



# VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S COLUMN

EDITION 93

MONDAY 31 JANUARY 2022

Welcome to edition 93 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.

## ASSETS & SERVICES WORKING GROUP MEETING

The Group's virtual meeting on Tuesday morning dealt with a full Agenda. Item one included an update on the ongoing repairs to the Salisbury Gardens' roof and the need to get a revaluation of our many assets for insurance purposes. We then agreed on the trimming of the lower branches on some of the Boniface Fields' Trees and the purchase of a second hand mower for the Putting Green. Signage in the Park came next with a proposal from our Business Development Manager that we will add to the February Town Council meeting Agenda. The impact of Wight Fibre on the town also occupied us and we were pleased to hear that they had agreed to a meeting with us. The unsuitable placement of the Electric Charging point in Victoria Street was discussed again together with the Isle of Wight Council's plans for future facilities. The potential for further development of the area around the Paddling Pool will be further looked into and our final item was a question by Isle of Wight Council about a possible pop-up shop near the Wheelers Bay area.

## PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee had five applications to consider at its meeting on Tuesday. It decided to recommend the withdrawal of the application for the Time & Tide Bell's installation to the east of the Haven due to questions about *its location, health and safety of the public and the effect of prevailing winds and storms*. It strongly supported the application for a single storey extension and detached garage at 2 Rew Farm Cottages and supported development at Bonchurch's Shore House. It was, however, unable to support significant development at The Eyrie on Hambrough Road *without evidence of the structural engineer's report related to loading and potential down-movement, due to historical ground movement nearby*. Declarations of Interest by Committee Members left it inoperative for the application of Belgrave Road's St Andrews.

## MAYORS' SURGERY

Our Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be happy to meet with residents at our Salisbury Gardens' Green Room from 6pm on Wednesday evening.

## THREE WEEK HIGH STREET CLOSURE

In a meeting with Wightfibre last week they told us that their work in the Town requires a three-week



hard closure of the High Street from 1 March with pedestrian access only. They readily offered to arrange a public meeting for discussion of the many issues that raises for residents and traders and that will take place tomorrow (Tuesday) at St Catherine's Church from 4.30pm to 6.30pm.

## FILMING IN VENTNOR

There will be some disruptions to the town this week with various short road closures throughout the week including the High Street from Church Street to Springhill on Friday to allow filming for a major film. The Town Council has had no involvement in these arrangements and will not benefit from them. We only learned the final details on Thursday thanks to the company providing the closure signage. Those details are available [here](#).

## BEACH SAFETY

After two Covid-affected summers when we were unable to operate our much appreciated Beach Safety project, the Town Council is keen to restore it for the coming season. To make that possible we need to recruit two new part-time staff each on 21-hour contracts from 1 June to 30 September at £11 an hour. Anyone interested is asked to contact Alison Killick by phone on 853775 or through [alison@ventnortowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:alison@ventnortowncouncil.org.uk). The posts will be advertised in this week's Chronicle and County Press.



## SUSTAINABILITY & BIODIVERSITY GROUP

The Group's monthly meeting took place virtually on Wednesday evening. The main item was a report from our Business Development Officer based on the Carbon Emission Reduction Audit adopted by the Group at its November meeting.

## VIA MY TWITTER FEED LAST WEEK

- Today's [Resolution Foundation](#) Report Social Insecurity says: 'unemployment benefit in 2022-23 will be at its lowest level in real-terms since 1990-91, at just £77.29, and is only slightly above an estimated destitution income level of £70 per week.'
- The [Adecco Group](#) of international HR Lawyers has published its comparison of government responses to Covid-19 and rating Britain's as the worst.

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

