



TOWN CLERKS' REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 36/22

11 APRIL 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) Our application for a further grant from this funding administered by the Isle of Wight Council Children's Services has been accepted in a total of £7,000 that allows us to continue with another round 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) This brings the total we have received from this funding stream to £34,900 that will have supported around 150 local households that have been recognised as needing that assistance.

2) ENERGISE YOUTH FUND

- a) An application to this fund by our Youth Worker Jordan Royl for a grant of £3,370 was successful.
- b) This will provide a one-off quad-skating disco, weekly skateboarding and monthly badminton for an estimated 30 young people.

3) NEW WEB SITE

- a) Good progress has been made with the new site with its structure and format now fully agreed and applied.
- b) Checking, updating and transferring content from the current web site as well as initiating and implementing new elements is very time consuming for Nigel Slater-Bishop who is the lead officer for it.
- c) We are planning for the site to go live before the end of this month.

4) LIVING WELL AND EARLY HELP PROGRAMME

- a) Our Community Development Officer Tony McCarthy joined partners on Friday 1 April for a full day's induction of staff transferring into the programme.
- b) The partnership is led by Aspire supported by Ventnor Town Council, Pan Together and West Wight Community Centre in a 5-year project that started on Friday providing support and advice to residents with needs that don't qualify them for Adult and Social Care Services.

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 at Haseley Manor, Heasley Lane, Arreton on Wednesday 6 April.
- b) The guest speaker this time was the Isle of Wight Council's Director of Adult Social Care Laura Gaudion.

6) WORKING GROUPS

- a) The Assets & Services Working Group met on 15 and 29 March and will meet again on 12 April.
- b) The Sustainability & Biodiversity Working Group's met on 30 March and its next meeting will be on 27 April.

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- c) The New Website Working Group met on 28 March.
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7) ISLAND MP'S MEETING FOR TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS

- a) I joined the MP's latest monthly session for Town and Parish Councils on Wednesday evening 23 March.
- b) The issues raised by representatives were: does he support the application for the East Cowes Housing development [No]; what about NALC's request for return to virtual meetings [no government interest] and for a stronger Standard of Conduct [ditto]; road safety [new police unit]; and his position on the Boundary Commission Review [Ventnor to stay in West].
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8) DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

- a) The second session of our Development Programme took place on Monday evening 21 March when eight Councillors attended to hear from our co-ordinator Terri Expodite of the remarkable Wellbeing Café running over three sessions a week in the Green Room for its 51 members.
- b) Tony McCarthy then outlined our long-running Employment and Benefits Advice service based at the Library each Thursday morning.
- c) The third session will be on the evening of Monday 25 April to hear from our Youth Worker Jordan Royle.
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