

WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL**MINUTES of the ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**
held on **Thursday 15th April 2021** via zoom at 7pm

PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs Judi Weedon (Clerk to the Council)
Mrs Amie Fawcett (Assistant to the Clerk to the Council)
Dorset Councillor Mike Dyer
13 members of the public

Prior to the meeting, the Chair paid tribute to the passing of HRH Prince Philip The Duke of Edinburgh and requested a minute silence.

Immediately after, the Good Citizen Awards were presented to the winners and recognition certificates to the nominees. Details of this Award scheme can be found within the Chair's report below, Item 1.

Following the award presentation, Guest Speaker Steve Fletcher (Professor of Ocean Policy and Economy, Director of Revolution Plastics, University of Portsmouth, Member, UN International Resource Panel) spoke about Climate Emergency and what we can do as individuals, But most critically, as a collective community.

The central focus of the talk was how we can improve our own social infrastructure to create a community resilience towards climate change.

Further information was asked about community power stations and examples of locations that have achieved this.

A member of public made a statement that irrespective of the actions of a Climate Plan globally, Climate change will have adverse effects that are beyond our control.

Professor Fletcher replied confidently that the natural variations are inevitable, however, it has been scientifically proven that the increase in temperature of our planet, is a result of human activity. It began with the Industrial Revolution and the change has been continuous.

It should be getting cooler, but it is not. After being asked "what is the first thing we should do when we get up in the morning", advice was given, to review, reflect and resolve, how our energy spend can reduced.

Writing to MP's, campaigning for global action by Lobbying upwards and become a powerhouse to drive it forward is recommended, but it must not be forgotten that nothing can invalidate community level action. It all makes a difference. An innovative shift is scary at first but will become a cultural norm.

The Council expressed their gratitude for the heartening presentation, which a copy of the power point is available upon request.

1. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Cllr Keith Wilkes

The Annual Public Meeting provides an opportunity to inform you what the Council has been doing during 2020-21 and what activities and events have taken place (or sadly not) over this last year.

Back in early 2020 none of us envisaged the events of the next 12 months. The Covid-19 pandemic has affected everyone in the community from restrictions in daily lives to the loss of friends and relatives. From my own observations along with comments the Council has received from others it would appear that the community of West Moors has responded incredibly well with the vast majority of residents adhering to the isolation and social

distance recommendations and managing the difficulties presented.

We have also seen and experienced a great spirit of selfless behaviour and comradeship. So, on behalf of West Moors Town Council I would like to say thank you to all those that have volunteered to help others - Pinehurst Community Church, St Mary's Church and many more - for coordinating volunteer initiatives and the many businesses, both local and national, for maintaining essential deliveries throughout in order to serve the residents of West Moors.

WESTIVAL 2021

We were disappointed when the Covid-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of WESTIVAL 2020 as the support and enthusiasm for the event was phenomenal and much appreciated in 2019. The decision to cancel this year's event came when the third National Lockdown was imposed in January. An event which attracted over 1000 people in 2019 was never going to be feasible given UK Government protocols.

We hope that WESTIVAL will return stronger than ever in 2022 and the fourth year will be the BIGGEST community event West Moors has ever seen!

Good Citizen Award 2021

There were 5 Adult nominees this year: John Bartley (Secretary of WMMH), Sarah Walbrin (West Moors Group Practice), Rev. Andy Muckle (St. Mary's Church), Adam Parrett (Leader and Elder of Pinehurst Community Church) and David Seeley a support co-tenant at Sturts Farm

There was 1 Junior nominee, which was a delight to receive as first there were no Junior nominations last year and secondly, the nominee/winner, Hayden Dyer is only 8 years old and has been litter picking on his own initiative (obviously supervised by an adult) for the past 2 years.

The winner of the Adult category is David Seeley, who overcame his difficulty with social interaction and crowds, in order to offer community support, un-prompted by anybody, during the pandemic's toughest times; delivering school meals to local children, walking people's dogs and more.

The other four nominees all receive a Recognition Award.

All the nominees need to be recognised for their efforts in what has been and still is a difficult time for everyone. Each one of them have all gone the extra mile for our community and although there is only one name on each award, it really belongs to all of them.

