WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL

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Dear Councillor

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE to be held on THURSDAY 1st MAY 2025 at 7.30pm in The Pavilion, Fryer Field, to transact the following business:

J Weedon

Judi Weedon Town Clerk

23rd April 2025

	<u>Committee Me</u>	<u>mbership</u>		
	Cllr Mrs C Holm	nes – Chair		
Cllr Mrs R Burke	Cllr D Green	Cllr M Hawkes	Cllr J Randall	
Cllr T Salt	Cllr D Shortell	Cllr J Staig	Cllr Mrs P Yeo	

AGENDA

- 1. To Receive Apologies for Absence
- 2. To Receive Declarations of Interests on any Matter on this Agenda
- 3. 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.
- 4. To Receive Clerks Report
- 5. <u>To Discuss Objectives for environment and community, and highways surveys for</u> inclusion in Council Strategic Plan
- 6. To Receive update on Cemetery Matters and consider issue with boundary fence
- 7. <u>To Receive update on Public Toilets</u>
- 8. <u>To Receive update on Allotments</u>
- 9. To Receive Correspondence

AGENDA ITEM 4 – Clerks Report

- a) Tree Inspections were completed on the 10th March 2025. No actions were found to be required at this time.
- b) Park Way Car Park: Relining of the car park has been completed, and Dorset Council have repaired all the potholes.
- c) The Spinney has a new wooden sign thanks to local resident Keith Randell and to Dorset Council for assisting with installing it.
- d) The Strays of Greece dog show is due to be held at Fryer Field on the 18th May 2025, they have been charged £50 for the hire of the field and pavilion for the day. (this is what they were charged last year).
- e) Goal posts are due to be taken down in early May. New goal posts will be purchased before the start of the new football season (as budgeted for).
- f) The Floodlight control box door is broken and needs replacement as soon as possible. This metal door is very old and is rusted making it hard to open/close. There was also a recent incident where someone got into the box and switched off the power to CCTV. Quotes are being sought for a replacement metal door.
- *g)* Dorset Council Please Slow Down Trial. The PCC in a recent newsletter highlighted a trial to assist with slowing vehicles down. The clerk wrote to DC to be included in the trial (Glenwood Road area), which has been declined, they stated 'We would not be looking to use these in West Moors, as you already have a very good SID programme. We could look at how the SID could potentially be used to support Glenwood Road. The first step would be to get a speed survey done, so we can see if there is an issue there. A survey would cost £295+VAT.

Please note you already have 3 sites for your existing SID, so adding any further sites would mean purchasing another SID.'

AGENDA ITEM 5 – Strategic Plan

As per the discussion at the Council meeting held on the 24th April, it was agreed that each committee would discuss the results of the surveys pertaining to their areas and decide on the items to be included in the strategic plan for the council.

Attached separately for members are copies of the data from the Environment and Community survey and the Highways survey.

Members are requested to consider what they would like to include in the Strategic Plan document as objectives for these areas of responsibility and how they would like to proceed with producing this section of the document.

AGENDA ITEM 6 – Cemetery Matters

- Unapproved metal gate memorial on Plot OO16: An application for a permanent memorial on this plot has now been received and approved. The metal gate will remain in situ until the permanent memorial is in place. Update: The permanent memorial has not yet been installed
- 2. To date no artificial grass has been removed from plots. Further letters will be sent to plot holders requesting removal of the grass.
- 3. Cemetery Boundary Fence with 26 Priory Road: The owners of 26 Priory Road recently carried out repairs to the wooden fence alongside their property and the cemetery. It was discovered that they had supported the fence by screwing battens to a few trees located in the cemetery to brace the fence. The office wrote to them asking them to remove the screws from the trees and asked that any bracing be from the concrete posts located about a metre away from the fence on cemetery land. A reply was received from 26 Priory Road as shown below:

Dear Sirs,

Re. West Moors Cemetery

We are in receipt of your letter dated 7th April and comment as follows.

We have indeed undertaken some repairs to your boundary fence that abuts the cemetery. As you have left it in such a poor state of repair, we felt it better to do something rather than leave it falling over.

If you are not happy with our repairs to your fence then we suggest you make the effort and remedy it at your cost rather than ours.

We would remind you that when we first purchased our property, there was no proper fencing in place on your boundary.

Land registry showed that our boundary responsibility lay with our left hand boundary, with the right hand as yours.

As we had dogs we didn't want to risk them getting loose in the cemetery, so we approached you about sharing the cost of installing one, where we offered to erect it if you split the material cost with us.

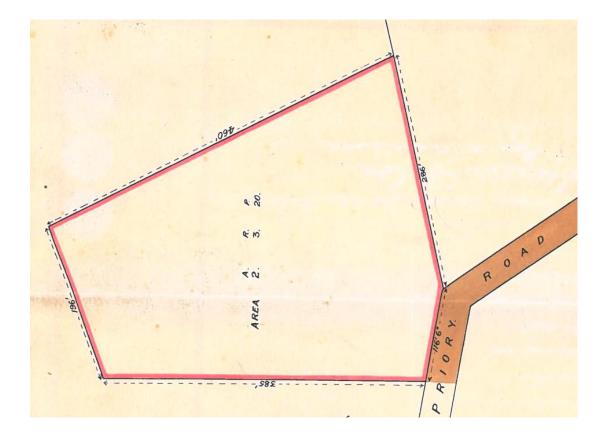
This was verbally agreed, and naively we went ahead and did it, only for you to renege on it. For you now to be writing to us complaining about the fence is frankly insulting.

The office has checked all the documents we hold relating to the cemetery and cannot find any indication of responsibility for this wooden fence.

There are some old concrete posts which had a wire fence attached to it about a metre away from the wooden fence, we are not sure if this indicates the actual boundary?

The residents also state that the council verbally agreed to split the cost of a fence along this boundary, however there is no record of this and having worked for the council for over 18 years and having no recollection of this agreement, it must have been a very long time ago.

Shown below is a copy from the original covenant for the cemetery.



Members are asked what they would like to do about this boundary fence

- should the council maintain it,
- should the council be responsible for replacing it,
- should we ask for evidence from the residents in Priory Road to prove that it is the Councils fence,
- Any other suggestions welcome

AGENDA ITEM 7 – Public Toilet Update

Verwood cleaning services have found out who is regularly leaving the alcohol bottles in the public toilets and have approached them about it. The situation is being monitored.

AGENDA ITEM 8 – Allotment Update

The area in front of the main entrance gate to the allotments which became very muddy in the winter making access difficult. Sturts / Gulliver's Farm have granted permission for the Town Council to lay a footpath, using crush and roll. This will be done before the autumn.

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AGENDA ITEM 9– Correspondence

1. ICCM Journal Spring 2025