

## **Press Release**

## TOWN COUNCIL COMMISSIONS NEW PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Sandown Town Council met on Monday 14th December, and members unanimously voted to take forward the re-provision of Public Toilets at St John's Road, to include a state-of-the-art accessible toilet, alongside a unisex toilet (see design).

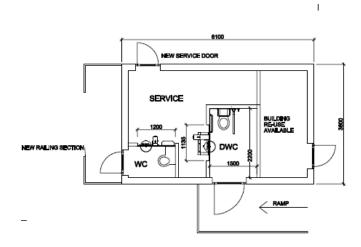
The decision followed extensive public consultation, and community engagement, with the process being delayed due to the Covid 19 Pandemic, during which time the Town Council worked to ensure the Public Toilets (at Yaverland, Eastern Gardens and St John's) operated within national guidance, with increased cleaning and additional health & safety signage.

Town Mayor Gary Young said 'We are working to ensure the new Toilets at St John's are open before Easter in 2021, with our sites being developed subsequently following further community engagement, and incorporate the feedback we have had from the public'.

Recent consultation prioritised Covid 19 safety measures, value-for-money, quality and on-going maintenance. Deputy Mayor Paul Brading added 'We have listened to the priorities of residents and the new facility will include coin and contactless facilities, easier maintenance, and other features which residents have requested.'

The Town Council also approved the reprovision of Eastern Gardens, and further consultation is planned on the number of units, whether residents want showers provided as part of project, and working with the Local Authority on any potential planning issues, as well as community groups to enhance the amenity, and contribute to the standards required by the Seaside Award.

Cllr Young concluded 'We welcomed the communities active engagement in this process, and appreciate the recognition that our response to the Covid 19 situation, such as establishing the Bay Support Network, had to be prioritised and that we are still supporting the network, and this will remain the case for the coming months, alongside the commissioning of St John's Road Toilets'.



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