



TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 23/23

17 APRIL 2023

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

No. DETAILS

1) LIVING WELL & EARLY YEARS GOLD AWARD

- a) The Island's Living Well & Early Years service is managed by a Community-based partnership led by Aspire supported by partners Pan Together, the West Wight Sports & Community Centre, IWALC and Ventnor Town Council with our Community Development Officer Tony McCarthy as a Board member.
 - b) The service has won the IESE's prestigious Gold Award for transformation in its health and social care category.
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2) MARCH OUR PLACE

- a) The opportunity to enjoy a warm space infused with tea and chat that also offers access to advice from a wide range of experienced Agencies drew residents to St Catherine's Church on Thursday 23 March for our Our Place event organised by our Community Development Officer Tony McCarthy and an amazing team of volunteers.
 - b) Open from 10.30 to 2.30 it included a hot lunch and its next session on 27 April.
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3) MEETING THE ISLAND'S MP

- a) Bob Seely holds a monthly virtual meeting open to all the Island's Town & Parish Councils – arranged by IWALC - and I joined it as usual on the afternoon of Wednesday 22 March with, unusually, only six others this time.
 - b) It started as usual with a summary of his work on the Island's behalf in Westminster and elsewhere.
 - c) Then the Q&A: will there be more assistance for small businesses including community centres? Why no action on the Camp Hill site? More help with cost of living crisis? Any progress with Red Funnel? Are you helping Community Pantries?
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4) LITTER PICKING

- a) On Sunday morning 26 March, during a dry interlude, three councillors and a small group of residents gathered rubbish as part of the Great British Spring clean.
 - b) The hot spots were the car parks but as we now have so many local volunteers litter regularly Picking the town is much cleaner. A big Thankyou to all who took part.
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5) ST LAWRENCE VACANCY

- a) We've issued the required Public Notice of the vacancy for a Town Councillor to represent the St Lawrence Ward following the resignation of Stephen Cockett.
 - b) It states that if 10 letters are received by the Isle of Wight Council's Proper Officer (Clive Joynes) on or before 26 April requesting an election a by-election will be held; if not, the Town Council will fill the vacancy by co-option.
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6) WORKING GROUPS

- a) The Assets & Services Working Group met on 14 and 28 February and is diaried to meet next on 18 April.
 - b) The Sustainability & Biodiversity Working Group met on 21 March.
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