From: [redacted]
To: David Bartlett
Subject: Pedestrianisation of Ventnor
Date: 06 May 2018 10:14:02

Dear Ventnor Town Council

We have looked carefully at the above proposal and cannot see any merit in developing this idea further and believe this is a waste of Ventnor Town Councils limited resources to spend further time considering this proposal. On the face of it, pedestrianisation of part of Ventnor Hight Street sounds attractive but we are not convinced about the benefits of the scheme for the wider population of Ventnor. In particular "health improvements for those actually living and working in the High Street" is highlighted but what about the residents of Dudley Road and Pound Lane who will see increased traffic flows, noise and pollution on roads that were designed for light traffic? Pedestrianisation in Cowes and Ryde, we are told is beneficial, but they already had road infrastructures to provide alternative traffic flows through the towns. We are also not at all convinced that this scheme alone will bring the stated benefits. The cost of such a scheme will be extremely expensive given the required road changes and in the final analysis will be a total waste of taxpayer's money.

We would rather Ventnor Town Council builds on its good works by considering other other ways to regenerate and further improve Ventnor Town. It is a shame that your return slip did not give the opportunity to comment on the scheme or invite suggestions and ideas how best to improve Ventnor town and surrounding areas.

Here are our thoughts:

- Pressure must be increased on the householder to refurbish the property on the Madeira/Trinity Road junction. This has gone on far too long!

- The vacant land, once Millmore's garage, is an absolute disgrace. Something should be done to develop this or generally tidy up the land. It is now being used as a dump and car park.

  Both the above give a very poor first impression of Ventnor when entering the town. We thought we were living in a Conservation area.

- There are some lovely established and new shops in Ventnor but some are still vacant. Is there any merit of working with the owners to develop a collaborative approach to lease the shops. Are there any funds for start up businesses that VTC can tap into to make opening a business attractive in Ventnor? Is there a theme for Ventnor to be exploited to attract investment?

- Stop parking on the High Street now as indicated in your proposal [apart from loading and unloading].

- VTC to explore whether there is funding for grants to pump prime the external refurbishment of building in Ventnor [in particular flats above shops and on roads leading to the town]?

- CCTV for Ventnor.

- Adopt Stephan Voigt's ideas to manage Ventnor pigeons. His proposal is excellent.

- Provide more parking in Ventnor seafront with additional revenue. Extend both car parks [and knock down the dangerous Skate Park and replace with parking bays] or make the Skate Park safe and less unattractive.

- Introduce residents parking permits. Allow residents to park in Dudley Road car park to alleviate the chronic shortage of parking spaces that already exist. Consider other possible parking areas for residents.

- More rubbish bins and do something real to eradicate dog mess.

- Pressure on Island Roads to get on with refurbishing our local roads and to not keep putting the work off. Replace street signs where appropriate.

I hope our comments are seen as constructive and helpful.

[redacted]
[redacted].