

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

WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL

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Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend the **MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL** to be held on **THURSDAY 27th FEBRUARY 2025** at **7.30pm** in The Pavilion, Fryer Field to transact the following business:

J Weedon

Judi Weedon
Clerk

20th February 2025

	Cllr Mrs R Burke – Chair		
	Cllr Mrs N Senior – Vice Chair		
Cllr D Green	Cllr M Hawkes	Cllr Mrs C Holmes	Cllr J Randall
Cllr T Salt	Cllr D Shortell	Cllr J Staig	Cllr C Way
	Cllr K Wilkes	Cllr Mrs P Yeo	

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 30th January \(pages 3284-3287\). To Receive any Matters Arising from them \(for information only\)](#)
5. [To Receive Clerks report](#)
6. [To Approve Accounts for Payment](#)
7. [To Receive Update on Strategic Plan survey](#)
8. [To Receive Report from Dorset Councillors](#)
9. [To Receive Westival Planning Update](#)
10. [To Receive Information from Members](#)
11. [To Receive Correspondence](#)

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.

PLEASE NOTE: That a reason for all future apologies for non-attendance at meetings will be required. This is part of the Local Government Act 1972 s 85(3) and Sch 12 para 40. The reason for the apology will be noted in the minutes.

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 in, as stated on their registration of pecuniary 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 4 – APPROVE COUNCIL MINUTES 30.01.2025

3284

WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **TOWN COUNCIL MEETING** held on Thursday 30th January 2025 in
The Pavilion, Fryer Field at 7.30pm.

PRESENT:

Cllr Mrs R Burke - Chair		
Cllr D Green	Cllr M Hawkes	Cllr Mrs C Holmes
Cllr J Randall	Cllr D Shortell	Cllr J Staig
Cllr C Way	Cllr K Wilkes	Cllr Mrs P Yeo

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs Judi Weedon, Town Clerk
Dorset Councillor A Skeats

APOLOGIES: Cllr T Salt Cllr Mrs N Senior
(reasons for absence were noted)

24/275 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
None

**24/276 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR
DISPENSATIONS – LOCALISM ACT 2011 – DISPENSATIONS FROM SECTION 31(4)**
None

**24/277 TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 19th DECEMBER 2024**
Having been circulated, the minutes on pages 3263-3265 were agreed, adopted and signed.

24/278 TO RECEIVE TOWN CLERKS REPORT

1. The next litter pick is scheduled for the 8th February.
2. Arrangements for the Annual Town meeting: Confirmed speakers are: Dorset History Centre re West Moors history and Trading Standards re scams, with 10 community groups already confirmed as attending. A third speaker may also be attending but this has not been confirmed. Members are asked to consider giving a donation to the Dorset History Centre for their attendance.
To date we have received 16 completed nomination forms for the Good Citizen Award, which will be presented at the meeting.
3. Local Government Award documents were submitted 23rd December 2024, results are expected in April.
4. Flat 4A Park Way is on the market for sale. WMTC are the freeholders to this.
5. Complaint received about the external lights on the library being very bright and on most of the night. Clerk has contacted the library service for clarification.
6. The internal auditor is due to visit on the 12th February and the 1st May.
7. Beryl bikes are being removed from East Dorset for operational reasons.
8. Unproven reports of dogs getting ill after visiting Fryer Field and rumours that the Council is at fault for spraying mole hills. The Council has not sprayed any mole hills or used any kind of pesticide on the Fryer Field. A statement was put out on social media to alleviate concerns, but this created some very negative comments.
9. The clerk and Cllr Salt attended the funeral of local resident Colin Ellis who was tragically killed whilst crossing Station Road in December.

10. A local resident has offered to plant some snow drops in the Petwyn in memory of Mr Ellis, members felt this was a good idea.
11. Garden of Eden Project – Community Garden project on the Horton Road. The clerk explained the vision for this project being put forward by the owner of the site.
12. The clerk reported on attendance at a Dorset Council meeting with Town and Parish Clerks, including information on the chief executive vacancy, budget increase, strategic authority update, planning matters and street lighting.

24/279 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

It was

RESOLVED that the accounts for payment be approved as attached on page 3287 of these minutes. (Cllr's Yeo and Wilkes to authorise the electronic payments)

Voting: unanimous

24/280 BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2025/26

After the budget and precept having been reviewed and agreed at committee level it was **RESOLVED that the budgets as previously agreed by the Environment committee as shown on pages 3270 to 3273 of the minutes and the Finance and GP committee as shown on pages 3282 to 3283 of the minutes be approved and that a precept of £221,148 for 2025/26 be requested from the billing authority, which equates to a Band D household cost of £71.03 for the year. (an increase of £11.60 from 2024/25)**

Voting: 9 for, 1 abstention

It is noted that the Band D payment equates to £1.36 per week

24/281 STRENGTHENING THE STANDARDS AND CONDUCT FRAMEWORK FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES – CONSULTATION

Members having previously received the consultation agreed to submit a corporate reply. Members considered each question and advised the clerk on the reply.

The clerk to submit the response to the consultation.

Members were encouraged to also submit a personal response to this consultation.

24/282 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE – ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING CONSULTATION

Members received a presentation on the environment consultation and planning and development consultation.

Members requested that a 'thank you' message be published for the responses and that the reply will inform the strategic plan for the council.

It was noted that the response rate was very low.

24/283 DORSET COUNCILLOR REPORT

Members received a written report from Dorset Councillor's Shortell and Skeats regarding the job advert for a replacement Chief Executive at Dorset Council, increased parking charges across Dorset and discussions with a local resident about log burner issues.

