

WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the **TOWN COUNCIL MEETING** held on Thursday 25th September 2025 in
The Pavilion, Fryer Field at 7:30pm.

PRESENT:

Cllr Mrs R Burke - Chair		
Cllr D Green	Cllr M Hawkes	Cllr Mrs C Holmes
Cllr J Randall	Cllr T Salt	Cllr Mrs N Senior
Cllr D Shortell	Cllr J Staig	Cllr C Way
Cllr K Wilkes	Cllr Mrs P Yeo	

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs Judi Weedon, Town Clerk (via online Teams meeting)
Mrs Nadine Hancock, Assistant to the Town Clerk
2 members of the public

APOLOGIES: Dorset Councillor A Skeats
(reasons for apologies were noted)

25/158 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Resident had two queries about Blackfield Farm:

1. When will the mess left on the field be cleared?
Cllr Mrs Yeo suggested that was the responsibility of the landowner.
Cllr Mrs Holmes stated Dorset Council's enforcement team should be informed.
Officers to contact Dorset Council to chase enforcement on this issue.

2. Why can't Blackfield Farm be green belt land?
Resident suggested the land was serving its purpose as a buffer between SSSI land and urban settlement and should therefore be green belt. Resident suggested Dorset Council don't appear to be against it being green belt, and other options will be costly for them. Resident requested that the Council push Dorset Council for it to be made green belt.

25/159 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS – LOCALISM ACT 2011 – DISPENSATIONS FROM SECTION 31(4)
None

25/160 TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 28th AUGUST 2025
Having been circulated, the minutes on pages 3362-3367 were agreed, adopted and signed.

25/161 TO APPROVE, ADOPT AND SIGN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

- a. **The Report of the Planning Consultative Committee** held on the 4th September 2025, pages 3368-3369 as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed.
- b. **The Report of the Environment Committee** held on the 4th September 2025, pages 3370-3371 as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed.
- c. **The Report of the Finance and General-Purpose Committee** held on the 18th September 2025, pages 3372-3375 as circulated, was confirmed, adopted and signed.

Recommendation 25/154 was RESOLVED. Voting: unanimous

25/162 DORSET COUNCILLOR REPORT

Members received a written report from Dorset Councillor Shortell regarding updates on:

1. The Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership (DSCP)
2. A new street lighting policy

Cllr Mrs Holmes queried who would be paying for the street light upgrade. Cllr Shortell to find out whether there is a grant from central Government for this scheme. It was also queried whether the new, more efficient lighting would reduce energy costs overall.

3. The replacement of the former Repairs, Minor Maintenance and Small Capital Works Framework with new contractual arrangements for delivering building repairs and maintenance services across Dorset Council's operational, tenanted and housing properties
4. Dorset Council's aim to recover at least £1m lost through the mismanagement of a project set up to update and repair council properties
5. The draft plan aimed at how the Dorset National Landscape area is protected.

A copy of the full report is available in the Council office.

25/163 TO RECEIVE TOWN CLERKS REPORT

1. REMINDER: Please can all members look at the training section of the DAPTC website to see if there is anything they would like to attend.
2. The brief consultation about spending public funds on a full Town-wide consultation ends on the 30th September. The results will be reported at the October Council meeting.
3. Entries have been received for the photographic competition.

25/164 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

None

25/165 ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE

Members were asked if they would like to consider any property in West Moors that they feel is of value to the community. After some discussion it was

RESOLVED to nominate West Moors Library, St Martin's URC Church and the NAAFI building as Assets of Community Value.

Voting: unanimous

25/166 RISK MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

Members reviewed the updated Risk Management Statement, and it was

RESOLVED to adopt the Risk Management statement as presented for 2025/26.

Voting: unanimous

25/167 LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

Members discussed the Dorset Council Local Plan Consultation and the specific sites for West Moors.

Cllr Mrs Yeo suggested all councillors write their own individual response.

Cllr Mrs Senior suggested the Council should be requesting that Blackfield Farm is put back into the green belt.

The Clerk advised there is a specific section on the survey where this can be requested.

Resident asked that a specific Dorset Councillor and Officer are also written to about Blackfield Farm.

After some discussion, it was

RESOLVED that each Councillor submit their own response to the Dorset Council Local Plan Consultation with an emphasis on putting Blackfield Farm back into the green belt. Officers will write an official response, ensuring the specified Councillor and Officer at Dorset Council are notified.

Voting: unanimous

25/168 STATEMENT OF REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS

Members reviewed the DAPTC's Statement of Reasonable Expectations (SoRE), and after a short discussion it was

RESOLVED to accept the Statement of Reasonable Expectations as it stands.

Voting: unanimous

25/169 INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS

Cllr K Wilkes reported on the Dorset Council Leisure Facilities Strategy. Members discussed how we can help to bring together and promote leisure facilities in West Moors. It was suggested Officers could contact various venues in West Moors to get regular listings and advertise these clearly on our website.

Cllr C Way gave a report on the Youth Club. Their refurbishment is almost complete, they are doing well on their budget and are busy.

Cllr Mrs Holmes suggested Councillors and officers get together for a Christmas lunch.

Cllr D Shortell praised the recent refurbishments at Pinehurst Community Church.

Cllr J Staig raised concerns in light of the Dorset Councillor report on new street lighting that lights should not go off at night. The Clerk clarified that only street lights on Station Road and Pinehurst Road should stay on all night, and any other lights that remain on after midnight should be reported to Enerveo via the Dorset PFI Lighting Portal.

Cllr Mrs Yeo reported on recent activities by the West Moors Dementia Action Group, in particular that they are looking into having their own dementia-specific Admiral Nurses, but noting this will be extremely costly. Cllr Yeo also reported that she and Cllr Mrs Burke had attended a recent Business Breakfast at Brook View Residential Home and had found it a useful opportunity to network.

25/170 CORRESPONDENCE

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

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 20:16 hrs.

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on 30th October 2025 at 19:30hrs.

SIGNED DATE
Chair