

THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO BE PRESENT
Please note that meetings may be recorded

WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL

4 Park Way, West Moors, Dorset BH22 0HL
Tel: 01202 861044 Email: office@westmoors-tc.gov.uk



Supporting
West Moors

There will be a **MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL** to be held on **THURSDAY 29th FEBRUARY 2024** at **7.30pm** in **St Anthony's Church Hall, Pinehurst Road** to transact the following business:

J Weedon

Judi Weedon
Clerk

21st February 2024

Cllr Mrs R Burke – Chair

Cllr A Clarke
Cllr J Randall
Cllr C Way

Cllr D Green
Cllr T Salt
Cllr K Wilkes

Cllr M Hawkes
Cllr Mrs N Senior
Cllr Mrs P Yeo

Cllr Mrs C Holmes
Cllr D Shortell

AGENDA

1. To Receive Apologies for Absence
2. Questions from Members of the Public (Public to submit questions a minimum of 24 hours prior to meeting. Any questions/representations will be read out) Public session is limited to 10 minutes
3. To Receive Declarations of Interests and requests for Dispensations - Localism Act 2011 – Dispensations from section 31(4)
4. To Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on Thursday 25th January 2024 (pages 3141-3143). To Receive any Matters Arising from them (for information only)
5. To Approve, Adopt and Sign the following Committee meeting reports:
 - a) Planning Consultative committee 01.02.24 (page 3144-3145)
 - b) Planning Consultative committee 22.02.24 (to follow)
6. To Receive the Clerks Report
7. To Approve the Accounts for Payment
8. To Discuss Smoke Control Areas
9. To Discuss contributing to the DAPTC for the production of Election Videos
10. To Respond to the Local Transport Plan 4 Consultation
11. To Discuss Way Forward with Strategic Plan for WMTC
12. To Receive Information about the Annual Town meeting
13. To Receive Report from Dorset Councillors
14. To Receive Information from Members
15. Correspondence

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 29th FEBRUARY 2024**

AGENDA ITEM 1 – Apologies for Absence

The Clerk will give the apologies for those councillors who have given prior notice that they are unable to attend the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – Questions from Members of the Public

Public are required to submit questions a minimum of 24 hours prior to meeting. Please note that the meeting is by law ‘a meeting held in public, not a ‘public meeting’. The law gives members of the public the right to attend and observe but not to speak. Any questions/representations received will be read out. Public session is limited to 10 minutes

AGENDA ITEM 3 – Declarations of Interests

If an item appears on the agenda that a member holds a pecuniary interest or any other registerable interest in, as stated on their registration of members interest form, they must declare that interest and follow the rules set out in the Code of Conduct.

If any member is in any doubt whether to declare an interest, please speak to the Clerk.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – Clerks Report

The Clerk’s report is an update of on-going issues as well as informing members of any other matters that do not require a decision.

- a. The Precept request was submitted on Friday 26th January, Details of the budget and precept are on the website with an infographic.
 - b. Welcome to West Moors sign: This has now been cleaned and reinstalled.
 - c. Council Office: The carpet throughout has been cleaned.
 - d. Election Information session has been organised for Thursday 29th February prior to the Council meeting. This will be advertised on Facebook and notice boards.
 - e. Westival Planning has started, and updates will be provided each month starting in March.
-

AGENDA ITEM 7 – Accounts for Payment

A list of payments will be emailed out prior to the meeting for approval.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – Smoke Control Areas

As advised by Dorset Councillor Mike Dyer, a local resident has requested that implementation of a Smoke Control Area is sought.

Below is a copy of the letter sent from the resident:

We have emailed Councilor Mike Dyer regarding West Moors having a Smoke Control Area.

He has recommended that we contact you in regard to putting this issue on a future agenda for discussion so it can then be put forward to Dorset Council.

It’s not right that people can get away with burning wet wood in this day and age. Breathing in PM2.5 is a real concern in this area.

We have a neighbour who burns high moisture content of wood on a daily basis (he buys in bulk and the uses before the recommended seasoning has been done) He is not the only one by any stretch around West Moors that does this.

While people can use the loophole of buying a higher moisture content of wood in bulk and not storing it properly to air out to be used at a much later date, we will always have to breathe in poor quality air. We have an outdoor PM2.5 monitor that regularly reads unhealthy to down right hazardous levels when he has the log burner on next door.

We find it appalling that there are no Smoke Control Area's in Dorset at all. All towns should have a Smoke Control Area over them. We fear Dorset Council does not care about the health of its residents.

