

Charmouth Parish Council

Environment Group meeting, Tuesday 11th October 2022

Present: Cllr Jane Bremner (Chair), Cllr Julie Leah, Katy Tunstall, Ivor Clist, Cllr Peter Noel, Cllr Andrew Lightfoot

Apologies: John Smith

- 1. Environment Day:** Julie and Andrew reported on the event held on 1st October. Almost 40 people had attended and appreciated the six presentations. Also there was opportunity for informal exchange in the course of the morning. It was felt that this created a good basis for future activities. Invaluable assistance in running the event was provided by Penny Collins, Heather Salmon and Ivor Clist. Some of the presentations and related material had been placed on the Council's web site and Julie was writing a report which would be added and submitted to Shoreline and Lyme-on-line. For future occasions, it was felt that the poster should be more colourful and possible use of A boards explored.
- 2. Charmouth in Bloom:** the results had not been received and were expected at the presentation event on 13th October. (**Post meeting note**, Charmouth was awarded silver gilt, gold for horticulture and environment, silver gilt for the community category). All the relevant organisations in the village plus the attendees at the Environment Day had been notified of a meeting planned for 18th October. It was agreed that the format for this meeting would include reporting the results and judges' comments from our 2022 entry, with outline of the preparatory work done. Then ideas for projects to be implemented in 2023 would be described, including new planting, community garden, differential mowing and improved information displays. Further suggestions would be canvassed and then some project groups formed to start to develop designs and plan the work. It was hoped that the initiative would then feel like a whole village activity. Jane would chair the meeting and Andrew would present the initial reports and take notes.
- 3. A35 verges:** a response was awaited from Highways England regarding their contractor's work cutting the verges and controlling pernicious weeds. It was felt that vegetation on the roundabout should be no more than a couple of feet high so as to only partially impair visibility.

4. **Tree protection:** it was agreed that when further trees are planted, we should aim to provide some mulch material. Recent felling of mature pines was noted. It was reported that the Parish Council is endeavouring to obtain better information from Dorset Council on existing Tree Preservation Orders. It was suggested that extending the Conservation Area would afford better protection. One possible project under the aegis of Charmouth in Bloom would be creation of a tree trail and related publicity of the importance of trees in the village landscape.
5. **Information plaques:** the Parish Council was still trying to track down the art work used for the existing information plaques. Meanwhile it had been agreed that the Environment Group should draft design ideas for new plaques at the reed bed and in the playing field.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 29th November at 7pm.