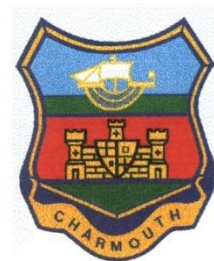


Charmouth Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE FORESHORE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 7:30PM ON TUESDAY 27th AUGUST 2019 AT THE ELMS

In attendance: Cllrs Judith Sheppard (Chair); Kay Solomon; Judy Fellingham; Peter Noel; and the Deputy Clerk, Melissa Kirkby

FS20.19 PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

There were no public in attendance.

FS21.19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Maralyn Hinxman, away and Paul Oatway, illness.

FS22.19 DISPENSATIONS

None were received.

FS23.19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none declared.

FS24.19 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Foreshore Committee held on the 25th June 2019 circulated to members, were a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

FS25.19 PROGRESS REPORTS

a. Flood Warden

Gerry Bearpark had volunteered to act as Flood Warden. Cllr Oatway to go through the Flood Plan with him.

b. Shoreline Management Plan 2

Cllr Oatway to report at the next meeting.

c. Foreshore Toilets

The Clerk had sent a letter to Dorset Council thanking them for the vast improvement in the cleaning of the foreshore toilets. A reply had been received thanking the Council for the letter, it was greatly appreciated. It was agreed that the Council should send another letter at the end of the season if the cleanliness has been maintained.

d. Coastal Communities Fund bid

Cllr Oatway to update at next meeting.

e. Factory Building Damp

Planning application has not been accepted as it is incomplete. Existing plans and elevation drawings (1:50 or 1:100) are required and proposed elevation drawings (1:50 or 1:100) must show the areas proposed for cladding. The Clerk to send the required plans.

f. Web camera

Cllr Oatway to report at the next meeting.

g. Low Carbon Dorset

An email had been received about Low Carbon Dorset, a three-year programme of activities to help stimulate growth in Dorset's low carbon economy. A link to the website had been previously circulated. Funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), it aims to help improve energy efficiency, increase the use of renewable energy, and aid the development of new low carbon products. Councillors had been asked at the last meeting to think of any projects but there were none suitable.

h. Plastic Free Charmouth

i) Beach Clean Boards – Cllr Solomon reported that the boards idea was on hold as the season is nearly over.

ii) Water Bottle Refill – The foreshore tap will soon be safe for drinking water. Cllr Sheppard asked Cllr Solomon if the Plastic Free group provide signage for the tap.

iii) Lantern Release – The members agreed that if the information requested from Dorset Council about the Dorset Sky Lanterns and Balloon Release Charter was satisfactory, then it would be proposed to full Council that it is adopted.

i. Mammal Policy – Cllr Oatway is progressing this item.

j. Parking Permits – After a discussion about the balance of issuing extra parking permits and the loss of income, it was agreed that a more in-depth breakdown of the income from the car park was needed. A record will now be taken of how much is collected in the evenings to aid any decision on parking permits. The Deputy Clerk will arrange for this to be done for reporting to the next meeting.

k. Dorset Council Sea Defences

The Deputy Clerk reported concerns from the beach staff that the metalwork was very sharp. The area is the responsibility of Dorset Council but the members were very concerned and would like the Committee Chair to meet with the Dorset Council engineer to see what options were available to make the area safer. An email had been received asking that the bottom step be made into two steps. The bottom part is actually part of the sea defence concrete and the height changes with the sand levels, so alterations would not be possible.

FS26.19 NEW ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

a. First Aid Policy

First Aid was discussed and the statement circulated by Cllr Sheppard was agreed. This will be included in a draft First Aid Policy for approval.

b. Bodycams for Staff

A list of incidents that had occurred at the foreshore had been circulated to the members. It was agreed that the continuation of incidents reported was not acceptable. The Deputy Clerk advised members that the cost of cameras was approximately £80 each. The members all agreed that 4 x body cameras should be purchased as soon as possible from the current car park maintenance budget.

