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## **Shanklin Town Council**

Town Clerk RFO: Ms S. Janeway LL.B (Hons) CiLCA MSLCC, 65 Landguard Road Shanklin Isle of Wight PO37 7JX O1983 865101 Shanklintowncouncil@hotmail.com www.shanklintowncouncil.co.uk



## **Town Mayor's address**

Councillor Chris Quirk, Shanklin Town Mayor

I am delighted to report that the safety buoys installed in the Bay to mark the speed limit area for powered craft are now

installed and so far, it appears the safety zone is being observed by most jet-ski users. The safety buoys are a zone governed by a local by-law imposing a 5 MPH speed limit on all powered craft, and requiring them to stay clear of bathers, fines can be imposed on those not observing the speed limit.

I can also report that whilst August might not be the most convenient time to carry out the work core sampling has taken place on the access to the beach above Shanklin Chine to determine the stability of the rock beneath the road prior to repair and upgrading of the retaining walls. We continue to press for early repair and reinstatement of the cliff paths between Luccombe and the beach. Work is also planned to stabilise the walls and embankments in Rylstone Gardens and Tower Cottage Gardens above Shanklin Chine, a recent rock fall following heavy rain temporarily closed this iconic tourist attraction, but the blockage was quickly cleared and the Chine reopened.

The Town Council at two recent meetings has considered the installation of a new toilet facility at Chine Bluff including disabled facilities, and has confirmed that this work will proceed, hopefully to be available for next year's Summer Season. The future of the existing Art Deco toilet building at Chine Bluff is still under review.

On 14th August I had the opportunity to start the Dash an Splash event, a charity "run" between Shanklin and Sandown with competitors going over, through or wading/ swimming round the groynes; the event was in support of Aspire Ryde and was supported by around 200 participants of all ages, including the Island's Triathlon Club members. Shanklin Rowing Club provided support at the start, and marshalling was provided by Shanklin and Sandown Rotary Club members. Thanks to Karen Eeles for organising the event. Unfortunately the annual Pier to Pier Swim between the Sandown Pier and Shanklin Pier Apron, believed to be the oldest regular swimming race in the Country, which had been scheduled for the previous week had to be cancelled at the last moment because of adverse weather and sea conditions, this event is unlikely to be rescheduled for this year but we look forward to its return next year.

The Chairman of Cycle Wight and myself met recently with Cllr Phi Jordan, the new Cabinet Member for Transport, to highlight the poor level of maintenance of the cycleways and footpaths in the area, raising the difference between the words of the IOW Council regarding Active Transport and the reality of support on the ground. This also applies to our cliff paths, as the closed Appley Steps are in fact part of the National Coastal Footpath.

On 23rd July His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent presented the Isle of Wight Bus Partnership with their Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. The award was received on behalf of the volunteers by Alan Stott; the citation for the award was read by Deputy Lieutenant, Dr Nicholas England. Our Deputy Mayor attended the presentation.

## Best Regards Chris. Shanklin Town Mayor (2021)