



TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 29/22

14 MARCH 2022

The purpose of this Report is to record developments since the last meeting not requiring an Agenda item at this meeting.

No. DETAILS

1) HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUNDING

- a) We've completed the distribution of Vouchers that can be exchanged at our town centre Co-op for anything they sell (except alcohol and tobacco) and on top-ups to prepayment meters.
- b) 120 local households have been recognised as needing that support and 237 Vouchers have been supplied.
- c) We have funding from the Isle of Wight Council for another round this month.

2) RECREATION & PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

- a) This month's meeting that Alison Killick and I have with Isle of Wight Council's officers Lee Matthews, Trish Stillman and Elaine Davidson took place virtually on Friday 4 March.
- b) It provides an excellent opportunity for us to share developments in area where our work overlaps such as the Park, the Esplanade and beach, Grounds Maintenance and Playgrounds.

3) MENTAL HEALTH WELLBEING FUND

We were pleased to learn last week that our application to the Fund for £3,600 to run a new afternoon session of our Wellbeing Café from 1 April.

4) LIVING WELL AND EARLY HELP PROJECT

- a) This major Isle of Wight Council project has been delivered for its initial five years by Age UK Isle of Wight and recently resigned and retendered to bring delivery closer to the voluntary sector and community based providers.
- b) The Town Council has been one of the partners in a bid led by Ryde's Aspire and including the West Wight Sports and Community Centre and Pan Together and its tender has been accepted.
- c) It's a very substantial project and the change involves the transfer of up to 20 staff.
- d) Tony McCarthy has been the Town Council's officer for its involvement in the Project, a role he will continue to fulfil.

5) SOUTH WIGHT HEALTH & WELLBEING FORUM

- a) The latest meeting of the Forum we organise for the 13 South Wight Town & Parish Councils to meet with senior health services staff was held in our Green Room on Wednesday evening 23 February.
- b) The guest speaker was the new Chief Executive of the Island's NHS Trust Darren Cattell, previously the Trust's Director of Finance, Estates & IM&T and Deputy Chief Executive.

6) WORKING GROUPS

- a) The Assets & Services Working Group met on 1 March and will meet again on 15 March.
- b) The Community Development Working Group met on Thursday evening 3 March and plans to meet next on 31 March.
- c) The Sustainability & Biodiversity Working Group's next meeting will be on 26 March.

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- d) The New Website Working Group met on 14 March.
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7) COLLECTION POINT FOR UKRAINE SUPPORT

- a) Our Green Room has been and still is one of the identified collection points for a range of items being donated by residents for the support of the people of Ukraine.
- b) Generosity has been such that almost daily transfers of the goods to the East Cowes despatch point have been needed.
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8) DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

- a) The first session of our Development Programme took place on Monday evening 21 February when our visitors were Baby Box's Joyce and Steve Milford and Roy George from Ventnor Food Bank.
- b) The next session will be on the evening of Monday 21 March with our Wellbeing Café's Terri Exposite and our Advice Service worker Jan Bennett.
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