

**In this issue**

Quarterly Report P.1

Community Hub Update P.2

Volunteer Information P.3

Mayor's Report

Now is the time to start looking forward to 2022! There are many positive things to celebrate about our town. I have been very privileged to represent the Town Council and attend several events recently which have highlighted the success of local business and enterprise, as well as acknowledging the community pulling together through the pandemic. These photographs show the winners of the Red Funnel Tourism Awards recognising the achievements of East Cowes businesses ComiCoffee, John Cattle's Skatepark Group and the Waverley Caravan Park and Wight Shipyard has received the Queen's Award for Industry.



The Public Sector Transformation Awards 2021 saw a Silver Award go to all 27 Isle of Wight Community Support Hubs which continue to provide assistance across the whole island community.

There was more good news for East Cowes due to the success of the bid by IW council to the government's Levelling Up Fund. The Chancellor announced a grant of £5.8million for the town to transform the Columbine Building, Venture Quays area, Albany Barracks and improve the seafront. You can find out more about the plans at the East Cowes Waterfront Public Consultation at the Classic Boat Museum in East Cowes during December on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th 10am-4pm and Monday 13th to Wednesday 15th 12noon-7pm. If attending on Friday or Saturday you can collect a free entry voucher to visit the newly refurbished Maritime Museum on the ground floor. Please go along and have your say.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Town Council Public Consultation Event at the Town Hall in October, as well as those who completed the online survey. Feedback from the public is essential to the Town Council being able to plan for the

future. This is an annual event so please look out for details next autumn!

The Fields of Remembrance ceremony took place at Carisbrooke on 11th November. I attended to represent East Cowes, along with school children from Queensgate Primary School. It was humbling to pay tribute to our amazing armed forces past and present.



Looking ahead to 2022 it will be wonderful to see East Cowes continue to develop into a vibrant place, not just somewhere to pass through, but to become a town to spend time in whether to work, rest or play.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year from the Town Council.

Cllr Michael Pater
Mayor of East Cowes



EAST COWES LIBRARY

OPENING HOURS

MONDAY 10.00am–1.00pm
TUESDAY 5.00–6.00pm
THURSDAY 9.30am–12.30pm

The library continues to operate in the Town Hall until the new community hub is completed.

Pop in to drop off and collect adult books. Library staff are happy to check in our temporary area backstage if you'd like to request a book from stock. Children's books available for browsing too!



On 5th October the new library reading group met for the first time and picked their first book – “The Dig” by John Preston. The group will be meeting at the Town Hall on a monthly basis. If you would like to come along or want to know more about it please contact the library. The group meets from 5.00 until 6.30pm on the first Tuesday of the month. Refreshments provided.

ALSO available during Library hours:
RCS employment advice service
Second Monday of the Month 10am-12noon
Mountbatten volunteers pop-in group
Second Thursday of the month 10am-12pm

Library Contact Details:
Email: eastcoweslibrary@gmail.com
Phone: 01983 299082*
Post: Town Hall, York Avenue, East Cowes, PO32 6RU

*new number from 16th November

Community Hub Update

The building work is progressing well and on track for completion around June 2022. Any of you that have walked along York Avenue recently will have seen that the foundations are complete. The outline of the new building can be seen. The library, reception and multi-functional space will be at the front. There will be a fully accessible toilet off the reception area. The Clerks' Office will become more accessible to the public by relocating to the ground floor and there will be a community meeting room to the rear. To the front outside there will be an enclosed area with seating.



The timber frame and roof trusses arrived during November and the building is really starting to take shape. There is a long lead time for the windows, but the building will be made watertight to ensure the project can keep moving forward. The contractors are working hard to keep disruption to a minimum.

The library is looking forward to being able to offer all the services it provided before and offer a great meeting place for the whole community. If you would like volunteer for the library team or run a group of any kind in the hub please contact Di Palmer, Library Coordinator share your ideas (contact details in the article opposite).

Browsers Library

Saturdays
10 - 12 noon

St James Church,
Church Path, East
Cowes

*Books are free to
borrow or keep*



Isle of Wight
Volunteer
Centre

Community Day
East Cowes Town Hall
15th January 2022
1-4pm

An opportunity to find out about
local groups that support the
community of East Cowes and
how you can get involved in a
range of opportunities that help
them make things happen
All Welcome!



