



Here's edition 156 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.

ASSETS & SERVICES WORKING GROUP

The Group's work on Tuesday morning began with a report on the upgrade of the Green Room Kitchen with the completion of the plumbing work leaving it ready for the installation of the new equipment. Next was agreement on a quotation for some essential tree works at Boniface Fields followed by agreement to install an external Defibrillator at Salisbury Gardens. Following the receipt of the 2022/23 income for the use of Pay by Phone in our four car parks from the Isle of Wight Council the final position for the year consisted of receipts (Cash £25,100 + Pay by Phone £11,469) of £36,569 and costs of £29,770 (Business rates £4,870 + Rent £24,900). The meeting noted that the Town Council's main insurance policy had been renewed and finished with welcoming the offer from Ventnor Enhancement Fund to refurbish the Water Fountain.

SUSTAINABILITY & BIODIVERSITY GROUP

The first item on the Group's monthly meeting was a potential project with the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust to establish a Community Orchard on already identified land in Upper Ventnor with planting hoped to be started in October or November. Other major items were a report from Nigel Slater-Bishop requested by the Group on the actions already taken to reduce the carbon footprint of the Town Council's assets and a commitment to develop a Work Plan for the Group's activity.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

The latest meeting of the Town Council's Planning Committee was on Tuesday with an 11 item Agenda. Five of them – a combination of Listed Building Consents and Conditions Compliance Notifications – could only be noted and, as the consultation period for an application in St Catherine Street had been extended, its assessment here was deferred to the next meeting. In respect of the remaining five the Committee decided there was no reason to object to three of them and supported both one in Selwyns Seven Sisters Road and one in Woodington, Undercliff Drive.

ULTRA CHALLENGE VISITS VENTNOR

Ventnor's own Town Council's Salisbury Gardens and Green Room was the chosen venue by the organisers of the Isle of Wight Ultra Challenge



over the weekend for one of their Medical and first aid teams, rest and

hospitality stops on this mammoth 106km trip around the Island.

The top runners were first to arrive at Ventnor, completing the whole course in around the 9-12 hr mark. Mind boggling indeed! The slower more sedate walkers, runners and joggers were spread out across the two days. Our facilities were open for the entire period providing a safe and secure area for the events team and their first aiders.

CORONATION MUGS FOR TOWN'S CHILDREN



The Town Council and the town's Royal British Legion Social Club together will follow tradition and give all children of junior school age and below a commemorative mug which will be taken to

the schools this week. Your council is working with Ventnor Carnival committee to bring music and fun at the Park for a Coronation picnic on Monday 8th May.

TRAFFIC ORDERS

From midnight on Sunday 30 April until midnight on Friday 12 May, or when the works has been completed, no traffic along the Esplanade between its junctions with Car Park La Falaise and Alma Road.

Until midnight Friday 5 May 2023, or when the works have been completed, no traffic along Bonchurch Shute between its junctions with Leeson Road and The Pitts.

VIA MY TWITTER FEED THIS WEEK

- A new [Resolution Foundation](#) Report finds: 'Almost 40% of UK 35 to 44-year-olds borrow to make ends meet.'
- A new Report from [Carnegie UK](#) finds 'The cost-of-living emergency is negatively affecting the majority of the people in the UK.'