

WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Virtual **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** meeting held on **Thursday 29th April 2021**
via Zoom at 7.30pm.

PRESENT:

Cllr M Hawkes - Chair		
Cllr Mrs R Burke	Cllr A Clarke	Cllr D Green
Cllr Mrs C Holmes	Cllr S Linford	Cllr Mrs N Senior
Cllr D Shortell	Cllr A Willats	Cllr Mrs P Yeo

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs Judi Weedon (Clerk)
Cllr K Wilkes
Dorset Councillor M Dyer
1 Member of the Public

APOLOGIES: None

653 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None

654 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
None

655 TO RECEIVE CLERKS REPORT

- a) Resident at Station Road, located behind Fryer Field reported issues with children standing on the tree stump and looking into their garden. They reported that they have also had objects thrown into their garden from children climbing on the tree stump and logs that have been left after the felling of the Oak trees. The resident has asked what can be done about this. Members requested that the stump be cut down lower.
- b) Fryer Field Car Park: repairs to two drains in the car park have taken place.
- c) Litter pick: The West Moors Brownies are carrying out a litter pick of Fryer Field and surrounding areas on 29th April between 17:30 and 19:00hrs. All relevant risk assessments are in place.
- d) Dog Related PSPO on Fryer Field: A formal reply was sent to the resident who was unhappy with the introduction of the PSPO. Lots of signage is now in place, but unfortunately the official notices do keep being damaged.
- e) Dog Warden: The current contract for this service has come to an end and Dorset Council is not in the position to renew the service. However, they are in the process of recruiting a new animal welfare and dog control officer to cover the eastern region and they can be called upon for specific and targeted patrols as and when necessary. This means that Fryer Field will not have weekly patrols carried out as has been the case for a number of years. The Clerk tentatively contacted BCP Council to see if they could offer us this service, unfortunately they cannot offer this service to us at this time.
- f) Footpath St Leonards Farm Park (E55/8) : This issue has been ongoing for a number of years, with the public right of way blocked by a building an alternative route was provided, this is called a permissive footpath. We have been trying for a number of years to get Dorset Council to add the permissive footpath to the Definitive Map (making it a full Right of Way), this process must be carried out by the landowner. The application process was started but has never been completed by the landowner. We were informed that the permissive footpath had been blocked. Dorset Council were informed and visited the site on the 20th April and spoke to the landowner who has stated that he will put in the application asap. The permissive path is now fully accessible.
- g) Fryer Field entrance gates to remain locked with coded access for hirers of the field.

656 CASTLEMAN TRAILWAY BARRIER

Dorset Councillor Mike Dyer has been dealing with issues relating to near misses with cyclists and pedestrians coming off the Castleman Trailway at Arnold Close. Dorset Council said that installing a barrier in order to slow cyclists down would be the best option, but unfortunately, they do not have funds in the budget for this work. Cllr Mike Dyer therefore requested the Town Council consider paying for this work, in order to better protect pedestrians. Letters of support from 25 residents have also been received.

It was noted that WMTC tried to keep their budget increases very low this year and paying for this barrier would have to come from reserves. It was agreed that a barrier in this area was a good idea and that safe use of cycle routes should be promoted. After much discussion it was

RECOMMENDED that West Moors Town Council support the installation of a safety barrier in order to help resolve conflict between cyclists and pedestrians at Arnold Close/Castleman Trailway and will pay £500 to Dorset Council towards the installation costs of such a barrier. (£972).

Voting: unanimous

657 HIGHWAY MATTERS**a) Pinehurst Road**

Members were informed of a complaint from a resident in Pinehurst Road who implied that heavy vehicles using the road was causing damage to their property. The Community Highways Officer visited the resident and checked the road for defects, none were found. The Community Highways Officer suggested that a traffic survey could be carried out to determine the level and type of traffic using that portion of the road.

