

Charmouth Parish Council - Policy Statement – Metal Detector

It is the Parish Council's policy that metal detectors may be deployed on the Foreshore subject to:

1. The person wishing to search the Foreshore using a Metal Detector makes a written application to the Parish Clerk for annual consent or a verbal application to the Parish Council's Beach attendant for day pass.
2. Subject to no adverse information about the applicant or application the Clerk to the Parish Council may grant permission to allow the applicant to search the Foreshore and the adjoining parish owned lands for twelve months with the following condition:
 - a. No metal detecting on or near the cliff faces or mudslides;
 - b. No digging beyond a metre depth;
 - c. No digging into the possible Jurassic forest beneath the sand and shingle on the foreshore;
 - d. No digging on the grass lands or the associated paths on Evans' Cliff and Evans' Green;
 - e. Not to cause a nuisance to other visitors to the foreshore; and
 - f. Report to be given about any notable detectors or discoveries in a timely manner to the Parish Clerk.

On granting an annual permission, the Clerk is to request a passport style photograph, so that the applicant may be more easily identified. Weekly or daily permissions can be granted upon signature of the policy by the applicant which is then retained at the Beach Office.

A list of those who have been granted permission to be maintained in the Beach Office in addition to any documents maintained in the Parish's records.

The Clerk to the Parish Council is requested to report to the Foreshore Committee each instant when an annual 'permission' has been granted.

Actions to be taken by Council Staff:

(a) In the event of a person who has received permission from the Clerk, which is in date, but who is not abiding by the conditions.

Council staff should request that the person using the metal detector, refrain from what they are doing. Then remind that person of the conditions under which they were granted permission to use a metal detector, by showing them a copy of the policy.

(b) in the event of a person found using a metal detector without in date permission on or over the Foreshore

Council staff should inform the person metal detecting that they should have in date approval to metal detect in the appropriate area. Then request they stop what they are doing until appropriate permission, as above, has been obtained from the Parish Council.