

Charmouth Parish Council

Council Office The Elms St Andrew's Drive Charmouth Bridport Dorset DT6 6LN



Telephone: (01297) 560826 E-Mail: clerk@charmouthparishcouncil.gov.uk

MINUTES OF THE FORESHORE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 7:30PM ON TUESDAY 30th AUGUST 2022

In attendance: Cllrs Melanie Harvey, Julie Leah, Katie Moore, Peter Noel, Judith Sheppard and the Deputy Clerk, Melissa Kirkby

FS35.22 PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

There were none.

FS36.22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

FS37.22 DISPENSATIONS

None were received.

FS38.22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Harvey declared an interest with the CHCC and would not comment or vote on the items.

FS39.22 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Foreshore Committee held on the 28th June 2022 circulated to members, be signed as a correct record.

FS40.22 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr Sheppard asked about the item of a Live TV broadcast that had been raised at the last meeting. The Deputy Clerk reported that after going back to the company she had heard nothing further about their request and assumed they had found an alternative location or cancelled the project.

FS41.22 PROGRESS REPORTS

a. PSPO's for Fires/barbeques and Anti-Social Behaviour (Camping etc.)

The Chair spoke about the issue of PSPO's for fires/barbeques, anti-social behaviour, camping on the foreshore etc. The Committee were shown the sign that would be erected if they join the Beach Management PSPO and there will be a similar one for No Fires. The members agreed that they wanted the Council to join the PSPO for these issues except the No Fires. They wanted to wait and have further discussions about whether to join for No Fires and monitor the situation first.

b. Beach Office Policy

A draft had been circulated with amendments to make it clearer. The members agreed to propose acceptance of the revised Policy to full Council. (Appendix A).

FS42.22 HAZARD & INCIDENT REPORT

a. Powered surf board at the foreshore again

The Chair spoke about a report received that a "paddle board" going very fast was noticed by the NCI. It turned out to have a small two stroke engine producing a powerful jet with the standing user having foot holds and a wire in front linked to the engine which was built into the body of the board under the feet. The Council has a policy of no jet skis. If this occurs again the beach staff are to try and speak to the operator if they can get near enough or if he comes onto the beach, to explain our "No Jet Skis" rule and ask him to keep well away from the shoreline/safe swimming area. The Harbour Master could also be called (see item below).

b. Speed boats coming close to shore

The Chair reported that further to reports of speed boats coming close to shore and causing a danger to swimmers, the Deputy Clerk had contacted the Lyme Regis Harbour Master. He said that he would provide a quote for deploying buoys at the start of the season and retrieving them at the end. The Deputy Clerk had chased for the quote again. He also said that if there were boats causing a nuisance then if he was contacted, he could speak to the boat user on their return to harbour. The members agreed that the contact details of the Harbour Master should be given to the Beach Office staff and the NCI so that they could contact him if any further incidents were seen.

c. Vandalism to parking signs

The Chair reported that vandalism had taken place to the car park sign. As the JustPark sign had also been damaged, so that they location number could not be seen properly, the Deputy Clerk had purchased two new JustPark signs and the Facilities Manager had got a quote for a replacement car park sign. See In Committee.

d. Children Bridge jumping at foreshore

The Chair reported that the Clerk had contact Dorset Council (as the bridge owner) of children jumping off of the bridge into the river.

Dorset Council had replied that they had the issue before in other locations and there isn't a great deal that they can do to stop this happening. They were willing to offer signs to go up. The members all agreed that they would welcome the signs as it was at least worth a try.

FS43.22 ITEMS TO REPORT FOR DISCUSSION

a. Snails and the Reed Bed / opening of sluice gate

The Chair reported that that the sluice gate has been opened as the reed bed was very dry due to the hot weather. If there is a problem closing the sluice gate the reed bed should be able to regulate itself. It was agreed to leave it open and monitor the condition of the reed bed. Dorset Council are looking into who is responsible within their organisation for the storm water drainage system that goes into the reed bed.

b. Barbeque disposal bin made for the foreshore

The members had been sent a photo of the bin that the staff made for people to put their disposable barbeques in. It has been well used.

