



West Moors Town Council

Issue 14 Newsletter – 8th May

Annual Public Meeting 15th April, via zoom

The Annual Town meeting was held via zoom for the first time, not face to face as government restrictions did not allow. We thank the 13 members of public for joining us.

Before the meeting commenced, 'Good Citizen award' presentations took place. The recipients all had their certificates and trophies hand delivered before the meeting.

There were 5 Adult nominees this year: John Bartley (Secretary of WMMH), Sarah Walbrin (West Moors Group Practice), Rev. Andy Muckle (St. Mary's Church), Adam Parrett (Leader and Elder of Pinehurst Community Church) and David Seeley a support co-tenant at Sturts Farm.

There was 1 Junior nominee, which was a delight to receive as firstly there were no Junior nominations last year and secondly, the nominee/winner, Hayden Dyer is only 8 years old and has been litter picking on his own initiative (obviously supervised by an adult) for the past 2 years.

The winner of the Adult category was David Seeley, who overcame his difficulty with social interaction and crowds, in order to offer community support, unprompted by anybody, during the pandemic's toughest times; delivering school meals to local children, walking people's dogs and more.

The other four nominees all received a Recognition Certificate.

All the nominees need to be recognised for their efforts in what has been and still is a difficult time for everyone. Each one of them has gone the extra mile for our community and although there is only one name on each award, it really belongs to all of them.



Sarah Walbrin
Nominee from
West Moors
Group Practice



Reverend Andy
Muckle
Nominee from
St. Mary's Church



LEFT:
Winner of the
Adult Category
David Seeley



RIGHT:
Winner of the
Junior Category
Hayden Dyer

We were fortunate to have Guest Speaker – Steve Fletcher (Professor of Ocean Policy and Economy Director of Revolution Plastics, University of Portsmouth, Member, UN International Resource Panel) provide a presentation on Climate Emergency and what we can do as a Community.

Reports were received from the Chairman of the Full Council and each committee: Finance and General-Purpose, Planning Consultative and the Environment Committee. They explained what has been happening within the Council over the past year and the electors were able to have their say.

Minutes of this Annual Meeting and associated reports are available on our website at www.westmoors-tc.gov.uk

What has been going on?

National Lockdown Anniversary



An initiative by Marie-Curie encouraged Local Government to declare March 23rd as a National Day of Reflection, marking the one-year anniversary of the day a national stay-at-home lockdown was declared to control the spread of the coronavirus pandemic.

West Moors Town Council may not have been open but we still marked the date that life fundamentally altered, with a minute silence at 12:00pm. Hopefully people helped create a nationwide 'beacon of remembrance' on their doorsteps by beaming phones, candles and torches into the night sky at 8.00pm.

It was a moment to acknowledge how in adversity we saw strength, as friends, neighbours and communities, that came together to help each other.

On that day, St Mary's Parish Church held a very short zoom service at 11.55am, for about 15 minutes to allow many to come together to reflect on their collective loss, support those who've been bereaved, and hope for a brighter future.



The Small Covid-19 grants fund that has been open since July last year is now closed. We are happy to say that many local voluntary/charitable groups received financial help of up to £250. We thank everyone for all the support they have offered each other during the past year; Churches, community groups, neighbours and friends.

Small Covid-19 grants now closed

in February the last of the small Covid-19 grants were awarded to the following voluntary organisations:

1. Myra's Wells was awarded £250, to help compensate for the missed opportunity of giving talks to various groups which is the main source of funding for their projects.

'Myra's Wells is a local Christian charity drilling water wells in Burkina Faso, West Africa, It was founded by Eddie Martin, who lives in Oakhurst Road, after his wife was killed in a car crash in 2005. They have now drilled 204 wells, each one costing around £5,000. Eight more are planned soon. Anyone wishing to know more can go to www.myraswells.org or contact eddie@myraswells.org

Each of the wells has to be free for anyone to use, and every penny of what is received goes to project. The charity has no salaries to pay and does not advertise, but appreciates generous givers!

2. West Moors Towns Women's Guild received £150 to assist with paying fees for the Guild as subscriptions had not been collected due to Covid-19 restrictions

3. Women's Institute assist with the cost of upcoming events in preparation for this year's centenary celebrations

Apprentice Vocational Training Scheme- APPLY NOW!

