

WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **TOWN COUNCIL MEETING** held on Thursday 24th February 2022 in St Anthony's Church Hall, Pinehurst Road at 7.30pm.

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 A Willats	Cllr Mrs P Yeo	

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs Judi Weedon (Clerk to the Council)

APOLOGIES: Dorset Councillor M Dyer

21/289 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS – LOCALISM ACT 2011 – DISPENSATIONS FROM SECTION 31(4)
None

21/290 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
None.

21/291 TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27th JANUARY 2022.
Having been circulated, the minutes on pages 2822-2825 agreed, adopted and signed.

21/292 TO APPROVE, ADOPT AND SIGN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
a. **The Report of the Planning Consultative Committee** held on the 3rd February 2022, pages 2826-2829 as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed.

21/293 TO RECEIVE TOWN CLERKS REPORT

- a. Asset Transfer: no new information
- b. Blackfield Farm letters as per minute no 21/209a: No further update available.
- c. Annual Town Meeting: Stasia Smith, recipient of the Diana Award in 2021 has been invited and accepted an invitation to be the speaker at this event.
- d. DAPTC Training: Some credits are available for e-learning courses
- e. Community Governance Review: The Dorset Council draft recommendation for West Moors is to make no change to the current governance arrangements.
- f. The Precept request was submitted on Friday 28th January to Dorset Council and acknowledgement was received.
- g. Jubilee Rock Initiative: the responses on social media to this project have all been very positive.
- h. Commonwealth Day: On Monday March 14th we will fly the Commonwealth Flag on the Petwyn.
- i. A second Community Tree planting session has been arranged for Saturday 19th March.
- j. Communications Officer job Advert is being placed in the West Moors Directory, on Facebook, Website and Noticeboards on Friday 25th February.

21/294 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT
It was
RESOLVED that the accounts for payment be approved as attached on page 2833 of these minutes. (Cllr's Wilkes and Yeo to authorise the electronic payments)
Voting: unanimous

21/295 WORKING PARTY UPDATES
A. CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING PARTY
No Update as no meetings had taken place

B. BUILDING COMMUNICATIONS WORKING PARTY

Members noted the contents of the report from the working party meeting held on the 16.02.2022 and considered the recommendations in the report.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED that the Town Council purchase a large noticeboard for installation at West Moors Middle School. The board will be a shared information board with the school.

Voting: unanimous

Members then went on to discuss the merits of having a Communications and Engagement Strategy and the quotation from Breakthrough Communications to help to produce such a document. It was felt that this matter would be best left until a Communications Officer had been appointed as they may have the experience to be able to assist, although it was noted that the hours for the post may have to be increased in order to take on additional work.

The general consensus was that a communications strategy was a good idea to help the Council engage with the younger generation and use different social media platforms, but the quote for producing this document appeared to be quite high.

After discussion it was proposed and seconded that the Council engage Breakthrough Communications to produce a Communication Strategy document, the vote was not carried.

Members then went on to discuss that messages need to be refined for different demographics and concerns that WMTC do not currently have any set objectives or aims. It was suggested that Lyme Regis is a good example of council that has good communications and members suggested that some research with Lyme Regis may be appropriate.

It was further suggested that there should be an agenda item to discuss what all the councillors think the Council should be doing.

It was stated that once a Comms Officer is in place that it may negate the need for the working party as it may be work they could take on if given extra hours.

C. WESTIVAL

Members received a verbal update on the progress of Westival preparation, including stall numbers, vendors and activities.

21/296 DORSET COUNCILLOR REPORT

A written report submitted by Cllr D Shortell contained information on the traveller site at Three-Legged Cross and the Dorset Council revenue budget and cost pressures faced by DC. A copy of the written report is available to view in the Council office.

21/297 INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS

Cllr C Way reported on his attendance at the DAPTC Eastern Area meeting.

Cllr A Willats wished thanks to be noted to Amie for all her hard work in organising Westival.

Cllr A Clarke reported on his attendance at the railway feasibility meeting which was constructive and enthusiastic.

21/298 CORRESPONDENCE

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

21/299 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:- that because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, it was likely that if Members of the Public were present during discussion, there would be disclosure to them of exempt information and they therefore be excluded from the Meeting in accordance with Section 1, subsection (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Voting: unanimous

21/300 TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27th JANUARY 2022.

Having been circulated, the confidential minutes on pages 117-118 agreed, adopted and signed.

Members then received a verbal update.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 20.33 hrs

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on 31st March 2022 at 19:30hrs

SIGNED DATE
Chair

