

## WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held on  
**THURSDAY 4<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023** in the Pavilion, Fryer Field, West Moors at 7.30pm.

**PRESENT:**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Judi Weedon – Clerk  
Rev Andy Muckle  
Mike Clifford - gravedigger

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr A Clarke

**22/379 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**  
None

**22/380 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS**  
Cllr Randall declared a personal interest in agenda item 8, matters relating to the pavilion.

**22/381 CEMETERY MATTERS:**

**a. Update on Cemetery Tidy Up**

Members received an update on the cemetery tidy up, the details were noted. Cllr Burke informed members that she visits the cemetery often and removes broken vases and degraded plastic flowers. Members thanked Cllr Burke and agreed to this continuing. It was agreed not to hold a full cemetery tidy at this time.

**b. Update on unauthorised memorials**

Members were updated on unauthorised memorials, the details were noted.

**c. Discuss Way Forward**

Members discussed how to resolve the current issues within the cemetery with regard to memorials that do not currently conform to the regulations.

In Cllr Clarke's absence an email was read out from him detailing his position on the matter.

Rev A Muckle was invited to inform members why kerb sets are important to certain members of the community. The reasons were explained, and members noted the reasoning.

It was asked why the issues in the cemetery relating to memorials had recently become apparent when it had worked well for many years, Rev Muckle informed members that there had been an unprecedented number of deaths recently within the community and all the families were interlinked in some way, creating a collective grief and that solace is found in the family ties.

Rev Muckle went on to explain how a cemetery in Devizes deals with kerb sets by having a specified area in the cemetery for them, in all other areas of the cemetery they are not allowed.

The gravedigger explained the issues that such memorials create when digging a new grave or a reopen where there are kerb sets or ground slabs adjacent to the plot being dug. If soil has to be taken away because it cannot go on the ground slab then extra costs are incurred and he felt it was unfair for people to have to pay extra for gravedigging services for problems that are created by the surrounding plots. It was suggested that a surcharge is applied to kerb sets and ground slabs and held separately than passed onto gravedigger when required.

It was noted that Holt cemetery have had all the kerb sets removed for maintenance reasons and all the grave owners complied.

It was suggested that going forward an area in the cemetery is allocated specifically for those families who wish to have a ground slab or kerb set, and in all other areas they will not be permitted.

After further detailed discussion with input from Rev A Muckle and Mike Clifford it was

**RECOMMENDED that rows OO and NN, in the current section of the cemetery being used and in the new unused part adjacent, are designated for families who wish to have ground slabs and / or kerb sets. In the new section the footpath to be relocated so there are 2 rows of graves instead of 3. In all other areas of the cemetery only headstones will be permitted.**

*Voting: unanimous*

Members went on to discuss 2 plots in row NN that may cause problems in the future with access for the gravedigger. Rev Muckle suggested that this area be allocated as an open cremation area (ashes in ground only, no urns), with a small, standardised plaques on a memorial stone. Members agreed that this was a good idea as the cremated remains areas is almost full.

After discussion it was

**RECOMMENDED that current plots NN15, 16, 17 and 18 are allocated as an open cremation area, where ashes are interred directly into the ground (no urn or container of any sort) and families have a small, standardised plaque placed on a memorial stone. The work to create this area to be funded from reserves.**

*Voting: unanimous*

## **22/382 TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT**

- a) EV charging points: Dorset Council have a fund for EV chargers and a request to them has been submitted to provide EV chargers in West Moors in the first tranche.
- b) Pavilion: work to repaint the pavilion meeting room is due to commence during the weekend of the 6<sup>th</sup> May.
- c) LED Light upgrade: The work to replace the lights was completed on the 26<sup>th</sup> April, they are waiting to be tested at night so they can be positioned appropriately. They will be operated in the same manner as the current lights around the MUGA. However, the new lights are on separate circuit, so tennis courts can be operated independently of lights pointing towards the skatepark.
- d) Youth Club movie night on Fryer field is scheduled for the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2023.
- e) Grange football tournament is scheduled for the 10/11th June.
- f) There is a Fun Dog show being held on Fryer Field on the Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May for the charity Friends of the Stays of Greece.
- g) Aquacare have increased the monthly cost for the legionella checks. The cost to descale shower heads was increased substantially, so this part of the contract was not renewed, and the cleaner will now descale shower heads quarterly.
- h) Cllr Randall replaced the fencing adjacent to the public toilets.
- i) Thank you to Cllr Burke and her husband for their hard work in the cemetery, topping up graves and helping to keep it neat and tidy.
- j) Dorset Council will shortly be releasing a consultation of Public Space Protection Orders relating to dogs.
- k) Petwyn: The roundel on the Petwyn has been pressure washed. The standpipe was found to be leaking, this has been repaired.
- l) Pavilion: The men's bathroom floor was repaired as the paint was peeling off. A shower head requires replacement, this has been ordered. The cleaner reported that the pavilion was in a bad state after the weekend of the 22/23<sup>rd</sup> April with blocked toilets, which looked like they had flooded the men's toilet area. The toilets are now unblocked.  
New Front and Fire Exit doors are scheduled to be fitted on 3<sup>rd</sup> July.
- m) Pedestrian Crossing update: no further information is available from Dorset Council about the progress of this matter. The resident group has met again to pursue the matter and they have been provided with a copy of the traffic survey

