

**REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR
PLANNING AND LICENSING
TO THE MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL
ON WEDNESDAY, 8 JULY 2015**

Planning:

In June the planning committee approved applications enabling valuable investment in tourism, housing and employment on the Island, and in particular the positive regeneration of a derelict brownfield site.

Members will be aware the planning service is undergoing significant change as a result of the council's budget strategy. There is a duty placed upon the council to develop local planning policy and determine applications and these critical roles will continue, but the way in which the service is delivered will change. More information on these changes will become available throughout July.

Due to the changes and restructuring taking place within the Planning Department, charges for Pre-Application fees are now likely to be introduced in September, after referral to Executive on 4th August. For me, this continues to be of priority. In the meantime, I ask that members are sensitive to these changes that are now taking place.

Meetings have taken place with Town and Parish Council's outlining to clerks and councillors how changes will affect local councils. A briefing was held on 19th June and attended by over 40 representatives from the sector. In the meantime, the Department will continue working with IWALC on partnership opportunities.

Licensing Update:

The first two major events of the year, Old Gaffers and Isle of Wight Festival have come and gone without any major concerns.

Nearly 50,000 people attended this year's IW Festival. In total there were 5 complaints regarding noise, which mostly related to Thursday night. Generally the event was incident free both in and outside the event.

The next few months will be an extremely busy time for the licensing section with at least one large event taking place each weekend from now through to Bestival at the beginning of September, during which licensing applications, renewals and other routine works will undoubtedly stretch the licensing department's resources to their limits. These events include:

28 June:	Ship Wreck Isle, Apply Beach
4-5 July:	All at Sea Beach Festival, Shanklin Beach
12 July:	Ryde Slide
17-19 July:	The Mondo Mix, Calbourne Water Mill
17-19 July:	Rhythmtree, Three Gates Lane, Calbourne

23-27 July: V-Dub Island, South Fairlee Farm, Newport
 25-26 July: Funtasia Los Altos Park, Sandown
 1 -2 August: Chale Show, Military Road, Chale
 8 - 9 August: Jack up the 80's, Garlic Festival Site
 8-15 August: Cowes Week
 15-16 August: Garlic Festival, Newchurch
 28-31 August: Scooter Rally, Ryde
 10-14 September: Bestival

Building Control:

Stats 01/06/15 - 30/06/15:

Number of inspections of Building works carried out	602
Number of Building Control applications received	97
Number of new dangerous structures responded to	4

In addition, since my last report:

- Meetings have taken place with the Federation of Small Businesses. The FSB have requested briefing notes are made available to make it easier to understand the planning process and to provide more accessible Executive Summaries for the Area Action Plans.
- Planning for the Future Meetings have taken place with Town/Parish Councillor representatives from the Medina Valley, Ryde and The Bay. All parties have agreed these meetings are useful to monitor progress on the Area Action Plans, and will continue to take place at County Hall. In the meantime, timescales on the AAP's have been circulated.
- A meeting has taken place to address Empty and Dilapidated Buildings and Sites. With the support of officers and Cllr Lora Peacey-Wilcox, positive outcomes have been achieved.
- A meeting was arranged between Newport Parish Council and officers to address the issue of A-Boards within the Town.
- A meeting took place on site, with the local member and the Leader to discuss concerns relayed by Robin Hill, over activities taking place nearby. This is a current case and is being considered by the local planning authority.
- Following feedback from the Scrutiny Committee a Section 106 protocol has been put in place so that members are made aware of applications which may be the subject of a s106 agreement.
- The IW Council's Executive has agreed to formally adopt Godshill's Supplementary Planning Document.

- Grant Funding has allowed the LPA to secure and make water tight the former Frank James Hospital in East Cowes.
- Conservation work on Cowes' Hammerhead Crane has commenced.
- Work continues on updating the IW Council's Planning Enforcement Policy. This is due to be considered by Executive on 4th August.
- Work continues on the introduction of pre application charges for planning applications and a paper is due to be considered by the Executive on the 4th August.

Councillor Paul Fuller
Executive Member for Planning and Licensing