



Clerk's Report 25th February 2026

Event/Project updates:

Steyne Park Consultation:

At the time of writing the online consultation has received over 570 responses. A live drop in consultation event will be taking place at the BYCC on Saturday at 4:45pm. Cllr H Brabazon will be able to update further at agenda item 4.5

Lengthsmen updates:

Kev and Pete have been on annual leave during this month and so we have spent most of the month with only two Lengthsmen at any one time. It has been a good time for the Lengthsmen to take holiday as the weather limits the number of jobs that they are able to do anyway. When possible, they have been working in the cemeteries and during wet periods they have been reorganising the workshop and building storage units for tools.

We have completed the appraisal meeting of Steve, and updates can be given at agenda item 10.

Matters arising from previous meeting:

06/26 – Precept

Agreed Precept request has been submitted to IoWC and acceptance confirmed.

07/26 – Internal Audit

Apologies but I have not managed to catch up with the Internal Auditor with a full list of updates to the Interim report recommendations. I will aim to do this for next Full Council.

10/26 – Staffing

A meeting was held with Mrs Debbie Glover on the 17th February. As this relates to a staff contract updates will be given to the Full Council in confidential session.

Items on the Agenda:

Agenda item 6: Fin Regs and Risks

Following review by the Finance and Governance Committee please find attached documents recommended for approval. One slight adjustment was to limit the amount that the Clerk could pay via online banking without secondary approval from the Chair. This has now been actioned and added to the Fin regs.

Full Council will need to review and agree to adopt the Fin Regs, Fin Risk Assessment, Risk Assessment, Risk Management Strategy and Investment Strategy.



[Agenda item 7: Hire charges for storage facilities on Parish Council land.](#)

There are three sheds to the rear of the Village Hall used for storage by Bembridge Horticultural Society, Bembridge Art Society and Wight Island Players. There are also two containers in Steyne Park, used by Men in Sheds and the Bembridge Youth FC. Currently only Men in Sheds have a lease that requires payment of an annual rent. This rent is set at £10 per year and the lease runs until 2029. Only the Men in Sheds container has an electrical connection.

The Steyne Park Regen Committee have agreed to a request from Bembridge Youth FC to position another storage container in the park. Part of which may be used for Pickle Ball storage subject to negotiation.

With the addition of this new container, it seemed an opportune time to assess and review the Parish Council's charging policy for storage.

[The Full Council will need to discuss and agree a charging policy, keeping in mind its obligations to encourage local groups, against its need to provide value for money to all residents, whilst acknowledging the precedent set by the lease agreement with Men in Sheds in 2019.](#)

[Agenda item 8: Southern Water](#)

We have been made aware of works scheduled to take place on the Combined Sewer Outflow around the Point by Southern Water. The background of this work is below:

'All sewer lines in and around Solent Landing, extending as far as the High Street, discharge to The Point Pumping Station (see map below). All sewers within the marked green boundary are connected to this station. As shown, The Point itself does not fall within this catchment area. From The Point, flows are transferred to the Lane End Pumping Station, which serves the remainder of Bembridge. Lane End then pumps the wastewater onward to the Sandown Waste Treatment Works.

The Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) exists to protect homes and businesses from flooding in the event that the sewer network becomes hydraulically overloaded. It also provides a safeguard in the event of a catastrophic failure at the pumping station; if the pumps fail, wastewater is diverted through the CSO. Such failures are uncommon due to the telemetry systems installed at all sites, which automatically send alarms to our engineers.

In this instance, the CSO is currently obstructed due to rising beach levels. As a result, tankers are deployed on-site when heavy rainfall is forecast. However, this method is not infallible. On Sunday, 1 February, Solent Landing experienced flooding despite forecasts predicting only light rain with a possibility of ice. The forecast did not indicate the 25–35 mm of rainfall that occurred over a four- to five-hour period.

Our intention is to extend the CSO further out to sea, above the existing levels. This work is necessary due to the recurring flooding experienced within Solent Landing during periods of heavy rainfall.'