Since 2015, the Council have been awarding grants of £250 to assist with purchases of related tools and equipment.

There is a maximum of £1,000 per year available in this Apprentice Scheme and there is still time to apply for this grant. We would love to hear from you and help you on your way with your career.

We have not received any applications since September 2020.

Whether it is for you or someone else, please contact the office, or download an application form and rules from www.westmoors-tc.gov.uk

Skate Park Update



#NationalLottery - acknowledging National Lottery players' support.



Trying our best to serve the local community in many ways, providing recreational and essential facilities, has been demonstrated through our current Skate West Moors 2021 project. We strive for inclusivity and support diversity of voice. We use culture and creativity to nurture community engagement and empowerment. Thanks to the amazing awards: £75,985 from @TNLCommunityFund (The National Lottery Community Fund), £75,000 from Veolia Environmental Trust and £1,500 from Dorset Council Leisure Development Fund, West Moors Skate Park is now full steam ahead. Tired, worn out, old facilities make it harder for people to start or keep doing sport. They can also be more expensive to run and difficult to maintain. Due to the generous funders, helpful Skate Park users and the Council's own reserved funds (£50,000), we look forward to providing the Community with a modern concrete sustainable, accessible, and engaging facility in terms of social, recreational, health and well-being opportunities, suitable for beginners & experienced skaters & other wheeled sports. If all goes well, work should commence in June.

BMX Track Update

In November 2018, West Moors Town Council (WMTc) agreed to allow local volunteers to undertake works at the BMX area, in order to make it a useable safe facility. Work started well and looked very promising. However eventually, work stopped and in September 2020 we were informed that the task was much bigger than anticipated and they could no longer continue.

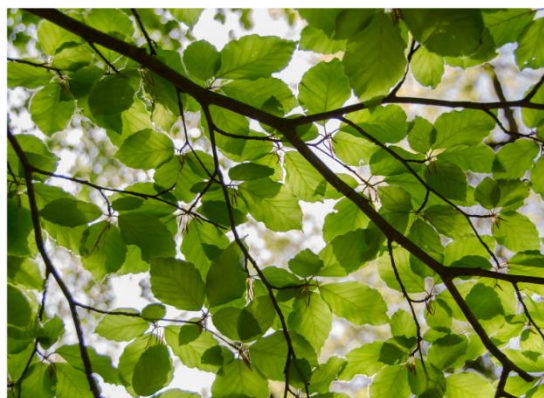
The site became a general state of disarray with vandalism making the site unsecure in various ways. The Council have a responsibility to put the public's safety first, so it was agreed after extensive discussion, that the area should be flattened and returned to be used as general amenity land.

Members then noted that there were not sufficient funds available to make it useable as a BMX track and that the Skate Park project should be taking precedence.

The area has recently been cleared of all rubbish and debris and levelled appropriately.

It has been resolved to create a small new woodland on the site of the old BMX track using free saplings from the Woodland Trust. <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/> The community will be encouraged to become involved and help with the planting and maintaining.

This work can only commence when the Woodland Trust services return to normal and COVID-19 restrictions allow.



Tree Planting can help to tackle Climate Change.
Let's all do our bit to Save the Planet

Clean up after your pet

Dog faeces carry diseases as well as odours.

PLEASE DO NOT:

* USE OTHER PEOPLE'S BINS.

* LET YOUR DOG WEE

AGAINST PEOPLE'S PRIVATE HEDGES.

Follow the Doggy Doo code:

www.dorsetdogs.org.uk/wagipawdia/doggy-do-code/

**BIO-DEGRADABLE
COMPOSTABLE DOG
WASTE BAGS**

Sold in the Council office.

You can be fined

Each authority follows the procedure and guidance, written under the Antisocial Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014

A Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £100 could be issued or up to £1,000 if it goes to a magistrates court.

Report dog fouling

You can report dog fouling to Dorset Council via an online form.

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/environmental-health/dog-warden-service.

Tel: 01202 228770

Email:

envhealthteamb@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk



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We're on the Web

See us at:

www.westmoors-tc.gov.uk

WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL
'WORKING FOR THE PUBLIC
GOOD'

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Cllr Mrs Penny Yeo
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DUE TO COVID-19 and Your Safety being our #1 priority

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL 21st JUNE

We are operating an appointment service during normal hours of 10am-2pm. Please do not 'drop-in'.

You can call or email

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