A copy of the full report is available in the council office.

24/284 WESTIVAL 2025 UPDATE

Members received a brief update on the progress of the event to date.

Members agreed that a committee was not required to assist with the organisation of this event and the council staff could continue with the preparations.

Members felt that holding a cash raffle was a good idea and should be part of the event if funds allow.

Cllr Skeats suggested that people may be inclined to donate if card payments could be taken.

24/285 INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS

Cllr C Way supplied copies of youth club accounts and a report for the youth leader. Concern was raised by Cllr Wilkes about an item in the report about safeguarding issues, and that the Town council needs to be aware of such issues as they are funding the club. The Clerk informed members that the matter had been dealt with by the youth club and that the person related to the safeguarding issues no longer has any thing to do with the youth club.

Cllr Way went on to inform members that the youth club committee are looking at reconfiguring the inside of the club to make more space, repairing outside lighting, replacing the cooker and security camera. Cllr Way felt that the club is being run more professionally, and the finances were all in order.

Cllr Mrs P Yeo reported on her attendance at the Dementia Action group meeting and reminded members about the training scheduled for March.

Cllr J Staig reported that some branches had fallen into the river at Woolslope Farm and asked how to report this.

Cllr D Shortell reported on his attendance at the West Moors Memorial Hall meeting on 06.01.25. He reported that repairs to the building were draining their resources. A copy of the accounts were presented.

24/286 CORRESPONDENCE

All important and informative correspondence is emailed to Councillors as it arrives.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 21.09 hrs.

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on 27th February 2025 at 19:30hrs.

SIGNED DATE
Chair

Payment list dated 23.01.2025			
Payment method	Invoice amount	Invoice date	Details
EB 30.01	£35.00	22.01.25	DAPTC - Procurement Act 2023 training - Judi Weedon
EB 30.01	£36.00	22.01.25	SLCC - Introduction to Biodiversity Net Gain - Judi Weedon
EB 30.01	£192.00	22.01.25	Elextra Solutions - install of additional socket on pavilion and 1x spur for Defib
EB 30.01	£200.00	23.01.25	Creative Kids Art Education Centre - Art Workshop for Westival - Deposit
EB 30.01	£357.60	17.12.24	SafeZone Fire and Security - Call out and repairs to CCTV camera (replacement camera required)
EB 30.01	£50.00	21.01.25	Cole Management Services - office Window cleaning and 2x bus shelters Dec and Jan
EB 30.01	£1,500.00	23.01.24	Citizens Advice Bureau - Grant for 2024/25 minute no 24/270c
EB 30.01	£324.90	24.01.25	Play Inspection Company - Annual Inspections of Play areas
EB 30.01	£1,218.00	22.01.24	Verwood Cleaning Services - Public toilet and pavilion cleaning Dec-Jan
EB 30.01	£1,400.00	23.01.25	Mosaic - Grant minute no 24/270b
EB 30.01	£1,880.00	23.01.25	Homestart Wessex - Grant minute no 24/270a
EB 30.01	£11.71	27.01.25	Business Supplies Group - Stationery
TOTAL	£7,205.21		
Direct Debits and Debit Card payments			
Payment method	Invoice amount	Invoice date	Details
DD 25.01	£128.01	01.01.25	1st Connect - Broadband and telephone changes for Jan
DC 28.01	£50.00	28.01.25	Petty Cash - ATM withdrawal to top up petty cash
Total	£178.01		

AGENDA ITEM 5 – 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.

1. The litter pick held on the 8th February saw over 30 volunteers.
2. The Clerk attended a meeting with Cllr Skeats and Dorset highways to discuss traffic issues in West Moors.
3. The Chair and the Clerk attended the Mothers Union meeting on the 17th February to give a talk about the Town Council. The talk was well received.
4. Cllr Staig has completed FILCA training.
5. The Clerk now has access to the back office for the EV chargers. This shows how often they are used and various other information. In January the fast charger was used 50 times using 1433.55 kWh. The slow charges were used 5 times and used 97.27 kWh.
6. The Clerk and Assistant have attended training courses entitled: Grave Ownership and Registration, Email marketing essentials for Councils, Advanced use of ChatGPT, Council GDPR Essentials, Burial Law in the UK.
7. Snowdrops have been planted on the Petwyn to remember Colin Ellis. The snowdrops were kindly donated by a local resident.
8. Reminder of Dementia Awareness training session before the Council meeting on the 27th March at 6:15 in St Marys Church Hall.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – Accounts for Payment

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

AGENDA ITEM 7 – Strategic Plan Update

At time of writing the agenda there have been 30 responses to the latest survey: Enhancing Town Services and Community amenities.

Current results will be presented at the meeting.

The office has received a couple of requests asking if we are going to publish the results of the surveys, they were informed that the surveys are to help inform the strategic plan, however a report for the public on the headline results will be considered.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – Dorset Councillor Report

Dorset Councillors D Shortell and A Skeats 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 9 – Westival Planning update

Planning for this event on the 12th July is now ongoing.

Update additional information since reported In January

We have 8 confirmed sponsors for the event totalling £1,650.

Wheel Display entries are still coming in with 100 vehicles registered to attend.

We have been asked by the Trustees of the Memorial Hall to officially request the use of the memorial hall car park for the event. An email has been sent asking for permission to use the car park.

AGENDA ITEM 10 – 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 11 – Correspondence

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