Let $R$ be a ring. An element $x$ is called potent if $x^k = x$ for some integer $k > 1$. $R$ is called weakly periodic-like if every $x \in R$ which is not in the center of $R$ is a sum of a nilpotent and a potent. The structure and commutativity of such rings, under certain constraints, is studied. (Received January 25, 2005)