c. Possible pollution signage at the river mouth

CLlr Leah had asked that based on the high levels of phosphates, nitrates and mercury and potentially high intestinal bacterial levels (the latter only after sewage outages – 15 times last year) should the Council consider making it more obvious that the river is not suitable for bathing and that sometimes the sea isn't? After a long discussion by the members, it was agreed to defer a decision to the next meeting. This would allow the members time to visit the river and see the existing signage.

d. Possible loan scheme of beach play equipment

The Chair reported that there has been a lot of beach play equipment handed in as lost property, or just thrown away in the rubbish. The Facilities Manager had the idea to make these items, buckets, spades, seats, body boards available to the public. These could be used on a take and return basis from a recycling container within the beach area. This would encourage recycling, thus saving more plastic going into land fill. He had spoken to the owner of the Café as they sell beach items. They did not have a problem with the idea. The members agreed it was a very good idea and the scheme should be trialled next year.

e. Confirmation that Resident Beach Hut draw not open to second home owners

The Chair raised this item so that it could be officially recorded in the minutes. The members confirmed their decision that second home owners did not qualify for the Beach Hut Residents' Draw.

f. CHCC

i) False Fire Alarm incident

The Chair reported that there had been a false fire alarm incident at the CHCC. This had been dealt with and was to note only.

ii) Request for Coastal Protection Information

The Clerk had drafted a reply to the CHCC's request for information on Coastal Protection. The members had all been sent a copy and they agreed that it should be sent to the CHCC and they also agreed to their request for a meeting.

g. Environment Group Notes

i) Information Plaque Review

The Clerk is still liaising with Dorset Council to establish responsibility of the information cairn and who has the original artwork for the information plaque.

FS44.22 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

a. Email from Clive Randall regarding dogs on the beach

An email had been received from Mr Clive Randall about comments he had seen on Facebook about dogs causing trouble on the beach. The Clerk had responded advising Mr Randall that no complaints had been made to the beach staff or the office. The members agreed that the Dogs PSPO seemed to be working well now that people had got used to it.

b. Applications to film for one day from French TV company and Escape to the Country

The Chair reported that applications had been received to film at the foreshore from Escape to the Country and Also FranceTV. The Clerk had obtained the proper documents and had given permission due to the timescale. This item was to note only.

c. Confirmation of Library book sale dates

The Chair reported that an email had been received from the Charmouth Library confirming their book sale dates as 31 July and 1 August, followed by 28 August and 4 September.

d. Application to carry out paid for fossil walks

A new application to carry out paid for fossil walks had been received from Lizzie Hingley. Her application and supporting documents and references had been circulated to the members. They all agreed to give permission.

e. Dorset Coast Forum Invitation to Annual Conference

The Chair confirmed that herself and Cllr Leah had been booked to attend the Dorset Coast Forum Annual Conference at Kingston Maurward College, Dorchester on Tuesday 20th September 2022 09:30 – 17:00.

FS45.22 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. Renewal of Lease 4

The Clerk had drafted a report which the members agreed to. It was agreed that Cllrs Noel, Sheppard and the Clerk would take this item forward.

b. Quotations for new parking sign

It was agreed to postpone the replacement of the sign until any car park charge increase for next year had been agreed.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Signed

Dated

Referred to Full Council

FS41.22 (b.) Beach Office Policy

Referred to Finance Committee

DRAFT

APPENDIX A

Policy Statement

Use of the Beach Attendant's Office by Persons Not Employed by the Parish Council

1. Introduction

The unregulated use of the Beach Attendant's Office at the Factory Building by people other than Parish Council staff or Councillors, creates risks for the Council.

However, there are events at the Foreshore where it would be advantageous to the community if access was available for various reasons including access to various facilities e.g. electrical power supply, hot water, etc.

2. Access Arrangements

In the event that an organisation wishes to have access to the Beach Attendant's Office, they shall apply in the first instance to the Parish Clerk detailing their requirements, hours of access, etc.

If the proposed period of use is when the Parish Council's employed Beach Attendant is not in attendance, access will only be permitted if a Parish councillor can be in attendance through-out the whole period of use. If a Parish councillor is not available, then access will not be permitted.

3. The Clerk to the Parish Council

The Parish Clerk is in law the Responsible Financial Officer for the Parish Council and has to be totally satisfied with proposed arrangements before consent may be considered by the Parish Council.

Adopted by Council:	19.12.2018
Review Due:	