Jean Ware Legacy Award 2020/21

Despite regular posts on Facebook, emails to local clubs and schools and posters on all 3 of our noticeboards, we have had no applications. We usually stipulate November as the deadline for applications and present the award at the December Full Council Meeting, however due to the lack of response, we extended the closing date to Mid-March. Sadly, still nothing was received.

We hope for more response for the year 2021/22 as we are ready to help, we just need the individual.

Apprentice Vocational Training Grant 2020/21

In 2019-20 we reported that no applications were received for this scheme. However, this year we are pleased to say Miss Faye Morgan was awarded an Apprentice Vocational Training Grant last September. Shortly before her Award she secured an apprenticeship with Jets Engineering at Bournemouth International Airport. The grant of £250 helped towards the cost of tools and uniform.

That was nearly 7 months ago and no applications since. Please pass the word on if you

think you know someone it may benefit.

Ringwood Food Bank – Agent for Vouchers

We have been a referral agent for Ringwood Foodbank since 2019. We issued our first voucher in December last year. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require one. We may be closed but we are still here.

VE Day – 75th Anniversary Celebrations 8th May 2020

In March many residents of local care/nursing homes were visited by the Assistant to the Clerk, to hear their memories of VE Day. Truly inspiring. A special edition newsletter was printed with all their quotes and some poems. Additionally, a hamper of bubbly was delivered to each care/nursing home in the village for the dedicated staff and residents to enjoy on VE Day.

Competitions

- Due to the cancellation of the VE Day Party at West Moors Memorial Hall, a ‘Creative Challenge’ was initiated by the Council. All ages were invited to contribute one of:
 - A short news report in the style of today or of 75 years ago
 - Create a poem, song, drawing or any other work of art
 - Share an experience of themselves or someone they know.
 - All inspired by VE Day.

The winner was Miss Aimee Rickman, a student of Oakhurst First Community School, aged 8. She was congratulated over the phone and a post was placed on Facebook with her photo and submission. Mrs Rickman, Mother, said Aimee was delighted with the achievement and was excited to add it to her ‘lockdown scrapbook’. West Moors Town Council are glad to have added some joy to Aimee’s lockdown experience, as she added to ours with her lovely picture.

- World Environment Day – 5th June 2020 - Celebrating Biodiversity In line with Government guidelines the Council hosted 2 competitions:
 - Bio-Diversity Poster - Joint winners were Miss Sarah Linford (Aged 11) and Miss Ruby Louise Fawcett (Aged 10) who both earned themselves an hour horse-riding session.
 - Trio of Activities - A word search, word scramble and crossword had to be completed to find the hidden letters that made up a message, which was: “Let the Earth Smile”. Congratulations went to Miss Elizabeth Linford (aged 8), who received a £20 Hobbycraft voucher.
- Best Shop Window Christmas Display. Carols on the Petwyn was sadly cancelled last year. We were still allowed to host our window competition for the 5th year in a row. A surprise hamper of goodies (value of approximately £80 this time) was presented to Lynne Johnson of the School Shop.
- Christmas Card Competition. Since 2015 the Council has hosted an annual competition for the students of Oakhurst and St. Mary’s First Schools to create a Christmas picture that can be used on the front of the official West Moors Town Council Christmas card. The prizes were hand delivered to the School and presented to the children by Headteacher of Oakhurst First School Mrs Ann Clarke.
- The latest being the Eco-Garden of Wonder competition. Our First ever Eco-Garden of Wonder Competition, sponsored by Brewer & Brewer (West Moors), was recently launched via all social media and publicity possible. Posters have been delivered to local garden centres, shops and businesses. We are looking for imaginative, environmentally friendly gardens created by our residents. All shapes, styles and sizes of garden are eligible, as long as they fit in with the terms and conditions that can be found on our website.

Being outdoors helps improve motivation and mental well-being. We hope this competition helps many achieve this. Our gardens have proved more valuable than ever, during the pandemic, so if yours has been your sanctuary, why not enter. You have until Friday 2nd July 2021.

VJ Day-75 Years August 15th 2020

Disappointingly, the Council could not organise a public gathering or service here either, due to Covid-19. Prayers and introductions were read by Rev Andy Muckle St Mary's Church followed by The National moment of Remembrance with a two-minute silence followed. Vice Chairman of the Council, Cllr Alex Clarke, then laid a commemorative wreath on the War Memorial. The CRY FOR PEACE AROUND THE WORLD was performed at 11.10am by the West Moors Town Crier, Iain Mitchell.