I am going to attach a video of the black smoke from our neighbors log burner. It lasts for 4.5 mins, we couldn't video any longer because the smell was horrendous.

We have contacted Dorset Council Environmental Health kept records/photos/videos, and so did the neighbour the other side of the property in question. DC said that they could not do anything, as there is no Smoke Control Area in West Moors, and people can literally burn what they like when they like as the current law allows.

The office then contacted environmental health to investigate how to go about getting a Smoke Control Area, DC replied with:

'The implementation of a smoke control area is not something Dorset Council currently undertake, as we do not have a policy of doing so. The member of the public, and town councillors should they believe it a beneficial action, should contact the ward councillor to lobby for a change in Environmental Protection's policy.'

An email was then sent to the Dorset Councillors asking them to pursue the matter copied to all Town Council members.

I have been advised that in order for the Dorset Councillors to pursue this matter they would require the Town Council to support such a change in policy.

Members are therefore asked to discuss whether they feel a Smoke Control area would be beneficial/not beneficial to West Moors in order to give direction to the Dorset Councillors to either lobby Dorset Council to change its policy or not.

AGENDA ITEM 9 – DAPTC Election Videos Contribution

As the Elections approach the DAPTC has produced a series of short videos to promote Town and Parish Councils. They can be found by clicking on the link [DAPTC SHOWCASE](#)

WMTC have downloaded these videos and placed them on a dedication elections page of the WMTC website. They will also be posted on the Town Council Facebook page during March. [WMTC website Elections Page](#)

These videos are free to use to help promote Town and Parish Council elections but the DAPTC have asked for a small contribution if we use them to help cover the cost of production.

Extract from DAPTC email

Our Executive Committee kindly recognised the value of this project and agreed to underwrite the entire cost, but did ask that I try to crowd fund as much as possible. We are making the videos available to all 150+ members and hope you will agree that they are a useful resource for councils this year and beyond. We have versions that are not tied to May 2024 to help with co-option after May to make the investment stretch further.

We would, therefore, like each member using the videos to consider in their council meetings a contribution and have suggested the following bands:

- Small parish councils - £30
- Medium sized parish councils - £60
- Larger parishes and towns - £120

Even if everyone contributed at these rates (not expecting that), we would still fall short on the full cost.

We hope you recognise that for this contribution the quality of the outputs is highly beneficial

Members are therefore asked to consider if they wish to donate to the cost of these videos.

AGENDA ITEM 10 – Local Transport Plan 4 Consultation

Members having been previously emailed a copy of the consultation are asked to formulate a corporate reply to the Local Transport Plan consultation.

A copy of the questions are attached to the agenda and during the meeting an answer to each question will be agreed on. The Clerk will then submit the formal response.

Members are also encouraged to complete the consultation as an individual.

AGENDA ITEM 11 – Strategic Plan Way Forward

Members having had a training session on the 8th Feb to help formulate some ideas are asked to discuss a way forward with producing a Strategic Plan.

Copies of the notes from the session were emailed to all members on the 13th February, they are also attached to this agenda.

AGENDA ITEM 12 – Annual Town Meeting

The annual town meeting scheduled for the 11th April at 7pm in St Anthonys Church hall will be taking a different format this year.

On advice from Neil at the DAPTC and various other comments from councillors about the reports from the Council being long and people leaving the meeting after the guest speaker has spoken.

Therefore, to try and make the meeting more engaging and to encourage residents to come, it has been decided to change the format.

This year there will be two speakers, one at the start and one nearer the end of the meeting, the meeting will finish with the presentation of the Good Citizen Awards. The guest speakers will be Michelle from the Community Larder and a representative from the Youth Club.

The council reports will be much shorter focusing on the achievements during the year and the plans for the following 12 months.

There will also be various clubs, societies, and charities at the event, each with an information table so they can engage with residents and let them know what is available to do in West Moors. It is hoped that this will lead to more people attending and a more engaging event for residents.

A power point presentation will be used throughout the event and handouts will be available to take away.

Refreshments will be available during the event.

There are no additional financial implications.

AGENDA ITEM 13 – Dorset Councillor Report

Dorset Councillors D Shortell and M Dyer will give a report relevant to West Moors during the meeting. Any written report received will be sent out prior to the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 14 – Members Information

An opportunity for brief verbal reports from members who have information relevant to West Moors.

Members are asked to produce a written report of attendance at meetings etc on which they are the Council representative. Please send this to the Clerk so it can be sent out with the agenda.

AGENDA ITEM 15 – Correspondence

All important and informative emails are forwarded on to members as they arrive.
