

Sandown Dereliction Survey

I have designed and printed a '[Have your say! A5 leaflet](#)' to support the work of the Sandown Dereliction survey. Not everyone is on Facebook and not everyone checks internet sources for information all the time. With the help of Cllr Liam Cregg we've managed to put **2,000** leaflets through doors.



Young people engagement

I recently met with the Headteacher of The Bay CE School secondary site, Emma Bowden.

We discussed:

- Students' **involvement in local projects** (e.g. Minecraft Urban Design Project)
- **Volunteering** opportunities (leaflet drops for Town Council etc.)
- **Youth voice** in local decision-making (young people fighting for their town)
- Joint **campaigns** (e.g. Anti-Social Behaviour, improving community awareness)
- Supporting **local events** (e.g. Carnivals, Regatta, new events etc.)



Schools project: Minecraft Urban Design Project

Minecraft is a popular video game that allows players to explore, build, and survive in a blocky, procedurally generated 3D world. Here's a breakdown of what makes it special:

Educational and creative value

- Used in schools to teach subjects like math, history, and coding.
- Encourages creativity, problem-solving, and collaboration.

Core concepts

- **Sandbox game:** Minecraft is often called a "sandbox" game, meaning players have the freedom to do almost anything they want within the game world.
- **Blocks:** The world is made entirely of blocks—cubes representing materials like dirt, stone, wood, and water. Players can break and place these blocks to build structures or craft tools.

Students will:

1. **Explore the Minecraft Sandown world** to identify a derelict or underused site within the town.
2. **Design a new structure or space** (e.g., park, youth centre, eco-hub, skate park, community café, tourism attraction, business hub, housing development etc.).
3. **Consider planning guidance** (IOW Planning Dept will be supporting).
4. **Take screenshots** of their design/build from multiple angles.
5. **Complete a 'Design Concept Plan'** (template provided) explaining:
 - Which location chosen
 - What they built and why
 - How it benefits the community
 - Any research they've undertaken to:
 - a) Demonstrate a demand for their idea.
 - b) Feedback from people once design complete
 - How it fits within planning considerations

A panel will judge entries. The council may decide to display the designs around the town.

This youth engagement evidence will be incorporated into future funding bids for the town, demonstrating young people engagement and their ideas for our town.

Note: Thanks goes to Laura Cansdale (Area and Town Centre Regeneration Programme Manager IWC for initiating the building of a Minecraft map of Sandown. This project will involve working with Chris Gutteridge, Senior Software Engineer (Research) at the University of Southampton.



Schools & young people led project -

Students' mobilisation

To bring a sense of pride, demonstrate young people are a positive part of our community and gives them civic responsibilities we could involve them in:

1. Leaflets/newsletter drops (e.g. useful reporting list, consultation Flyers etc.)
2. Calls to action to attend meetings or participate in Petitions.

3. Promote local events that support our High Street.
4. Other activity as and when required

Schools & young people led project: Anti-Social Behaviour campaign

Campaign objectives

- a) **Educate** residents about what ASB is (adult & child cause) and its impact.
- b) **Empower** people to take action and report ASB the correct way.
- c) **Engage** students in civic responsibility and community improvement.
- d) **Connect** the public with local authorities and support channels.

WhatsApp letter to residents on Victoria Road



To create community belonging and support. Residents can:

- Watch out for each other, their premises and cars
- Help car owners who have left lights on, alarm sounding or blocking the highway for deliveries, emergency services and waste vehicles
- Report collectively any highways issues/tree management concerns etc.
- Report any incidents of ASB.

Heras fencing example

Heras fencing (temporary mesh fencing) has been installed around the clock tower on Shanklin sea front by IOW Council, using images related to the 'Shanklin Coastal Defence Scheme'.



I have discussed the matter with the Service Director of Waste, Environment and Planning, Community Services.

Question: With members agreement could we write to IOW Planning Dept to ask that they apply **S215 notice powers** on the owners of Savoy Court, Zanies, The Kings House (Wave) Bar, The Tarvic 2 Hotel, St Moritz Hotel sites.

Why? Derelict/neglected properties within the town centre are having a devastating impact on the town, our image, reputation and our visitor economy.

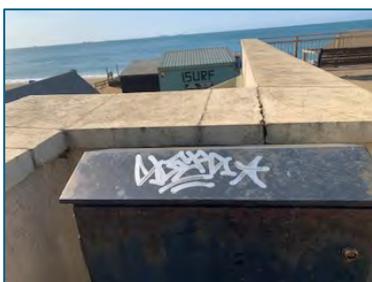
Property owners should be requested to pay to have more attractive fencing added to the outer boundary of their sites to improve the poor image of neglect.

We could use pictures of the Carnival/Regatta, Minecraft designs, Green Volunteers work or heritage images.



Residents' observations:

- There has been a seismic shift in the last 3-4 years in the number of drink and drug related individuals and groups, and signs of their presence (e.g. lots of empty cans & used needles left in public places).
- Some residents are associating this (rightly or wrongly) to the number of HMO's Sandown now has vs other towns/villages across the island.
[Cllr Paddy Lightfoot](#) may have news on this....
- Graffiti is on the rise within the town centre.



Finally, to end on a positive note...

Acknowledgement

Thank you to those businesses and homeowners in our town centre that have recently decorated their property frontage. This makes a massive difference to our town and how it is perceived by our visitors and local community.

Thank You



*Thank
you!*