

**WEST MOORS TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the **ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held on  
**THURSDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026** in the Pavilion, Fryer Field, West Moors at 7.30pm.

**PRESENT:** Cllr Mrs C Holmes – Chair  
 Cllr Mrs R Burke Cllr D Green Cllr Mrs P Yeo  
 Cllr T Salt Cllr D Shortell

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Nadine Hancock, Assistant to the Town Clerk

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr M Hawkes Cllr J Staig Cllr J Randall

(Reasons for apologies were noted)

**25/315 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS**

None

**25/316 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

None

**25/317 TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT**

- a) Petwyn – The new benches have been installed.
- b) Pavilion - The patio door has now been repaired.
- c) The replacement floodlights have now been installed and are working well, they are being checked on a weekly basis.
- d) Tennis Courts – A tennis coach used the courts for a few weeks, but found the surface was not of an acceptable standard. Members commented this was a shame, and suggested officers seek quotes for resurfacing.
- e) Allotments – The waiting list will no longer be accepting people who live outside the boundaries of West Moors.
- f) Annual Play Inspection reports were received in early February, all defects were classified as low or very low risk. A copy of the reports are available in the council office.
- g) Benches at Skatepark – A quote for refurbishment of two benches has been requested.
- h) Skatepark – Canvas have been contacted to come and repair cracks that have appeared in the skatepark.
- i) EV Charges in Park Way car park – on 25.02.26 it was discovered that the cables from the charger had been cut off and stolen. This was reported to Dorset Police, Dorset Council and MER.
- j) Dorset Council are advertising a statutory notice about a new pedestrian crossing in Station Road near the Memorial Hall. Cllr Shortell confirmed the proposal was progressing well.

A further discussion took place regarding the poor state of the speed camera on Station Road. Cllr Burke offered to contact Dorset Police about restoring it.

**25/318 BIODIVERSITY STUDY**

Members received proposals from Green Council Solutions and Dorset Wildlife Trust for carrying out biodiversity audits in West Moors. Members reviewed each of the proposals and Cllr Holmes presented funding criteria for a Habitat and Biodiversity Grant from Veolia as an alternative option. Cllr Holmes suggested the Council didn't yet have a concrete plan in place, and perhaps a working party could be formed to explore options. A further discussion took place on options for the cemetery specifically. Cllr Burke pointed out that the Council was due to gain further assets from Dorset Council, and it could be worth waiting until those were transferred. It was therefore

**RECOMMENDED that the Council postpone the biodiversity audit and revisit it when more land has been acquired.**

*Voting: unanimous*

**25/319 PLAY AREA CLEANING**

Members received two quotes for the cleaning of the play service at Oakhurst play area. Members expressed concern over the expense and suggested the ongoing ownership of the play area be discussed further in a future meeting. After discussion it was

**RESOLVED that a local company be hired to clean the play surface of Oakhurst play area at a cost of £425.**

*Voting: unanimous*

**25/320 CEMETERY MATTERS**

Members received statistics on cemetery usage for 2025.

**25/321 UPDATE: PUBLIC TOILETS**

Members received a brief report on repairs carried out to the facility, including new pipework for the urinals and new flush systems for 2 toilets.

**25/322 UPDATE: ALLOTMENTS**

It was noted that the Clerk has spoken with the Chair of the Allotment Holders Association in regard to plot owners making sure their plot is defined in some way. The Chair sent an email out to plot holders and will be bring the matter up at their next committee meeting.

The Chair of the AHA is trying to get the water tanks cleaned out before the water is turned back on, on the 1<sup>st</sup> April.

It was noted that the council will no longer accept people on the allotment waiting list form outside of West Moors boundary.

**25/323 CORRESPONDENCE**

Allotment & Leisure Gardener – Issue 1 2026

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 19:57hrs

The next meeting of the Environment Committee is scheduled for 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026 at 19:30hrs

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

Chair of Environment Committee