From: website@ventnortc.org
To: townclerk@ventnortc.org
Subject: Website Message
Date: 08 May 2018 20:15:03

ID: 1000363
DATE: 21:15:03 2018-05-08
NAME: [redacted]

MESSAGE: I am fundamentally opposed to the idea of the proposed pedestrianisation of the High Street in Ventnor and would like to make the following comments regarding the recent feature in the County Press and my main reasons for opposing the plan.

1. The Ventnor Town Council website states that â€œA leaflet Destination Ventnor about the consultation has been delivered to every household in the town and a copy is available by clicking this link.â€ This is not the case as we know of no household in Gills Cliff Road who has received one.
2. Great title for the leaflet if no-one makes it their destination after Ventnor being labelled â€œDirtyâ€ buy our own town councillors.
3. Great to have not only a headline on page 3 of the County Press this week but also a pointer on the front page with the same heading. What has that done for tourism and people thinking of visiting / living in Ventnor.
4. Was this a consensus of all Town Councillors or an individual. If it was an individual then they should be named and shamed.
5. Did anyone vet the article before it was put into print or was this the overall impression that the council want to convey.
6. By pedestrianising only the small stretch of High Street how is that going to alleviate the â€œdirty Ventnorâ€ situation? The same amount of traffic will still be circulating the town only not down the High Street.
7. The list of towns that were used as comparisons apart from one did not reflect the size or character of Ventnor which is in effect a small Victorian seaside town.
8. There is no proof that this pedestrianisation would increase visitor numbers in fact with the new road layouts it would discourage people coming from Shanklin and beyond from actually making the effort to come into Ventnor.
9. Why has pedestrianisation of the Esplanade been removed from the agenda. Surely this is an area that would benefit from being done. It could be on a Seasonal basis like some of the parking restrictions are in town. Deliveries could be restricted up to a certain time. Families and children would have a save environment between the shops, cafes, bars and the beach. It would be a much more pleasant place to sit outside and take advantage of the view without parked cars and traffic sometimes speeding through the Esplanade.
10. The cost involved could be much better spent on CCTV throughout the town to cut down on the thefts and anti-social behaviour which is giving Ventnor a much worse reputation than being labelled as â€œdirty Ventnorâ€ .
11. Any additional traffic to the already busy routes out of Ventnor via Ocean View and Gills Cliff Roads would make difficult conditions even worse. These are both narrow streets with the majority of parking being on-road making them prone to hold-ups. This would only get worse and cause more frustration and possible accidents.
12. The speed limits on both these streets are very often broken and with any increase in traffic would make them even more dangerous.