Remembrance Day November 2020

For the first time in its near 100-year history, there was no choice but to cancel the proud annual Remembrance Day Service due to UK Government protocols. Hopefully, many residents were able to remember the fallen through live stream video from St Mary's Church, West Moors. Armistice Day traditions continued with the 2-minute silence and the laying of many wreaths by the Clerk and Chair.

West Moors Town Council has developed a strong and productive working relationship with

Dorset Council. Our Highways Officers are extremely efficient in responding to queries the residents pass to the office. (All advisories/queries are dealt with within 48 hours and where possible and if a contact is left, a progress status is provided to the complainant).

Due to legal paperwork issues and the impact of Covid-19 the Transfer of Assets (from EDDC to DC to WMTC) due to be completed last year remains pending. The Park Way car park and public toilets, the land behind Fryer Field and Brook View are all due to become the responsibility of West Moors Town Council.

During 2020-21 we are proud to say we have a full team of 12 Councillors representing West Moors.

West Moors Town Council continues to offer financial support to individuals and organisations across the community through Awards and Grants on a discretionary basis. Cllr Penny Yeo will expand on these.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all fellow Councillors for their input throughout the year on various committees and projects that we are all involved with. My thanks also go to Judi, our Clerk, who guides and works so professionally for the Councils benefit, as well as Amie her Assistant who does a wonderful job supporting her and the Council.

2. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Finance and General-Purpose Committee Report – Chairman Cllr Mrs P Yeo

The Finance and General Purposes Committee has as its main responsibility the Council's finances. These are laid out in the budget, which is, by law, set by the end of January each year. So the budget for 2020/21, the financial year just finished, was finalised in the week that the Coronavirus was first being discussed and long before the Global Pandemic was declared on 11th March 2020.

Our income has been affected by the several lockdowns, reducing it by approximately £10,620 from the previous year:

- Fryer Field - football pitches; MUGA; Pavilion and field hire - £8500 (2019-20 - £14,146)
- Cemetery - £14,500 (2019-20 - £16,900)
- Bag sales - £2,300 (2019-20 - £4,876).

Our outgoings have been increased by the Covid regulations which led us to fit the screens in the office and to provide an additional laptop for working from home, as well as other expenses.

An expense not caused by Covid has been the fitting of a protective barrier to the wall of the office in Park Way. Several drivers seemed to think the wall was the best way of stopping their car when parking to go to Tesco. The office window has been broken more than once when drivers have forgotten they had a ladder or similar on their roof. The barrier will hopefully prevent further, more expensive damage to the building.

The Council is required to maintain a Reserve Fund and thanks to the foresight and hard work of Judi, our Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) for almost 15 years, these are at a level which has allowed us to meet all our liabilities despite the shortfall in income. I am therefore able to confirm that the Council remains solvent.

Funds we have saved for future major projects have also been protected, being invested with the Churches, Charities and Local Authorities Funds (CCLA). These remain accessible to us and have in fact returned £4,533.96 interest this year.

The main income for the Council is the Precept which is the name for the Town Council's part of the Council Tax bill you receive each year. All our Town Councillors live in West Moors and pay council tax and we have been very aware of the difficulties experienced by so many of our fellow residents with job furloughs, redundancies and business closures. In this new financial year (2021/22) we have felt it necessary to increase the precept, but we have been able to keep that increase to 0.95%, or £0.45p a year increase for a Band D property. The total precept is £147,279 with Band D being £47.90 a year.

The Council is audited three times a year, twice by an Internal Auditor (appointed by the Council) and once a year by an External Auditor. These Auditors check not only the Finances but also the Administration of the Council, ensuring that all meetings are held correctly with properly defined Agendas and Minutes and that all decisions are lawful and within the powers of the Council to make. The various safe-distancing regulations have added problems such as ensuring that all Minutes are signed by the relevant Committee Chair even if the meeting itself has been held on Zoom, and also ensuring that meeting notes from Working Parties have been kept up to date as these are the sort of things the Administration audit checks. But these difficulties have been overcome and I am pleased to report that once again West Moors has passed all these audits. I thank Judi for her hard work in this respect.

