



West Moors Town Council

Issue 9 Newsletter



West Moors Town Council delivered a care package to each Nursing Home in the village, so they could raise a glass with each other to commemorate the 75 years.



The winning entry of the VE creative challenge by Miss Aimee Rickman



Former Chairman Cllr M Hawkes laying a wreath on behalf of WMTC

VE Day – 75th Anniversary celebrations

It was lovely to see residents of West Moors not letting social distancing rules stop them from having a responsible street party to celebrate VE Day on the weekend of 8-10th May.

There was dancing, picnics and lots of smiles which is so important during these times and any other.

Due to the cancellation of the VE Day party at West Moors Memorial Hall, a 'Creative Challenge' was initiated by West Moors Town Council.

All ages were invited to:

Write a short news report in the style of today or of 75 years ago, create a poem, song, drawing or any other work of art, and/or share an experience of themselves or someone they know. All inspired by VE Day.

Chairman of the Council, Cllr Mike Hawkes, chose the winner after looking through the entries.

Miss Aimee Rickman, a student of Oakhurst First Community School, aged 8, was congratulated over the phone and a post was placed on Facebook with her photo and submission. Mrs Rickman, Mother, said Aimee was delighted with the achievement and was excited to add it to her 'lockdown scrapbook'.

West Moors Town Council are glad to have added some joy to Aimee's lockdown experience, as she added to ours with her lovely picture.

Welcome to the New Chairman of West Moors Town Council (WMTC)

On Thursday 30th July, members paid tribute to outgoing Chairman Cllr Mike Hawkes, and welcomed the duly elected, New Chairman of WMTC Cllr Keith Wilkes. Cllr Hawkes has served as Chairman since May 2018 and should be commended for his passionate contribution to the village.

Cllr Hawkes will remain just as dedicated as one of 12 Councillors as he was as Chairman. He is a member of the Finance and General Purpose, Planning and Environment Committee, as well as Fryer Field Task/Finish Group and the Climate Emergency Working Group. Last but not least, he has volunteered to be the representative for DAPTC Towns and Larger Parishes and Eastern Area Committee, for 2020-2021. As you can see, his work is by far from done!

Chairman Cllr Wilkes is excited to embark on his new challenge and the members of West Moors Town Council are right behind him.

Additional duties will be: Finance and General Purpose, Planning, Jean Ware Legacy Award and the Apprentice/Vocational Award meetings whilst representing West Moors at the East Dorset Environment Partnership.

Another year of service as Vice Chairman of the Council will be Cllr Alex Clarke. Cllr Clarke will also sit on the Finance and General Purpose, Environment Cemetery Working Party and the Climate Emergency Working Group committees. He has also volunteered to be the Dementia Friends Group representative for 2020-2021.

Thank You to all of our Councillors who work to keep West Moors a great place to live.

What have we been up to?

World Environment Day 5th June (WED)

World Environment Day is the most renowned day for environmental action.

Since 1974, it has been celebrated every year on 5 June in over 100 countries.

This year, the theme was 'celebrating biodiversity' – a concern that is both urgent and existential. A time for nature to be nurtured.

WED can be celebrated in many ways. In line with government guidelines, West Moors Town Council chose to host 2 competitions so the public could join in from the safety of their homes.

1. Bio-Diversity Poster

From the selection of entries we received, the Chairman of the Council short-listed two, but could not decide which one was the winner, as they were both so good. Therefore, the joint winners are:

Miss Sarah Linford (Aged 11) and Miss Ruby Louise Fawcett (Aged 10) who both earned themselves an hour horse riding session.

Miss Ruby Louise Fawcett

Miss Sarah Linford



2. Trio of Activities

A word search, word scramble and crossword had to be completed to find the hidden letters that made up a message, which was: "Let the Earth Smile".

The winner was picked at complete random by the Chairman. Congratulations was given to:

Miss Elizabeth Linford (aged 8)

Elizabeth received a £20 Hobbycraft voucher.



Virtual Council meetings

Local councils in the UK were handed new powers by central government to hold public meetings remotely during this pandemic.

All twelve Councillors attended their first Zoom meeting on April 30th to discuss planning, financial, environmental and Full Council matters.

This first virtual meeting went very well. Whilst everyone would agree that in-person meetings would be preferable, in our current circumstances, online meetings are necessary to keep everyone safe.

Reopening of play areas and sports facilities

Fryer Field and Oakhurst School children's play areas were re-opened on Saturday 4th July, as per government guidance.

So many children have missed using the play areas but the Council still urge you to follow guidance we have provided so that everyone can enjoy the play areas in a safe way.

The Multi Use Games Area and Fryer Field Pavilion are also open again. Please contact the office for availability. Fees can be found on our website.

The tennis courts have been open for some time and are free to use. It works on a first come first served basis, as no booking is required.

Jean Ware Legacy Award 2020 – DEADLINE COMING SOON!

