

## **IOW Councillor Report April 2019 for Chillerton and Gatcombe Parish Council**

### **Plastics in rocks**



My wife and I were quite shocked recently on a beach walk to find plastic bottles and cans crammed into the rocks at Brighstone Bay.

These rocks took millions of years to form and were probably walked on by dinosaurs. We are used to finding plastics on the beach left behind by people, which we pick up as we go but to cram them into the rocks where they might not have been found and could take 1000 years to degrade is disgraceful.

I would ask visitors and residents to use the bins provided or simply take them home to dispose of as

they are very light once empty and after all, you did carry them down to the beach when heavy.

### **Warm Up Wight Scheme**

From personal experience I am promoting this scheme supported by the Isle of Wight Council as we had our cavity wall insulation installed recently which was dealt with from survey to installation within a month and didn't cost us a penny as this is a scheme paid for by energy companies in order for them to reach their carbon emission targets set by Government.

You can save 35% of your heat from loss through walls and 25% loss through your roof and even if you have loft insulation, you could still have more with a top up if you don't have enough currently.

To arrange a survey call 0800 032 8322 or a direct call to Andy Knight on 07593120612 who runs the team on the Island.

### **Pointless Road Signs**

Government has asked local authorities to look into road signs that are no longer needed and could be removed.

I have therefore asked officers and Island Roads to look at this issue because if there are signs not needed we will still be paying for them to be maintained and cleaned when they are no longer needed and could be removed which would save money for the council.

This issue might need to come to the Scrutiny Committee that I Chair to look into further.

### **Council Bulky Waste Service**

This is another service that I used recently when we bought a new tumble dryer but had an old one in good working condition.

I went online to the waste section on the council website and found the form under household waste/other collection services/click online services at the top and fill in the request a re-use collection form.

The goods are collected by the council and delivered directly to Storeroom 2010. Storeroom2010 is a small independent furniture re-use charity, operating without the benefits of statutory funding. Situated on the Isle of Wight, Storeroom is in an area, which suffers disproportionately high unemployment and child poverty compared to many other areas in the UK. Storeroom2010 enables impoverished and disadvantaged families to be able to affordably furnish their homes, thereby improving their quality of life. When referred by statutory and voluntary agencies, customers who are in need, benefit from a discount on many of the items at Storeroom. All the furniture at the store has been donated by Island residents providing affordable furnishings to those who cannot afford to purchase new. Furniture re-use also minimises impact on the environment as a smaller amount of bulky items are disposed of at our landfill site. The council's re-use service enables Island residents to recycle, help their community and their local environment too.

### **New coastal path**

Residents will be pleased, regarding the coastal path at Brighstone, which was lost due to erosion recently and a diversion was put in place via the Military Road that there is now a new route in place through the Brighstone Holiday Centre and will be clearly sign posted.

### **Bus trial**

I have written to Southern Vectis to ask if we could have a later bus back to Brighstone from Newport and what would the cost of such a service be if we could run a trial of some six months.

I have had a response from Richard Tildsley stating that he would ask his commercial department to put a figure on it and I await a response.

### **Freedom of the Island**

I was very pleased to attend a special Full Council Meeting at County Hall to be a part of a unanimous decision to bestow the honour of the Freedom of the Isle of Wight upon Dr Desmond Murthy who was the founder of the Earl Mountbatten Hospice.

I think this was a very well deserved honour and it was a pleasure to talk to such an inspirational man whose decision has probably touched most families on this Island.

With best wishes to you all,

*Steve*

**Councillor Steve Hastings**

**Isle of Wight Council**

**Member for Central Wight , Chair of Policy and Scrutiny for Regeneration, Housing, Planning and The Environment.**

**[Steve.hastings@iow.gov.uk](mailto:Steve.hastings@iow.gov.uk)**