



VENTNOR TOWN COUNCIL

CLERK'S COLUMN

EDITION 132

MONDAY 31 OCTOBER 2022

Welcome to edition 132 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 meeting on Tuesday morning welcomed the plan for the repair of the Spring Hill Fountain and that the completion of the installation of CCTV at the new Toilets would also provide coverage of Spring Hill Garden. We agreed the lower of two quotations - £780 - for some tree work at Boniface Fields noting that the Isle of Wight Council would monitor the Ventnor Park Trees with the Town Council meeting half the cost of any necessary works. We were pleased to accept the offer from Ventnor Enhancement Fund to look at the best possible arrangements for the flower display on the central reservation before seeking a quotation for their watering. Finally, we agreed that the Beach Safety team for the 2023 season would be in place from 1 May to 31 August.

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday's meeting was attended by five members of the public concerned about the planned development of the old Central Stores site. The Committee did not support the application as *it is not compliant; the conditions clearly state that there is no Environmental report, there is no evidence of any Contaminated Land report. It added it is of great concern that major works have already begun on site.*

It supported the other two applications: a loft conversion at 4 Blendworth Terrace, Clarence Road and a replacement dwelling and garage at Bonchurch Shute's Ramblers.

NEW ROAD CLOSURES

Bath Road no traffic from 1am on Monday 31 October until 11.59pm on Friday 4 November or until the works are completed.

Woolverton Road no traffic from 00.01 on Monday 31 October until 11.549 hours on Friday 11 November or until the works are completed.

Mitchell Avenue for five shifts between 9.30am and 3.30pm between Monday 31 October and Friday 4 November traffic or parking.

NEW SCREENINGS OF FAMILY VOICE

We're keen that as many residents as possible see and discuss this hard hitting film, commissioned by Ventnor Town Council and made by local professional film and documentary makers Utility Films. Through very personal interviews with local residents from the town who now find themselves having to use the Ventnor Food Bank, Baby Box and Ventnor Food Pantry along with Ventnor Town Council's food and fuel vouchers scheme to survive, it uncovers the level of poverty these residents face in the current climate and the ever more desperate cost of living crisis.

So we've arranged for three more viewings in our Green Room this week:

7pm on Wednesday

5pm on Thursday

10.30am Saturday

**WE HAVE TO MAKE
A DECISION BETWEEN
FOOD AND ELECTRICITY**

Each will be followed by a discussion of how the town can respond.

THANKS TO THE CO-OP COMMUNITY FUND

The Fund's resources come from the 2pence



deducted from each one pound spend by its customers on a range of selected items and distributed to registered good causes chosen by those customers.

We're delighted to hear this week that two contributions have come to Ventnor this week:

- o £2,623.93 for our Youth Club; and
- o £2,452.93 for our Wellbeing Café.

LITTER PICKERS PLEASE ...

The Mayor's request: A tidy, clean town is the



goal... We have the tools... We need volunteers... Sunday 6th November at 9 am... Green Room Dudley Road... Refreshments afterwards... We would love more help.*

FROM MY TWITTER FEED THIS WEEK

- o The [Association of School & College Leaders](#) says 'school funding per pupil by the end of this parliament in 2024/25 will still be 3% below 2010 in real-terms, while college funding will be 11% lower, and school sixth form funding 27% lower.'
- o New research by the [Economic & Social Research Institute](#) shows 'reductions in UK to EU goods trade by 16% and trade from the EU to UK by 20% relative to the scenario in which Brexit had not occurred.'

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