



TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 71/22

10 OCTOBER 2022

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

No. a) DETAILS

1) BEACH SAFETY TEAM

- a) Our new Beach Safety team members Beth Whitehead and Lloyd Wheatley joined us on 1 June and have done an excellent job along with our Maintenance Manager Brian Roberts in protecting and advising this year's beach users.
 - b) Their time with us ended on Friday and they go with our sincere thanks and hope we might work with them again in 2023.
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2) RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES MEETING

- a) Alison and I had our virtual monthly meeting on Monday 26 September with the Isle of Wight's Recreation and Open Spaces Officers Lee Matthews and Elaine Davidson.
 - b) Useful discussions included: *Ventnor Park trees, the Esplanade, Bonchurch Pond, the Coastal Path and North Street Playground: £2,500 grant for equipment confirmed.*
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3) VENTNOR PARK AWARDS

- a) South and South East in Bloom's Awards process this year has judged that the town's Park not only meets their Gold Standard (up from last year's Silver Gilt) but also rated it as both Best in Category and Best Overall Park 2022.
 - b) Also the Cascade retained its Silver Gilt award. Congratulations and thanks are due to John O'Conner's Stan Hayden and his team for their amazing year-round work that has earned this well-deserved recognition.
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4) MARLBOROUGH ROAD TOILETS

- a) Following the successful building of a new accessible public toilet in the Central Car Park, the Town Council's lease on those in Marlborough Road ended with their final cleaning and closure on 30 September.
 - b) The Town Council took on the management of them in 2015 when the Isle of Wight Council was closing them as part of its Budget savings in order to ensure that there was at least one fully accessible public toilet in the town.
 - c) However, the Marlborough Road slope meant that was far from suitable for people with disabilities; thus the decision to build the new one.
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5) WORKING GROUPS

- a) The Assets & Services Working Group met on 13 September and 4 October and plans to meet next on 25 October.
 - b) The Community Development Working Group's met on 18 August and has agreed to meet next on 22 September.
 - c) The Sustainability & Biodiversity Working Group met on 6 September and plans to meet on the first Wednesday of each month.
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