data from 2022, along with confirmation from DC about the classification of the B3072 Station Road (classified as C3 network hierarchy, and according to DC tables of classifications this shows as a main distributor road.)

- n) Fryer Field: the litter bin located outside the pavilion has been secured to the ground as it was being moved and used to gain access to the youth club roof.
- o) Benches: painting of various benches has been scheduled in once the weather warms up.
- p) Oakhurst Lease for play area: This has now expired and has been chased with Dorset Council, they have not provided any update. Cllr Shortell to chase.

#### **22/383 YOUTH CLUB REQUEST FOR LIGHTS**

The youth club have requested permission to place PIR lights on the side of the pavilion to illuminate the youth club driveway. The youth club would pay and install the lights, the cost of running them would be borne by the Council.

After a brief discussion it was

**RESOLVED that WMYC be granted permission to install lights on the side of the Pavilion to illuminate the youth club driveway.**

*Voting: Unanimous*

#### **22/384 HEDGEHOG HIGHWAY**

Members having received information about the Hedgehog Highway project agreed it was a good cause and after discussion it was

**RECOMMENDED that a pack of Hedgehog Highway surrounds be purchased for £150 (box of 50). These to be advertised and given away to residents in return for a donation towards a local Hedgehog Rescue Charity. (To be purchased from General funds.)**

*Voting: Unanimous*

#### **22/385 TREE SURVEY**

Members having received a copy of the tree survey carried out by Mark Hinsley Arboricultural Consultants, noted its contents and recommendations. It was

**RESOLVED to organise an event on a Saturday to get the community to come and assist with tending the saplings at Fryer Field. The tree report stated that they need to have the grass removed from around them and then mulch applied.**

*Voting: Unanimous*

#### **22/386 PAVILION MATTERS:**

##### **a. Purchase of a fridge**

Cllr Randall requested that members consider the purchase of a fridge for the pavilion kitchen.

After a brief discussion it was

**RESOLVED to purchase a fridge and make adjustments to the kitchen so it can be installed. Cllr Randall to carry out the work required.**

*Voting: unanimous.* Cllr Randall did not vote on this matter as per his declaration of interest

It was noted that the assistant to the clerk had offered to ensure the fridge is kept clean as part of her duties.

##### **b. Use of changing room for storage**

Cllr Randall requested that members consider allowing the use of changing room number five in the pavilion to be used for storage by a local dog charity. The charity would pay a monthly fee for the use of the room. The office has checked with the pavilion users and they all confirmed that they did not use changing room five.

After brief discussion it was

**RESOLVED that changing room five in the pavilion be hired out at £20 per month for storage use only to the charity Friends of the Stays of Greece.**

*Voting: unanimous.* Cllr Randall did not vote or take part in the discussion as per his declaration of personal interest.

**22/387 PUBLIC TOILET UPDATE**

All works agreed with Dorset Council have been completed.

Dorset Council have made payment for half the cost of the new hand wash/dryer.

Kick plates on the bottom of the doors in the ladies facility have been installed.

A full electrical inspection has been completed and as a result RCD were fitted to the lighting circuits, also it was suggested that the lighting would require replacement fairly soon.

A new toilet seat is required, this has been ordered.

New toilet roll holders that are less likely to get vandalised have been purchased and are waiting to be installed.

**22/388 CORRESPONDENCE**

a. Allotment and Leisure Gardener – Issue 2 2023

b. ICCM magazine Spring 2023

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 20:53hrs

The next meeting of the Environment Committee is scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 19:30hrs

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

Chair of Environment Committee