

West Moors Town Council Newsletter

Issue 1 - March 2025



Annual Town Meeting Thursday 10th April

Our Annual Town Meeting is fast approaching, and we warmly invite residents to join us.

No advance booking is required, just come along to St Anthony's Church (8 Pinehurst Road, West Moors, BH22 0AP) on Thursday 10th April at 7pm to find out more about local issues and the subsequent decisions that impact you. It's a great opportunity to meet with your Councillors and wider community, and there will be an opportunity for you to ask questions or raise any concerns.

We had fantastic feedback from last year's meeting, and we're hoping to create the same lively environment as our community comes together. You can expect:

- A fascinating talk from Dorset History Centre about West Moors history
- An important talk on scams from Dorset Council
- A community showcase of local clubs and organisations
- Presentation of our West Moors' Good Citizen Award 24/25

We look forward to welcoming you!

Upcoming dates for your diary:

Community Litter Pick
Saturday 5th April

Annual Town Meeting:
Thursday 10th April

VE Day
Thursday 8th May

WESTIVAL
Saturday 12th July





5 Year Strategic Plan

As many of you will be aware, we've been working on a strategic plan with the aim of setting clear objectives to help improve West Moors over the next 5 years. We've released 5 questionnaires to collect your input on Highways, Environment & Community, Planning & Development, Town Services & Amenities and Promotion of West Moors. We must extend a huge thank you to all residents who have taken the time to complete the surveys and share their thoughts on each topic. Your views really will help to impact decision making in all these areas.

There is still time to share your thoughts on the Promotion of West Moors - this is our last questionnaire and it looks at how we can promote the town as a vibrant place to live and work. There are posters up in the noticeboards around West Moors, you can scan the QR code or visit <https://forms.office.com/r/B8xgpTSJGf> to complete the survey online. Alternatively, pop into the office for a hard copy. We'll be compiling all the data we've received and will present a summary report at the Annual Town Meeting in April.



Community Grants

Grants awarded this quarter:

- **Mosaic** - A grant of **£1,400** to help support bereaved children and young people in West Moors with counselling sessions.
- **Citizens Advice in East Dorset and Purbeck** - A grant of **£1,500** to help with providing free advice to residents.
- **Home-Start Wessex** - A grant of **£1,880** to assist and support families in West Moors.



Pavilion Hire

Are you looking to hire a hall for a party, club meet, conference, regular class, or band practice?

The Pavilion on Fryer Field is available for hire with affordable rates. The meeting room has a 60 person capacity, with free parking, kitchen facilities and disabled access.

For more information or to book, please contact the office.

In Other News...



Petwyn Makeover

We were blown away by John from JG Exterior Services, who kindly offered to clean up the paving slabs on our Petwyn in January. We couldn't believe the difference! Thank you again, John, for your hard work, kindness and great community spirit, and for brightening this special community space.



Litter Pick

An astonishing 36 volunteers braved the cold and drizzle on Saturday 8th February to join our community litter pick. It was fantastic to see many new faces among our regulars, and a few younger residents too! A great effort by all, with a shocking amount of rubbish picked up in just two hours.

Join us on Saturday 5th April at 9:45am for the next one!



Pickleball Courts

We have an exciting addition to our Multi-use Games Area this month - two new Pickleball courts! If you haven't heard of it before, Pickleball is similar to tennis, but played with a paddle-style racket and hollow plastic ball. These courts are free to use, so we hope they'll be enjoyed by lots of our residents!



Sign of Spring

Resident Rosemary Legrand donated and planted lots of snowdrops on the Petwyn in February, in memory of much-loved resident, Colin Ellis.

Such a thoughtful and touching tribute which will remind us all of Colin as we enjoy the first beautiful signs of Spring each year. We can't wait to see how they multiply and flourish year on year.



Westival 2025

The planning for Westival 2025 is in full swing, and we're looking forward to welcoming you all to Fryer Field on Saturday 12th July, between 12 and 4pm, for a fun-packed family event! As always, Westival is free to attend and we'll have live music from CHILL - the Party Band,, children's entertainment from Crazy Kev, a Wheel Display, birds of prey handling and flying displays, MTB stunts from Urban Displays, kids craft workshops with Creative Kids UK, circus workshops from Steamship Circus, woodcarving demos and so much more! We have over 40 stalls signed up so far, plus lots of vendors offering a selection of food and drink. If you have something to offer, we'd love to hear from you!

We rely on volunteers to help keep Westival free and running smoothly, so if you can give an hour of your time to help on the day, please contact the office. There are lots of duties available!



Precept 25/26

We understand that many families are facing financial challenges right now, and at West Moors Town Council, we're committed to providing the services our community relies on while ensuring we get the best value for money.

Like many others, we're also experiencing rising costs, including higher employer National Insurance contributions.

To continue delivering essential services, we've had to make the difficult decision to increase the annual council tax precept. This means that for a Band D property, the cost will be £71.03 per year, equivalent to just £1.36 per week towards West Moors Town Council.

Even with this increase, West Moors still has one of the lowest Band D council tax charges by a Town or Parish Council in Dorset. We remain committed to keeping costs fair and sensible for our residents while maintaining the quality of our services.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

See the infographics to the left to learn more about our income and expenditure, and to see what our local responsibilities and services are.

West Moors Email List

Don't forget to sign up to our email list to receive this quarterly newsletter straight to your inbox, so you'll never miss it!

You'll be the first to know about upcoming events and goings on in West Moors too.

To sign up, please visit:

<https://mailchi.mp/460070f55b1c/subscribe>

or go to the West Moors Town Council website and subscribe through the 'Contact Us' page. We look forward to keeping you informed and up to date!



Get in touch

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Head to our website to read more about your Councillors and how to contact them.