If you are, or know someone that is aged between 11 and 17yrs, demonstrating a special talent in sporting or physical activities or The Arts (such as music, drama, painting or literature), please apply now. The closing date is 30th November 2020.

Apprentice Vocational Training Scheme STILL AVAILABLE!

When young people (aged 16 to 20 years) embark on new careers, training can be costly. West Moors Town Council are awarding a grant of £250 to assist with purchases of related tools and equipment.

Applications are considered in July and September. If either, or both of the above are of interest to you, please contact the parish office on 01202 861044, office@westmoors-pc.gov.uk, or download an application form and rules from

<http://www.westmoors-pc.gov.uk>

Education must go on!!

Children need structure and consistent routines so, the staff at the local schools have been working tirelessly and conscientiously to support them, since the country went into lockdown, on 23rd March. They have opened up to key workers and vulnerable children, provided online learning, contacted families weekly and provided lunch hampers and vouchers where needed. Teachers have faced extraordinary challenges, and as a result of significantly positive attitudes, they have achieved above and beyond their expectations.

At WMMS, the key groups identified by the DfE (making up three 'bubbles'), will be attending right up until the 17th July 2020, in addition to transition weeks (two weeks for Year 8, one Week for Year 5; and one week for Year 7), and continued online education provision.

Dr Deborah Craddock (PhD MA NPQH), Headteacher, could not be prouder of her team's efforts and would like to say Thank You to them for supporting the children during these challenging times. The response from pupils' families has been incredibly positive.

WMMS are all now extremely well placed to play a vital role to help the children and their community thrive.

West Moors Town Council would like to thank ALL the schools of West Moors, for their dedication to the children and their families.

Skate Park Funding

Skateparks are a key to Community engagement. West Moors Skate 2021 project is underway but we have one major challenge awaiting – funding! The overall cost of the new design is £200K. So far the Town Council are able to contribute £50K and have secured a very generous grant of £64K from Veolia. The balance is more than possible, but we would be so grateful for any ideas from any of you, on how to fundraise safely, soon and successfully!



Local Churches Support

Reverend Andy Muckle (Vicar at St Mary's Parish Church, West Moors) reported: "In recent weeks the number of new people requesting help from the team at St Mary's has dropped dramatically. We estimate that over the course of the pandemic we helped about 120 individuals in the village. However we now have a list of 'regulars' who we get shopping for on a weekly basis. I think this has been one of the real bonuses from the pandemic that we have 'uncovered' vulnerable people in our lovely community that we can help on a long term basis. To be able to provide help to these forgotten voices is a real privilege."

Pastor Adam Parrett from Pinehurst Community Church updated with:

"Since March our support hub have helped over 850 people in and around West Moors. Our volunteer list stands at 54 people. Things have started to slow down now and we are only delivering medication on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. As many of our volunteers have gone back to work, we are prioritising those who have been shielding or who have needed to isolate.

We have honestly loved being able to take up this role for our community. We would never have been able to do it without our amazing volunteers, so a BIG thank you to them. We also would have never been able to do it without the support of the West Moors community. We love where we live and we love that it has a real community spirit.

The support hub can help with practical jobs/errands or can be there to be a listening ear if you need them. Call 01202 892776 and leave us a message.



Thank You!

Key Workers of West Moors

West Moors Town Council would like to say a HUGE Thank You to key workers keeping essential services running during the Covid-19 pandemic. So many people are going above and beyond their normal duty to keep residents safe and to keep things moving: the brave and hard-working shop staff who are making sure the shelves are stocked and there's plenty of food to eat, teachers, (see above) council workers maintaining services as best they can, care workers and NHS staff helping to heal and keep people safe from COVID-19.



Do you know someone in West Moors who will be celebrating their 100 birthday this year?

If so please let the Council office know on:

01202 861044 or

Email office@westmoors-pc.gov.uk

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We're on the Web

See us at:

www.westmoors-pc.gov.uk

WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL
'WORKING FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD'

Contacting Your Councillors

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Cllr David Green
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Cllr Mike Hawkes
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Cllr Mrs Carol Holmes
9 Glenwood Way, BH22 0EL
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Cllr Stephen Linford
8 Shaftesbury Road, BH22 0DY
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Cllr Mrs Nicki Senior
15 Woolslope Road, BH22 0PD
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Cllr David Shortell
186 Uplands Road, BH22 0EY
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Cllr Colin Way
70 Elmhurst Road, BH22 0DG
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Cllr Keith Wilkes - **Chairman**
18 Avon Road, BH22 0EG
☎: 07713 159857

Cllr Anthony Willats
52 Elmhurst Road, BH22 0DQ
☎: 01202 894234

Cllr Mrs Penny Yeo
10 Blackfield Lane, BH22 0NH
☎: 01202 896217

DUE TO COVID-19

THE OFFICE IS STILL CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

We hope to reopen in early September

Call us on 01202 861044 or 07561 652603

We can deliver food waste and dog waste bags (West Moors only)