



VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S COLUMN

EDITION 84

MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2021

Welcome to edition 84 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.

NOVEMBER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

A longer than usual meeting of the Town Council needed two hours to complete its important business last Monday. It started as usual with my monthly Financial Report (summarised here last week) before moving on to the special motion to reverse the Town Council's decision in August to cancel the 31 Bus Service. It was 'special' because the law requires that reversing a decision within six months requires a motion with the support of six Members to be presented to the Clerk at least five clear days before the meeting. That was fulfilled and the operator will now continue the service on the two-day a week basis.

The Town Council next approved a Development Programme for its work to counter the town's deprivation and support the residents affected by it. Other items included the Tide & Tide Bell Project (supported subject to final details), adoption of the updated policies on Health & Safety, Safeguarding and Volunteers and agreement on an Audit Emission Reduction framework.

The final item was the confidential discussion of the provider of our new web site reported on below.

NEW WEB SITE

A Working Group of three Members has been exploring potential providers of a new web site for the Town



Council web site. As Town & Parish Council web sites have to comply with relevant government legislation and include a variety of information required by law, the Group

looked for providers experienced in this area. Monday's Town Council meeting accepted the Working Group's recommendation to appoint the Bath-based firm of Zonkey.

NEXT LITTER PICK

Our Deputy Mayor Steph Toogood is arranging a Litter Pick, November weather permitting, on Sunday 21st November. It will start from our Green Room with all tools provided. She is hoping for even more volunteers so that the town and part of the coastal path and Esplanade can be covered.

ROOF REPAIRS CONTINUE

From the top of the scaffold on the south elevation of



Salisbury Gardens the full extent of the damage caused by the storm of the night of 30 October can be clearly seen with slates

lifted along with the guttering and fascia boarding. Good progress is being made, though, and we're very grateful indeed to the scaffolders and roofers for their very rapid response.

IT UPGRADE

We're also very grateful to our long-standing provider of IT support, Wight Computers. In less than 48 hours this week they carried out a major upgrade of all our lap tops and



transferred our 60,000 file staff information base from Drop Box to the Cloud as well as being available by phone and on-line support as we learned to live with the new system.

OUR HEALTH SERVICES MOVE TO AN ICS

After five years of planning our health services are



being joined together in the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Integrated Care System, one of 42 nationwide. Serving a population of 1.8 million and including the four principal local authorities of Hampshire County Council,

Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council and the Isle of Wight County Council it was approved last December and will have statutory force from 1 April 2022 from the Health & Social Care Act. Its core components will be the 42 Primary Care Networks, a single commissioning function and four Integrated Care Partnerships, one for each of the four principal local authorities together with their NHS Trust(s) and Community Commissioning Group.

VIA MY TWITTER FEED LAST WEEK

- Homeless Charity [Crisis](#) highlights a 207% increase in landlord possessions in the three months July to September.
- A Report from the [Building Research Establishment](#) finds ' Poor housing in England could be costing the National Health Service (NHS) £1.4billion a year in treatment bills.'

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