c. Dog Rules signage

A member of the public had complained that they had purchased a ticket from the car park machine before they saw any sign saying there were no dogs allowed on the beach. A laminated sign has been placed actually on the ticket machine. A survey has been done and there are signs at fourteen locations along the foreshore. The members felt that this was more than adequate and that no further signage was needed. The matter of people riding bicycles on the beach was also mentioned but as this seemed to be a one-off no signage would be required.

d. Charity Fund Allocation

It was agreed that the sum of £900 for youth groups and £300 for non-youth groups be proposed to Finance Committee.

e. Burger Van in Private Car Park

It had been reported that a Burger Van was operating on a Thursday evening from the privately-owned car park at the foreshore. The Facilities Manager was concerned at the amount of rubbish that had been left strewn around the following morning for the staff to have to pick up. The next week rubbish was not an issue, so he wondered whether rubbish had been bad due to particularly strong winds the first week. The Committee agreed to monitoring and report to next meeting.

FS27.19 CORRESPONDENCE

a. Car Park Machine

The CHCC had written about their volunteers being asked for change for the car parks and whether the ticket machine was going to accept card payment. The Clerk had replied that change was available from the beach attendant and the office are already in the process of enabling card payments for parking. Cllr Sheppard also said that the CHCC should make clear that car parking is not the responsibility of the Heritage Centre and that they might consider a sign outside the CHCC indicating such.

b. Memorial Bench

A request had been made by a resident for a memorial bench on Evans Cliff. The committee agreed to the installation of a hardstanding and bench at that location as it would finish off the semi-circle of existing benches.

- c. (i) Dog Rules – Email received asking about how the rules are enforced.
- (ii) Dog Rule Signage – Email received suggesting sign at bridge over the river (there is already one there).

These issues were discussed under item FS26.19c above. The Clerk to send a reply explaining the current signage and the Council's position.

- d. Path cutting/Meadow at cliff top

An email had been received from a resident asking for action to be taken against the brambles growing at the cliff top meadow. The Facilities Manager had been up and cut back around the pathway. Cllr Sheppard talked about meeting the resident to discuss the maintenance of the meadow and possibly having a wild flower meadow. Cllr Noel said that he thought this area was an SSSI and included in the Beach Management Plan.

- e. Beach Webcam proposal

An email had been received proposing a web cam on the factory building. The cost and installation covered by the proposer through advertising. Although initially the Chair felt this was a very good idea, on closer inspection the website the proposer would use to display the images and gather income from advertising, was very similar to the existing Charmouth.org website. It would also be outside of the control of the Council. The Committee rejected the proposal.

- f. Youth Club fundraising

A resident had emailed requesting permission to hold a fundraising competition at the foreshore. Due to the time restrictions the Clerk had given approval and the Committee noted this.

- g. Neolithic Forest

An email was received from a resident with information about the ancient tree remains at the foreshore which had been referred to in Council documents as the Jurassic forest. This had been when referring to the forest as part of the proposed plans for an access ramp. The Committee asked that once the accuracy of the information had been checked, it be circulated to the interested parties.

- h. Burger Van at Foreshore

An email had been received from a resident complaining about a food van operating in the beach private car park. The Deputy Clerk had replied to them explaining that it is a private car park and out of the Parish Council's jurisdiction, but they could complain to Dorset Council, if a planning breach had taken place etc.

- i. Filming request for education film

An email received requesting permission for filming dates at the end of October, early November. It is for a short educational film on Mary Anning for Key Stage 2 students. The Committee approved this request.

j. National Coast Watch

The NCI had sent an email updating the Committee on their extended hours which now include Tuesdays. They are also trying to recruit more volunteers.

k. Dorset Coast Forum ENews – July and August issues had been circulated to the members and were noted.

FS28.19 IN COMMITTEE

RESOLVED that under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for this item of business in view of the likely disclosure of confidential matters about information relating to an individual, and information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, within the meaning of paragraphs 1 and 8 of schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (see Section 1 and Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985), as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006.

a. Beach Steps

It was Resolved to accept Quote A for work to the metal beach steps from the current budget for beach steps repair.

The meeting closed at 9.23pm.

Proposals to Finance Committee:

FS26.19(d) Charity Fund Allocation