

**WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held on  
**THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2023** in the Pavilion, Fryer Field, West Moors at 7.30pm.

**PRESENT:**

Cllr Mrs C Holmes– Chair		
Cllr Mrs R Burke	Cllr A Clarke	Cllr D Green
Cllr M Hawkes	Cllr S Linford	Cllr J Randall
Cllr D Shortell	Cllr Mrs P Yeo	

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Judi Weedon – Clerk  
Mr Bill Ware – Chair of West Moors Allotment Holders Association

**APOLOGIES:** None

**22/320 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

None

**22/321 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS**

Cllr Mrs R Burke declared a personal interest in agenda item 7 and 8a, Cllr Burke did not vote on either of these items.

**22/322 UPDATE: ALLOTMENT**

Members having already resolved to assist the WMAHA with replacement gravel boards, received information from the Chair of the WMAHA explaining how the association would be carrying out this task.

Each plot holder would be asked to contribute financially to the replacement dependent on the plot size, the WMAHA would also be donating to the cost, however this would not cover the actual cost of the materials required.

The allotment holders would be carrying out the physical work of replacing the boards. The WMAHA would create a league table, showing priority of plots that required replacement boards. After discussion it was

**RESOLVED that £700 is paid to the WMAHA to assist with the purchase of materials to replace the gravel boards. The funds to be paid directly to the WMAHA to administer themselves.**

*Voting: unanimous*

*Cllr Mrs R Burke did not vote after declaring a personal interest as an allotment holder.*

Members asked that the Chair of the WMAHA report back in regard to progress of the project.

**22/323 TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT**

a) EV charging points: A quote was received from Pod point and it required an upgrade to the current electricity supply. SSE have been contacted to quote for this work, however they require a lot of technical information that the Clerk cannot provide.

A survey about EV charge points was placed on Facebook to gauge local opinion, to date 17 replies have been received, along with an email. Members received a copy of the survey results.

b) Portaloo on A31, minute no 22/139 refers: no further information, as requested this item will no longer be pursued.

c) Pavilion: work to repaint the pavilion meeting room has not yet started. A new fire blanket has been placed in the kitchen.

d) Lockerbie Memorial bench in Cemetery: This has now been installed.

e) There has been lots of positive feedback about the gym equipment and a bench has been installed near the equipment.

f) A young person is carrying out weekly litter picks in the Plantation as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

- g) LED Light upgrade: The parts have been ordered by the electrician and we are waiting for an install date.
- h) Skatepark: A few minor repairs have been carried out by Canvas as part of the 12 month checks. The work was completed on the 30<sup>th</sup> January.
- i) One set of tennis posts require replacing before Summer 2023 and the moss on the surface will be treated by the Groundsman when the weather allows.
- j) Tree Survey by Mark Hinsley Arboricultural Consultants Ltd, is taking place on the 14<sup>th</sup> March. The last tree survey was in 2019.
- k) There is a broken paving slab around the War Memorial which will need replacing before Remembrance Day.
- l) The gravel boards around the MUGA are beginning to rot and will require replacing soon.
- m) The Annual Play Inspection Reports have been received and there are no significant repairs required.
- n) There is evidence of people climbing over the MUGA gate to use the facility without permission, despite the top of the gate having anti climb paint on it. To try and stop this some spikes will be installed on the top of each gate.

#### 22/324 EXTERNAL PAVILION DOORS

Three quotes have been sought to replace the external pavilion doors, as both doors require replacement.

Quotes for solid aluminium doors varied from £7630 to £4255.

After debate it was

**RESOLVED that WMTC replace the external pavilion doors and the quote from Seyward windows be approved at a cost of £4,255. Funds to come from reserves.**

*Voting: Unanimous*

#### 22/325 FOOTPATH EXTENSION

Members having been made aware that the footpath by the entrance to Fryer Field from the Memorial Hall does not appear to be wide enough and the area is muddy where people have to walk across the grass. After discussion it was

**RESOLVED to extend the footpath by 3 metres at a cost of £900 (Steve Collins Surfacing)**

*Voting: Unanimous*

#### 22/326 CEMETERY MATTERS

##### a. Unauthorised memorials

Members were informed of recent dealings to try and resolve matters relating to memorials within the cemetery that do not conform to the current regulations.

Members had a detailed discussion about how to manage and deal with such issues, including the idea of relaxing regulations and enforcing the current regulations.

After considered debate it was agreed that meeting should be held with the plot owners of non-conforming plots, along with Rev Andy Muckle and councillors to try and find a way forward that is agreeable to all parties.

Clerk to arrange meeting and inform members of date.

##### b. Cemetery Tidy Up

Members agreed to hold a cemetery tidy up on a Saturday so various old broken items could be cleared away from graves. Clerk to arrange a date and let members know.

##### c. Review Cemetery Regulations

Members having received a copy of the current cemetery regulations along with proposed amendments felt that the regulations should not be updated until the situation with the memorials was resolved. Matter left in abeyance.

##### d. Review Cemetery Fees

Members having received a copy of the current fees charged by WMTC along with a spreadsheet showing comparison with other local cemeteries,

**RESOLVED that Cemetery fees be increased by 10%-12% rounded up to nearest whole pound. New fees to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.**

*Voting: unanimous*

**22/327 PUBLIC TOILET UPDATE**

After an online meeting with Dorset Council, it was agreed that Dorset Council will pay for half the cost of a new Wallgate unit for the disabled toilet, this was installed on the 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Dorset Council tradesman have looked at the woodwork that needs repair along with the loose floor tiles in the gents toilet. Dorset Council have scheduled this work to commence on the 9<sup>th</sup> March, the toilets may have to be closed for a few days while the floor dries out.

The DC grounds maintenance team have cleared the remaining vegetation from around the rear and side of the toilet block.

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February, the male toilet had to be closed for a deep clean and repairs and vandalism occurred to plumbing and the area was left in an unhygienic state, The plumber carried out repairs the same day and the cleaners carried out a deep clean.

The electricity supplier has been changed from Npower to SSE. The water and sewerage supplier is Source for Business (formally Bournemouth Water).

**22/328 UPDATE: FUTURE PROVISION OF CEMETERY SPACE WORKING PARTY**

Nothing to report, this item will be removed from the agenda until such time that the former badger area has consolidated enough to be used.

**22/329 CORRESPONDENCE**

a. Allotment and Leisure Gardener – Issue 1 2023

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:47hrs

The next meeting of the Environment Committee is scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 19:30hrs

SIGNED ..... DATE .....

Chair of Environment Committee