From: website@ventnortc.org
To: townclerk@ventnortc.org
Subject: Website Message
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ID: 1000364
DATE: 21:43:22 2018-05-08
NAME: [redacted]
MESSAGE: Comments on Ventnor Town Council & Pedestrianisation
Firstly â€“ in Gills Cliff many if not all of us have NOT received the leaflet, and had to go online to find out what on earth everyone was talking about. How many other roads were missed out?
â€¢ Who says Ventnor is dangerous? There have been no traffic accidents the air is NOT choking.
â€¢ Who says it is dirty. There is no graffiti etc, has the pollution been measured? The buildings do not get unduly dirty, the air does not smell or seem polluted.
â€¢ The traffic currently flows easily at a reasonable & safe slow speed, and any hold ups are minor and temporary. Changes to the current free flow of traffic will result in more queuing and greater pollution from static traffic.
â€¢ Where / how is the town becoming overwhelmed with traffic??
â€¢ The High Street has constant intervals when there is no traffic, so it is easy to cross the road safely, and any fumes are able to disperse before the next vehicle goes through.
â€¢ The short stretch of road that will be pedestrianised will have little positive pollution impact, but will have a huge negative impact of pollution and additional traffic to the rest of the town, and possibly to surrounding roads. The changed layout will push yet more traffic up Spring Hill - an already difficult road to navigate due to parked cars, and along Gills Cliff Road which is already too busy since the closure of St Lawrence Road.
â€¢ The biggest impact on the town was the closure of the banks â€“ people and businesses have to go elsewhere to visit a bank, so take some of their trade away from Ventnor. Whist Ventnor had a bank, the bank drew more people in, as well as Ventnorians staying in town.
â€¢ Which town is the example that had a 300 ncrease from pedestrianisation â€“ is it anything like Ventnor?
â€¢ None of the towns in the paper used as information were a UK Victorian seaside town â€“ most are much bigger, some needed a complete overhaul. Others were not in the UK â€“ How relevant could they be?
â€¢ Pedestrianisation is used a lot and successfully in new town layouts - Great and very understandable â€“ not in a small Victorian town that cannot be adapted to a modern layout.
â€¢ Please note - WE (and many others) CHOSE TO MOVE TO VENTNOR BECAUSE OF WHAT IT IS â€“ A small bustling and characterful town, UNLIKE ANY OTHER.
â€¢ The report completely ignores the many successful retail businesses, and the ongoing references in various press to Ventnor being the GASTRONOMIC CAPITAL OF THE ISLAND. We have a selection of thriving cafes, bars, pubs and restaurants. Ventnor is far from dead, it just needs a few areas improved â€“
o The bus station used for something useful. If you want an area for events, in addition to the green which is already occasionally used for said activities. The bus station could be developed to be useable for all weather events (as it has been).
o Accessible toilets are required â€“ having a disabled toilet in an inaccessible place (and there is a step up to the entrance doors) deters people from visiting.
o The occasional bout of badly behaved youngsters will be deterred by CCTV â€“ a cheaper option to a nicer environment than closing off a street.
â€¢ In the revised traffic flow, is the traffic to the esplanade one way? Only the smallest vehicles can navigate Bath Road, so that is just not possible.
â€¢ Where has the Esplanade pedestrianisation gone to? That is the more beneficial option â€“ to have it in place eg April to October will provide a car free view for the bars and restaurants and eliminate the noise and disruption from passing traffic. It will provide a safer and worry free environment for families in the summer.