The "General Purposes" part of this committee's role includes ensuring the Council's policies are up to date; these include our Standing Orders, Investment Strategy, Data Protection Policy and several others all of which are available to be seen by everyone on our website or, of course, by contacting the office.

A particularly pleasing part of the work of this committee is the making of Grants to the various organisations and people of West Moors who do so much good and who are so important to our community. Because of Covid restrictions last year we were not able to hold the Westival although we had budgeted for it. We therefore decided to use these funds to help those organisations within West Moors that had been adversely affected financially by the Covid restrictions and were concerned about their futures. Grants of up to £250 were given to West Moors Scouts, the Flower Group, Pinehurst Community

Chapel, St Mary's Church, the Women's Institute, the Townswomen's Guild, and Myra's Wells. Grants under the Council's usual Grant Scheme were also awarded to East Dorset CAB, Diverse Abilities, Legability, and the Youth Club. The payment to the Youth Club was slightly less than we had budgeted as they had suffered from the Covid regulations like everyone else and had not been able to open. They therefore requested less than we had anticipated towards running the club. The Youth Club has been able to replace the roof and carry out other works within the building and the council had offered the sum of £5,000 towards this work; again, they requested only £3,954.86 which we were very happy to pay. The Memorial Hall has asked for a grant towards the installation of CCTV for the car park and this has been agreed, pending the work being carried out.

So this committee, named Finance and General Purposes, looks after the financial and administrative aspects of the Town Council's work. We meet once every two months, and all residents of West Moors, and indeed any visitors, are very welcome to attend our meetings. The agenda is placed on notice boards around the village and on the website on the Friday before each meeting which is held on a Thursday at 7.30pm.

I would like to thank Judi, our Clerk and RFO and Amie who assists her. The fact that West Moors Town Council can face the uncertain future with the finances and administration required by law is a result of their knowledge and hard work

b) Planning Consultative Committee Report – Chairman Cllr Colin Way

There are nine members on this committee which, being Consultative only, does not make a decision but can and does send comments to Dorset Council (DC).

For 2020-2021 14 meetings were scheduled although if there are no applications to look at some meetings are cancelled. Approximately one week before the meeting all committee members are provided with an agenda which sets out the applications to be considered to allow them time to study them and visit the sites. We are only able to view properties from the pavement as we have no powers to enter onto a site.

The meeting agenda gives details of the application number which can then be viewed on the DC website portal. For more complex applications such as Blackfield Farm more detailed documentation is sometimes provided.

Members of the public are welcomed to attend any planning meeting to observe and if they wish to comment upon a particular application there is a 10 minute timeslot available at the start of each meeting for this to happen. The meetings would normally be held in the Pavilion adjacent to Fryers field but since the start of the Covid pandemic all meetings have been via zoom. Details of forthcoming meetings can be found on our website. If you wish to attend a meeting either physically or via zoom it would be helpful if you contact Amie the Assistant to the Clerk a few days before a scheduled meeting to confirm time and venue.

The planning portal can be found at <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/home.aspx> ; select Search for a planning application; select East Dorset; accept the copywrite disclaimer; enter the address or planning number.

With two noticeable exceptions it has been a relatively quiet year for applications and since the statistics reported in March 2020 the committee has looked at 32 separate applications.

We raised no objection to 26 applications although one was subsequently refused by DCC on technical grounds.

Of the 6 applications we refused, 1 was subsequently passed by DCC and the remainder are awaiting a decision.

No Tree Preservation Orders have been made this year that we are aware of, but there have been a number of orders granted for tree works.

Of the outstanding applications two were in respect of 30 Moorlands one was passed by DCC another was amended after being rejected by DCC and is still awaiting a decision.

One other was Blackfield Farm; a planning meeting (Zoom) was held on 22nd October 2020 to consider an amended application for this site. All members of WMTC were invited to attend the meeting.

39 members of the public attended the Zoom meeting and prepared statements were read out to the meeting. The following reports were also available for consideration :-

Blackfield Farm Traffic Access Suitability Report by Origin . Draft dated 9/10/20, final due 12/12/20.

