

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF CHARMOUTH
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25 APRIL 2018 AT ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY HALL

33 electors, 7 Councillors, County/District Councillor Daryl Turner, Philip Evans (Lyme Online) and guest speakers were present. Cheryl Reynolds, (District Councillor) would be arriving late due to a prior commitments.

1. The Chair, Peter Noel, welcomed Charmouth parishioners to this year's Annual Parish Meeting. He mentioned that although two new Councillors had recently been co-opted, there are still two vacancies on the Council and it is an ideal time to join to give a year to settle in before the elections in May 2019.
2. Apologies were received from Cllrs David Clifford and Paul Oatway.
3. The Chair explained that the meeting had been advertised in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 using the Statutory Notice.
4. The Minutes of last year's Annual Parish Meeting had been displayed on the website for the last 12 months and were also available around the room. The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.
5. There were no matters arising from the minutes.
6. Peter Noel introduced the 7 Councillors present making particular mention of the two new Councillors, Kay Solomon and Gerry Bearpark.
7. Reports were received from Guest Speakers:
 - Charmouth Bowls Club (Bob Murphy) – invited anyone interested in joining to go along and have a try;
 - Charmouth Primary School – the new Head, Laura Cornish, had unfortunately been unable to attend;
 - “Changing Spaces”, St Andrews Church (Marie Oldham and Alison Taylor) - talked about the ethos behind Changing Spaces and their future hopes for the Church.
 - Hogchester Nature Reserve (Rob Powell) – spoke of his hopes for a community space and invited people to get involved.
8. Neighbourhood Plan – Sarah Edwards (Secretary of Charmouth NH Plan Steering Group) highlighted the considerable loss following the untimely death of Carole Girling. Andy Bateman had since taken over as Chair. Sarah spoke of the work undertaken over the last year and that they are moving forward, albeit slowly, due to the small group of volunteers – more are always welcome. All reports produced so far are available to view on the NHP Webpage of the Parish Council website (<https://www.charmouthparishcouncil.gov.uk>). Peter Noel applauded the NH Plan Steering Group members who dedicated many hours to protecting the village for the future.
9. Peter Noel, as Chair, spoke of an interesting year with the constant introduction of many new rules and regulations. This in turn grinds the staff down and another full time member of staff has been employed. Terry Barker is working Sunday-Thursday weekly to ensure cover is provided at the Foreshore every day throughout the year. Peter paid tribute to the staff who keep the beach in pristine condition and work incredibly hard. He was very grateful for the support of the County and District Councillors Daryl Turner and Cheryl Reynolds who had attended this evening and highlighted the ever changing position with the forthcoming move to unitary authority. Peter confirmed that the Parish Council are speaking to the District Council about the services they currently run.
10. Reports of Committee Chairs
 - a. In the absence of Paul Oatway, Chair of Foreshore Committee, Graham Bender (Vice Chair) reported on the completion of the stone cairn on Evan's Green by DCC; repairs to the factory building roof with the removal of the sky lights; removal of the unsightly and unserviceable boats; installation of recycling waste bins at the Foreshore; grant of outline planning permission for the beach access ramp in front of the promenade and a submission for funding from the Coast Community Fund (round 5). Plans for this year include wifi coverage for the beach and electrical power to the lookout for National Coast Watch use.

- b. Martin Sayers, Chair of Playing Field, Cemetery and Street Management Committee, reported on repairs to the lych gate; completion of new showers at the pavilion (helped by a grant from the FA and a kind donation from Charmouth Football Club); the addition of more dog bins around the village. Very soon the play area would be expanded after discussion with mothers of small children; yellow lines would be installed by DCC at the junction with Bridge Road to improve access for the fire engine and better lighting is planned for the Playing Field entrance.

Sarah Edwards stated that there were more comments in the NHP survey about dog mess than anything else! Peter Noel highlighted the need to upgrade procedures related to cemetery records which requires a huge amount of work.

11. Q&A Session – for residents to address the meeting in respect of any matter relevant to the Parish as a whole

- Q. Major MacIntyre asked how often the traffic warden visits the village?

Graham Bender stated that he thought it was 4 times a year but stated that the zig zags which are constantly covered by cars are the responsibility of the Police still.

- Q. Ros Cole stated that many visitors come to the library asking which way the sea is and wondered if there could be better signage on Lower Sea Lane?

- Q. Jane Morrow stated that the ladies toilets at the Foreshore are in a dreadful state and hoped that WDDC could get something done before the season starts?

Peter Noel suggested that she speak to Cheryl Reynolds, District Councillor.

- Q. A resident of George's Close asked if yellow lines could be looked at in that vicinity?

- Q. Peter Crowter asked about dropped kerbs opposite the entrance to Higher Sea Lane to help mobility scooters? Peter Noel and Martin Sayers would look at that issue when looking at highway issues.

12. Peter Noel thanked everyone for coming.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm. Coffee was served.