



Here's edition 153 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.

MARCH FINANCIALS

At 31 March the balance of the Town Council's funds was £132,052. Expenditure during the month of March totalled £46,083 including Salisbury Gardens' costs of £5,610. The largest cost was the final payment for the new Public Toilet of the retention element of £3,672.

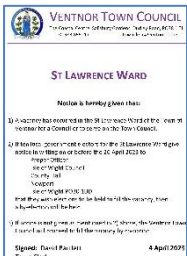
Receipts during March came to £18,988 of which £2,533 came from Salisbury Gardens' rents.

The total spent on Precept funded items during the whole financial year was £39,051 more than budgeted for while receipts in the same period were £19,208 above budget.

RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS 2022/23

Accounts on a Receipts & Payments basis reflect the Cash Book records that list amounts received and amounts paid out on the dates on which those transactions actually take place. Town Councils recording Receipts or Payments in excess of £200,000 are required to present their Annual Accounts on an Income and Expenditure basis and these cannot be completed until all the invoices and other financial information from the financial year to which they relate are available and the appropriate adjustments made. The Receipts & Payments Accounts for the financial year 2022/23 show the Town Council received a total of £584,154 and paid out £596,859 leaving the closing balance of £132,052. The full Income and Expenditure Accounts are expected to be available next month.

ST LAWRENCE VACANCY



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. 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.

RECRUITMENT PROCESS

An application pack for the recruitment of the Town Council's new Town Clerk will be available from our web site from Tuesday this week. It will be advertised on the web sites of the National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks as well as the national recruitment agency Indeed from the same time. The Application Pack, containing a summary of the Town Council, Job Description, Person Specification and Application Form is also available [here](#).

VENTNOR'S MARCH WEATHER

A poor month - plenty of rain, and sunshine at half the average at an Esplanade site. A stormy end on the 31st.

The best that can be said - there was no air frost and not a single flake of snow!

Rainfall (mm):		Date
Total amount	93.6	
% of average	178	
No. of dry days	11	
Highest	16.1	9th
Temperatures (deg C):		
Mean	7.9	
Difference from average	+0.4	
Highest	15.3	16th
Lowest	1.1	2nd
Coldest day	5.3	7th

TRAFFIC NOTICES

Bellevue Road will remain one way until Friday 21 April 2023 in a north-easterly direction for its entire length. The restriction is required for safety during retaining wall and parapet works.

THIRTEEN YEARS AGO ...

I was appointed Ventnor Town Council's Clerk. Minute 60/10 of the Town Council meeting of Monday 12 April 2010 was a unanimous decision *that David Bartlett be appointed Town Clerk on a locum basis with immediate effect*. On that *temporary basis* I was then the only member of staff, joined 6 months later by the amazing Alison Killick, initially as PA and soon to become our Assistant Town Clerk. It's been an incredible privilege to have worked with so many other committed and capable staff, Councillors and residents for such a remarkable coastal town.

VIA MY TWITTER FEED THIS WEEK

- o The [Food Foundation](#) today has found: '90% of low-income households receiving Universal Credit are going without at least one essential.'
- o The [Institute for Fiscal Studies](#) finds: 'Recommended pay for further education college teachers in England has fallen by 18% in real terms since 2010, and almost half of college teachers leave within three years of starting.'

MORE INFORMATION is available from the Town Council's website and @ventnorclerk