



VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S COLUMN

EDITION 79

MONDAY 11 OCTOBER 2021

Welcome to edition 79 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 FINANCIALS

The Finance Report to this evening's Town Council meeting records the combined balance of our two Bank accounts at the end of September at £342,448 compared with £364,802 at the end of August. During September we spent a total of £44,893 and received £22,539, of which Salisbury Gardens' rents contributed £9,798.

The list of payments included the £8,000 first tranche of the cost of grounds maintenance in the Park out of the total for this year of £23,897.

The receipts included £9,798 from Salisbury Gardens' rents. The expenditure year-to-date list showed payments in the first half year to be £5,389 over Budget and receipts were £8,374 more than Budget.

VENTNOR'S SEPTEMBER WEATHER

Rainfall (mm):		Date
Total amount	38.1	
% of average	65	
No. of dry days	21	
Highest	15.1	28th
Temperatures (deg C):		
Mean	17.6	
Difference from average	+1.9	
Highest	24.8	18th
Lowest	9.2	29th
Coldest day	16.3	29th

Summer lasted until the 26th with autumn taking over for the final four days. It was drier and slightly

warmer than August.

HIGHWAYS MATTERS

Our Mayor attended a meeting on Tuesday with Kevin Burton (Island roads), Stewart Chandler & Ian Middleton (IWC) to discuss a range of Highways issues:

Belgrave Road: Island Roads are only contractually obliged to rebuild 'as was'.

High Street: Stephen raised the matter of the Town Council's proposals for changes to the High Street and Kevin Burton said that he would ask his staff to review the council paper free of charge.

Esplanade parking: informally all attendees agreed the rationale of the Town Council's proposals for change.

ASSETS & SERVICES WORKING GROUP

Tuesday's meeting of the Group covered a range of issues across five major areas of the Town Council's responsibilities:

New Public Toilet: We've been supplied by the Isle of Wight Council with a formal Heads of Terms document for the future lease of the four car parking bays the new toilets will occupy.

Grounds Maintenance: We agreed routines for the regular monitoring of the 18 areas of grounds maintenance we've taken on.

Salisbury Gardens: We considered quotations we've received for works to repair the water damage from the recent heavy rains and to implement the latest recommendations from the Fire Officer.

Paddling Pool: a resident has requested that we explore the feasibility of disability access.

Ventnor Park: the treatment of the exposed roots of four trees, memorial plaques and the removal of the aviary were all discussed.

LOCAL LITTER PICKING

This amazing team of volunteer litter pickers



organised by Deputy Mayor Steph Toogood gathered at Salisbury Gardens at

9am Sunday morning aiming to clear the town's central area, its surrounding streets and four car parks of all the left behind litter.

The results of their work were, briefly, on display back at base.



VIA MY TWITTER FEED LAST WEEK

- The Fair Tax Foundation has drawn attention to research findings by the [Universities of California, Berkeley and Copenhagen](#) showing: '40% of multinational profits (\$950bn) are shifted to tax havens each year. The UK suffers \$120bn of profit shifting, leading to an estimated £17bn of missing tax'
- The [Health Foundation](#) reports 'The public health grant has been cut by 24% on a real-terms per capita basis since 2015/16 ...restoring the public health grant to its historical value ... would require an additional £1.4bn a year...by 2024/25.'

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