average and 1.1°C warmer than 1961–1990.'

MORE INFORMATION: is available from the Town Council's website and @ventnor clerk