Members stated that there is very little heavy traffic using this road and they did not support spending money on a traffic survey. They did acknowledge that there are issues with speeding in the area, but this is being dealt with under the Speed Indicator Device item.

b) B3072 West Moors Road outside Gullivers Farm

Members were informed of a conversation between Gullivers Farm/Sturts Farm, the WMTC office and the Dorset Community Highways Officer, regarding the safety of pedestrians leaving and entering Gullivers Farm.

Sturts Farm requested that the speed limit be reduced at this location, but after research was carried out by our local Highways Officer, it was confirmed that this would not be possible, due to various criteria not being met.

The possibility of a pedestrian crossing was then discussed, and a meeting is being held on the 12th May with Dorset Council to discuss this with all interested parties.

Members suggested that we could also discuss with Dorset Council the possibility of having the speed limit reduced to 40mph along West Moors Road past Gullivers Farm.

c) Speed Indicator Device

Cllr Carol Holmes was made aware of the correspondence from Sturts Farm about speeding and has very kindly offered to donate a Speed Indicator Device to WMTC.

The Dorset Council team in charge of the Community Speed Indicator Device scheme have been and looked at the SID being offered to the Town Council and have requested modifications to ensure it meets their criteria. Once approved it can be deployed at existing sites in Pinehurst Road and Moorlands Road. It has also been requested that a new site be considered near Woodside Road. There would be a cost to install a pole in this area.

658 REVIEW OF FEES CHARGED BY THE COUNCIL

- a) Sports fees: Members reviewed the sports fees and after discussion it was **RECOMMENDED that the sports fees remain unchanged.**
Voting: unanimous
- b) Cemetery Fees: Members reviewed the cemetery fees and after discussion it was **RECOMMENDED that the cemetery fees for 2021/22 remain unchanged**
Voting: Unanimous
- c) Allotment fees: Members reviewed the allotment fees and were informed that 6 months advance notice was required to be given to plot holders notifying them of any increase. After discussion it was **RECOMMENDED that the Allotment fees from April 2022 be increased as follows:**

Plot Size	Current Cost	New cost from April 2022
14 x 9 (5 off)	£65	£68
8.5 x 9 (12 off)	£45	£47
7 x 9 (16 off)	£40	£42
4 x 9 (4 off)	£30	£31
Raised beds (2 off)	£35	£36

Voting: unanimous

659 CCTV UPGRADE

Members consider quotations for upgrading the CCTV at Fryer Field, to include additional cameras to cover the skatepark area. This work had already been budgeted for and funds placed in the 2021/22 budget.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED that the quotation from SafetyZone Fire and Security be approved for upgrading the CCTV at Fryer Field.

Voting: unanimous

660 DISTRIBUTION OF WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL DOG FOULING LEAFLET

In 2020 WMTC produced a leaflet on responsible dog ownership and fouling, it was published on Facebook and the website. A request has been received from the leader of the West Moors Scouts who would like copies of the leaflet to distribute locally. After discussion it was

RESOLVED that a batch of Dog Fouling leaflets produced by WMTC could be printed for distribution by the Scouts.

Voting: 9 for, 1 abstention

661 UPDATE: CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING PARTY

Members received a written report from Cllr Mrs C Holmes. A copy is available in the office on request.

662 UPDATE: ALLOTMENT

Annual invoices for the rent were sent out on the 1st April. The water was turned on, on the 1st April. One plot is currently not being tended to as per the agreement, action is being taken to resolve the matter.

663 UPDATE: FUTURE PROVISION OF CEMETERY SPACE WORKING PARTY

The first phase of the badger fencing was completed on the 17th March with a mesh fence being placed underground at the rear of the cemetery adjacent to the cremation plots.

We are now waiting for the ecologist to apply for the license from Natural England to carry out the rest of the works later in the year.

664 CORRESPONDENCE
a) Dog Warden report for March

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:25hrs

The next Environment meeting is scheduled for 17th June 2021 at 7.30pm

SIGNED DATE
Chair of Environment Committee