Internal LLFA Consultation – Surface Water (SW) Management
By Dorset Council, Flood Risk Management Team 19/10/2020

The East Dorset Environment Partnership have provided a report and a detailed set of working notes in September noting that the applicant has failed to supply a Biodiversity plan.

After discussion the Council Members present voted unanimously to object to the application. Those present were advised that a letter would be sent from the Council to DCC covering all the points raised as the reason for rejecting the application.

The Dorset Plan Consultation

The Dorset Plan when implemented will have a significant effect on the future of Dorset and its current and future residents so it was important that all consultees including residents responded with their thoughts. It should be noted that the plan allows for a significant increase in housing within Dorset and that the numbers required have been decided by Government and do not necessarily represent the need for additional housing within Dorset.

The planning committee along with the rest of the Town Council have been involved in formulating our response to the consultation document issued by DCC. As was expected following our designation by DCC as a tier 2 Town the plan calls for 170 new homes to be built in West Moors and these have been assigned to what is known as the Azalea roundabout site.

Not possible to give full details of our submission but it was similar to the objections and points raised by other councils as expressed in a meeting of the DAPTC I attended recently. These can be summarised as questioning the need for the quantity of housing or other developments, the suitability of the sites chosen for example on a flood plan, on greenbelt, the impact of biodiversity and the lack of any detail about infrastructure improvements that would be needed to support even the current level of development.

Lastly a brief update on the Blackfield Farm application was provided, being that the applicant has yet to have submitted any revised information and has been advised that this needs to be submitted by the end of the April if a reconsult is to be carried out. The application will be determined by the end of May regardless of receiving the information.

c) Environment Committee Report – Chairman Cllr Mike Hawkes.

The Environment Committee is concerned with the Town's environment as a whole and

the assets owned by the Town Council. These include seats, bus shelters, fences and stiles plus our key and most valuable assets such as the Petwyn, War Memorial, Fryer Field (and all that it encompasses), the Cemetery, and the Allotments at Gulliver's Farm.

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

After the Council recognised that a Climate Emergency existed, a Working Party was formed with a remit to create a Climate Change and Bio-Diversity Action Plan.

This task was completed and adopted by the Council in December 2020.

The initial objective was to measure the Council's own carbon footprint from which we identified ways in which to mitigate it. These include reducing our power usage, investigation of solar panel installation, tree planting, plastic use reduction and a reusable shopping bag initiative.

The Town Council will also be seeking to engage with local businesses and residents with a view to raising awareness of the need to reduce the community's carbon footprint as a whole.

Unfortunately, Covid-19 and subsequent lockdowns has prevented action on not all, but many of these initiatives. We will, however, resume with them as soon as we are able.

PETWYN

The Petwyn remains a unique and popular village green, for West Moors community and continues to be well maintained.

West Moors Horticultural Society have kindly donated a cherry tree recently, which is standing proudly by the beautiful daffodils. Also, joining the 30+ geocaches already in the West Moors area is the War Memorial multi-cache. Combining a little local history with a short walk and great adventure, West Moors Council was delighted to see this low-cost, easy and fun activity expanding locally.

Lastly, due to the tree growth, the Christmas lights are due to be removed and re-positioned as it has been five years since they were first installed.

FRYER FIELD

This is our sports area, with three football pitches, two full-size and one youth-size.

Activities have been severely restricted on the field in the past year, due to Covid-19 lockdowns and the following of government guidance. It is also hired out for exercise classes. A local resident/personal trainer utilises the field when he can and recently, there is a new hirer who offers yoga classes there.

In January, a new Public Space Protection Order was introduced by Dorset Council, which The Town Council has adopted. It applies to the football pitches and the prevention of dog fouling on them, which is a serious health hazard for anyone using these facilities, which many do. Signs have been put in several places around the field informing dog owners of this Order. Our dog warden does not enforce it with a fine immediately, warnings and advice is always given initially.

MUGA

In line with Government Guidelines, the Multi Use Games Area has been locked on and off during the past year but is now being hired out as from March 29th. It is often fully booked and has over 12 different sports clubs using it throughout the year.

TENNIS

Alongside the Multi-Use Games Area are two tennis courts, which are available for anyone to use free of charge, with no booking system, just first come first! There is also a basketball hoop within the facility.

Again, in line with Government Guidelines, this facility has been locked on and off during the past year but is now open for use as from March 29th.

