

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF CHARMOUTH**  
**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 6 MARCH 2019 AT ST ANDREW'S COMMUNITY HALL**

54 electors, 5 Councillors, County/District Councillor Daryl Turner, District Councillor Cheryl Reynolds, Philip Evans (Lyme Online) and guest speakers were present.

1. The Chair, Peter Noel, welcomed Charmouth parishioners to this year's Annual Parish Meeting.
2. Apologies were received from Cllrs Gerry Bearpark, David Clifford and Judy Fellingham, as well as Pauline Berridge and Bob and Helen Hughes.
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 5 Councillors present.
7. Reports were received from Guest Speakers:
  - Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group (Dr Richa Singh and Lucy Danes) spoke about the future arrangements with regard to health services in Lyme Regis and Charmouth;
  - West Dorset Neighbourhood Police Team (PCSO Amanda King) spoke about cyber crime and how people could avoid falling victim to scams;
  - Dorset County/West Dorset District Councillor Daryl Turner gave a presentation on the forthcoming reorganisation to unitary authorities;
  - West Dorset District Councillor Cheryl Reynolds spoke about wanting to have a relationship with Charmouth parishioners and encouraged people to contact her if they have any issues which she could help with.
8. Neighbourhood Plan – Andy Bateman (Chair of Charmouth NH Plan Steering Group) updated the meeting with regard to the formation of the Neighbourhood Plan. He felt that the draft policies now reflect the majority of the views of businesses and residents in Charmouth and are a firm foundation to write the plan. All draft policies are available to view on the NHP Webpage of the Parish Council website (<https://www.charmouthparishcouncil.gov.uk>) or in the library. Volunteers are still being sought to help lead village improvement projects.
9. Becoming a Parish Councillor – with the forthcoming elections in May, Cllr Judith Sheppard and the Clerk, Lisa Tuck gave an insight into being a Parish Councillor and encouraged people to bring their skills to give something back to their community by standing as a Councillor in May.
10. Reports of Committee Chairs
  - a. Judith Sheppard, Chair of the Foreshore Committee, reported that in the last year Wifi had been installed at the beach; electricity had been installed in the lookout to enable other functions as well as help the NCI; Gerry Bearpark had taken over as Flood Warden and a leaflet drop will be undertaken to those properties in the flood zone; repairs have been undertaken to the steps to the beach; the CCF bid for the beach access ramp has got through the first round; in an attempt to preserve the factory building, repairs have been undertaken to resolve the damp in the Beach Café shop which will include cladding for which a planning application has to be submitted; kayak storage is about to be provided and recycling bins have been added. Dogs continue to be a challenge with local owners tending not to adhere to the rules. Judith pointed out that the beach huts are in a stunning position and therefore are not snug and dry due to the environment! The toilet cleaning has been taken “in house” by WDDC (to be Dorset Council) and it is very much hoped that improvements will be seen.

- b. Martin Sayers, Chair of Playing Field, Cemetery and Street Management Committee, reported that new play equipment had been provided and the railings at the playing field had all been painted; Electrical work has to be undertaken in the pavilion; Cemetery documentation has been overhauled and an audit of memorials undertaken; a pathway to enable access to the top rows of the new cemetery area will be undertaken soon and lighting has been installed to the scout hut (both these projects have been funded by Section 106 grants). The Committee continues to organise the Remembrance Day Parade and following a query at last year's Annual Parish Meeting has facilitated the installation of a dropped kerb at Higher Sea Lane in The Street. Dog mess also continues to be a problem at the playing field even though dogs are not allowed!
11. Chair's Report – Peter Noel apologised for the non-appearance of the beacon on Remembrance Sunday. He explained that circumstances had made it impossible to go ahead with the lighting but was very sorry that people had not been informed well enough. He spoke about his concerns that social media is not always used in a constructive way and comments made without thought can upset and offend people. Peter stated that at the start of 2018 it was decided to hold meetings bi-monthly to try and cope with the ever increasing paperwork. He re-iterated that more Councillors joining would spread the workload across the Committees.
12. Q&A Session – for residents to address the meeting in respect of any matter relevant to the Parish as a whole
- Q. Jane Morrow was pleased about the change of position with the toilet cleaning but asked when the outside of the Foreshore toilets would be decorated?
- Q. Concern was expressed regarding the signing to the Foreshore toilets and it was confirmed that new signs just being ordered should make this clearer.
- Q. Steve Gillan congratulated the Local History Society on the recent posters/history trail and mentioned the importance of the County Lines drug operations which are currently ongoing with the Police.
13. Peter Noel thanked everyone for coming.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm. Coffee was served.