



VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S COLUMN

EDITION 122

MONDAY 22 AUGUST 2022

Welcome to edition 122 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.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP

Tony McCarthy got the Group's Thursday evening session underway as usual with his report on his work since the last meeting. His success in securing a 50% reduction from Island Roads in their road closure charges for the Carnival was welcomed as was news of the more than £1,700 collected via the red buckets for the Carnival Committee's remarkable work. It was also good to hear that both the Mountbatten Hospice and the RNIB are resuming their use of our Green Room. He informed us of the recruitment by Barnardos of a one-year post for a Community Activator working 28.5 hours a week between Ventnor and Shanklin. Tony's update on support for local residents included the information that in the year to June the town's Foodbank had provided food for 582 people and the membership of the Community Pantry at Babybox was now over 120.

Other Agenda items included a review of Ventnor Day 2022, discussion of the Allotments, David's update on the Family Voice project and a report of the latest meeting the Mayor, Alison and I had with County Councillors Gary Peace and Rodney Downer.

VENTNOR HAVEN GOES OUT TO TENDER

The Isle of Wight Council will today publish an invitation to tender for the management of the Ventnor Haven for five years from 1 April 2023. Responsibilities will include:

supervision of the harbour, management of the berths, collection of berthing income, maintenance of the pontoons and harbour infrastructure, full insuring liability, reporting all accidents and incidents, provision of monthly reports, compliance with the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC), compliance with all relevant legislation, including Health and Safety, Statutory returns to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and removal of seaweed in accordance with the current MMO licence.

***VIA MY TWITTER FEED THIS WEEK

- The [Resolution Foundation](#) notes today 'Despite robust pay growth and a healthy jobs market, high inflation means that pay packets are shrinking at their fastest rate in real-terms since the Silver Jubilee in 1977.'
- The [Institute for Financial Studies](#) has said today: 'This winter, the real value of benefits for a lone parent family with two children will be 12-13% below pre-pandemic levels.'

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

SUCCESSFUL FUNDING APPLICATIONS

It was good to hear last week of two more successful funding applications. Tony McCarthy's application to the Household Support Fund for £5,000 for Ventnor Foodbank was approved as was that of our Youth Worker Jordan Royl's application to the Barclay's Football Foundation for £500.

These bring the total of external funding secured by the staff team for the Town Council; work over the last 10 years to within touching distance of half a million pounds at £494,336.

WELL BEING CAFÉ MEMBERS GO SAILING

Our Ventnor Well-Being Café took some of its members on a boat trip to remember last Friday afternoon. The amazing Cowes Sailability were hosts for the afternoon and arranged a special treat for the group's members aboard the fabulous specially adapted 'Wet Wheels' powerboat another Charity who hail from the Hamble.



The group spent over an hour charging around the Solent under the watchful eye of skipper Ian and his crew, treated to some very fast boating and all had a turn at taking the helm of this fabulous craft. which originated from here on the Isle of Wight from our local boat builder in Ventnor. All of the members had a brilliant time led as usual by the groups co-ordinator Terri Exopite.

SUMMER BUSKING EVERY SATURDAY

The Mayor's programme of Saturday Summer



Busking continued around the Paddling Pool this week with Marc Lebone and Bella B providing the entertainment. It's Lucan and his beat box next week at the new venue, joined by the South American Duo PISCO Sour.