



VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

THE CLERK'S COLUMN

EDITION 74

MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2021

Welcome to edition 74 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.

SEPTEMBER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

The final Agenda will be published tomorrow as usual. It will open with the routine Finance Report for last month followed by proposals for an upgrade of our staff team's IT systems. The New Public Toilet and the management of the town's Car Parks are two of our major contributions to the town's regeneration so there will be Reports on both including a proposal for a start date on the Central Car Park based new toilet. Ongoing discussions by the 31 Bus Working Group exploring options for an alternative to the current poorly used service will be reported to the Meeting before it moves on to consider the new PTEC Planning Application and the Isle of Wight Council's Draft Island Planning Strategy that is out for consultation until 1 October.

NEW STAFF MEMBER

We are currently advertising for an Administrator to join our staff team in place of Morgan Williams who leaves us



on 24 September for a new opportunity after joining us as an apprentice in June 2016. In those five years the Town Council's

responsibilities and services have grown very substantially – and effectively thanks to good quality administration. The replacement post comes with a salary of £18,933 and full details and an application form are available through a link on the home page of our web site. The closing date for applications is noon on Thursday 16 September. The full advert is in the Chronicle.

DESTINATION BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Or D-BID as it's known is on the Agenda of this



Thursday's Cabinet Meeting for approval of a new Business Plan that provides Visit Isle of Wight with almost £3m of its annual Budget. That's based on a charge levied on tourist related businesses with a rateable value of over £3,000ps as a % of rateable value and a minimum of £150 a year. It's up for renewal requiring a majority vote in favour by those businesses next month.

ASSETS & SERVICES WORKING GROUP

The Group's meeting on Tuesday started with the work needing to be completed at *Salisbury Gardens* and the current room occupancy with two rooms available for renting. *Boniface Fields* was next on the replacement steps to the Community Portacabin and the treatment of a second area of Japanese Knotweed on the site. We then noted the price increase in the cost of the new *Public Toilet* due to the rising costs of materials during the delayed start of the project, agreed the proposed new start date of the end of this month and confirmed the call on the Public Works Loan Board £150k loan. The last Agenda item was *Ventnor Park* for which we noted the agreed schedule of payments to the Isle of Wight Council for its Grounds Maintenance.

SMUGGLERS' HAVEN GETS A NEW BENCH

The fourth of the five new Benches made by



Ventnor Community Shed was successfully installed at Smugglers' Haven on Friday. Congratulations to the very skilled Shed

members for upgrading our public spaces with these lovely seats.

VENTNOR'S AUGUST WEATHER

The 2nd saw a very heavy rainstorm starting shortly after 8am. It lasted for about two hours, and measured

59.4mm. The weather redeemed itself for Ventnor Day (14th) however, when it was dry and sunny with a comfortable maximum temperature of 20.2°C.

Rainfall (mm):		Date
Total amount	86.0	
% of average	177	
No. of dry days	21	
Highest	59.3	1st
Temperatures (deg C):		
Mean	17.1	
Difference from average	-0.3	
Highest	22.9	4th
Lowest	11.4	28th
Coldest day	17.5	8th

VIA MY TWITTER FEED LAST WEEK

- A new briefing from the [Institute for Financial Studies](#) today finds 'School spending per pupil in England fell by 9% in real terms between 2009–10 and 2019–20, the largest cut in over 40 years.'
- A [Child Poverty Action Group](#) Report today 'shows that 36% (about 1 million) of all school-aged children in poverty in the UK are not entitled to a free meal at school.'

MORE INFORMATION: is available from the Town Council's website and @ventnor clerk
 Readers of the print edition can access the digital version via the news block on the home page of our web site