East Cowes Town Council Public Consultation Results



The annual public consultation event took place in the Town Hall on Friday 29th & Saturday 30th October. Residents were able to speak to the Town Councillors in person, complete the questionnaire and share their views on what they would like to see the Council improving in the town.

Participants had their say about how the Council communicates, local services and events, traffic in East Cowes, Council facilities such as Jubilee Recreation Ground, the Skatepark, Paddling Pool, the Community Cinema and share ideas for the new Community Hub and Library. The free face painting went down very well with the younger members of the community!

In total 137 questionnaires were completed – 68 people took part in the event at the town hall or completed a paper questionnaire. 69 people completed the online version. The results can be viewed on the Town Council website.



Christmas Lighting



After a difficult year for many people the Town Council was very pleased to install Christmas lighting around the town. East Cowes is looking very festive in King's Square, Well Road and York Avenue. Happy Christmas to you all!



VOLUNTEERS NOTICEBOARD



Bringing together all sorts of skills and experience from the East Cowes community from projection and technical skills to meeting and greeting; our new community cinema volunteers were instrumental in running a test screening on 26th November in the Town Hall.

The audience consisted of town council volunteer litter pickers, cinema and library volunteers, as well as our town councillors (yes they are all volunteers too!) and their guests.

The chosen film was Darkest Hour 2017 (PG). Refreshments were served and the audience kindly gave some feedback on the event to help with planning the launch to the whole community in early 2022.

VOLUNTEER IN 2022!

Please contact the Town Hall if you are interested in volunteering for the Library, Community Cinema, Litter Picking or something new! Phone 01983 299082 or email clerk@eastcowestowncouncil.co.uk

Lots of activities and groups are going on every week in the Town Hall. Please contact the Town Hall for further information. Why not try something new in 2022?

What's On in the Town Hall

Town Hall available for private hire outside these times

* Please note these are by appointment only

MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
10.00am-1.00pm Library +	10.00-11.00am Zumba 11.30am-12.30pm Paracise	9.45am- 12.15pm Short Mat Bowls	9.30am-12.30pm Library +	9.45am- 12.15pm Short Mat Bowls	10.00-11.00am Badminton	
1.45-3.45pm LK Line Dancing	1.00-4.30pm Alzheimer Café (First Tuesday)	1.00-3.00pm NHS Chair Exercise Class	12.45-4.15pm CAB * (First & Third Thursday)	2.00-5.00pm Careless Solicitors *		
7.00-9.30pm Canine Association (6.30-9.30pm on Match Week – Third Monday)	5.00-6.00pm Library + Reading Group (First Tuesday 5.00-6.30pm)	3.30-6.30pm Slimming World 7.00-9.00pm Bingo	5.00-9.00pm Council Meetings (First & Third Thursday)			



**WISHING YOU
A MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

&

**A HAPPY NEW
YEAR**

**FROM ALL THE
COUNCILLORS
AND STAFF AT
EAST COWES
TOWN
COUNCIL**



Town Council Meetings and Events

Dates for your Diary

December

16th Full Council meeting 6pm

January

13th Facilities Projects and Events Committee 6pm

21st Full Council 6pm

February

17th Full Council 6pm

Planning Committee meetings take place as needed at 5.15pm prior to meetings listed above.

HOW TO CONTACT THE TOWN COUNCIL

The Clerk's Office

East Cowes Town Hall

York Avenue

East Cowes

Isle of Wight

PO32 6RU

Tel: 01983 299082

Email: clerk@eastcowestowncouncil.co.uk

Website: www.eastcowestowncouncil.co.uk

SEND US YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS!!!!

Contributions to this newsletter from the community are welcome. If you are involved with a local group, project or event please email an article and a photo to: assistantclerk@eastcowestowncouncil.co.uk

Copies of the newsletter are delivered to every household in East Cowes and available from the Town Hall lobby as well as on the Town Council website and via Facebook.

DISCLAIMER: This newsletter is produced by East Cowes Town Council. All articles are taken in good faith. We cannot take any legal queries resulting from these. Submitted articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Town Council. We reserve the right not to print submitted articles.