SKATEPARK

Adjacent to the tennis courts is the Skate Park. This has been one of our major assets for many years and is in constant use, but as mentioned in last years report is in dire need of renovating. Consultations were had, designs chosen, and a contract was signed last year with CANVAS Ltd. Unfortunately, again, due to Covid-19, the commencement of this project has been delayed, as grant awarding bodies were closed for quite some time.

The current state of play with the skate park is that we have secured £75,000 with Veolia and £1,500 with the Leisure Development Fund from Dorset Council, out of the £202,500 of the project cost. A further £50,000 is coming from our own reserves.

The balance is hopefully coming from funding from an application in progress, which we find out if we are successful at the end of April. If we are not, the council have resolved to obtain a loan to meet the amount we need. Ultimately, the Skate West Moors 2021# project will be in full swing by June/July if the chosen contractor, CANVAS have the capacity to start then.

BMX

Unfortunately, generous efforts from local volunteers to restore this area as a BMX track, was not able to be completed and the site became unsafe and unsightly.

It was resolved by the Council to create a small new woodland/copse on the site of the old BMX track using free saplings from the Woodland Trust, in line with our Climate Initiative.

The community will be encouraged to become involved and help with the planting and maintaining. Members of the Ferndown U3A and West Moors Scouts, have volunteered to take part. This work can only commence when the Woodland Trust services return to normal and COVID-19 restrictions allow.

PLAY AREAS

The children's play areas at Oakhurst School and on Fryer Field were both completely renovated within recent years and are inspected regularly for safety of use. These were allowed to stay open during Covid-19 lockdown in line with Government guidelines.

CEMETERY

Following the installation of new gates last year, maintenance continues with fresh gravel recently laid on the main pathway.

The cemetery has been here for over 50 years and we aim to improve it each year.

We pay for regular Memorial Inspections which was last carried out November 2019.

A small 'Cemetery Working Party' has been set up with a remit to identify and procure additional cemetery space. The work of this party is ongoing.

Very recently, badger proof fencing has been installed along the rear of the perimeter of the cemetery. Later in the year we will apply to Natural England for a licence to close off part of the badger sett. This will hopefully enable more land to become available for burial space.

ALLOTMENTS

We currently leaser 39 allotment plots along with 2 raised beds.

The allotments have proved to be a great success and we have a waiting list of over 40 people.

They are being well kept and well used, especially in the past year when outdoor activities were limited. There is an annual inspection of the area to ensure all plot holders are cultivating and keeping tidy as best they can.

The allotment holders have their own association with a committee and a Facebook page. Councillor Mrs Nicki Senior is the Council's representative on the Allotment Holders Association.

GENERAL

Unfortunately, the Annual Litter Pick for 2021 was cancelled, as 2020 was.

It was proposed by Keep Britain Tidy to be rescheduled for September this year.

However recently, it has been publicised on their website that May 28th to 13th June is their Great British Spring Clean.

At this stage we cannot organise a litter pick due to Government restrictions, but everybody is welcome to carry out their own Government guided litter picks.

We thank anyone/everyone that already does this or plans to do in the future.

If you do find areas within West Moors that require repairs or cleaning such as potholes, broken fences, blocked gullies, unpleasant graffiti, overgrown hedges etc, please contact the office where Judi or Amie will be happy to help to resolve it, or guide you in the direction of those that can.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- a) Members of the public asked the Chair if the Council had experienced any advantages from the change of village to a town and could they confirm why the decision was resolved within one meeting without public consultation. Chair of the Council, Cllr Keith Wilkes explained the rationale behind the change, essentially stating it was a realistic administrative move, to reflect how functionally, it is seen a Tier 2 Town by Dorset Council and was not an emotive decision. The name change of the Council from Parish Council to Town Council had not changed the character and feel of West Moors. He also stated that the Council are looking at additional ways to communicate with residents.

Cllr A Clarke noted that the Chair had expressed the matter well. The village reference has never been involved in the name of the Council. This has not and will not be affected. It is merely an official status change. Cllr M Hawkes followed up with a point that the intention was for the Council to represent themselves as Dorset Council have already designated them as, a Tier 2 Town. However, being a close community remains.

The meeting was closed at 20.45 hrs

SIGNED DATE
Chair of the Council