

Charmouth Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE FORESHORE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 7:30PM ON TUESDAY 28th JUNE 2022

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

FS22.22 TO APPOINT A CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

Cllr Judith Sheppard was proposed for Chair by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr Noel and following no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED that Judith Sheppard serve as Chair of this Committee for the coming year.

FS23.22 TO APPOINT A VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

Cllr Katie Moore was proposed as Vice Chair by Cllr Sheppard, seconded by Cllr Noel and following no other nominations, it was

RESOLVED that Katie Moore serve as Vice Chair of this Committee for the coming year

FS24.22 PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

There were none.

FS25.22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none. The Deputy Clerk reported that Maralyn Hinxman has resigned from the Council and the members were thankful for her contribution.

FS26.22 DISPENSATIONS

None were received.

FS27.22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

FS28.22 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Foreshore Committee held on the 26th April 2022 circulated to members, be signed as a correct record.

FS29.22 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Deputy Clerk clarified that she would bring the Beach Office policy back to the next meeting.

FS30.22 PROGRESS REPORTS

- a. Fireworks Policy – The members agreed the new draft of the Fireworks Policy (Appendix A) should be proposed for approval to full Council.
- b. Pollution Risk Forecasting – Cllr Leah reported on the Lower Char Group. Cllr Leah has to do a dry run with the kit and then once she has done that, she will be sent the kits. They will probably monitor once a month, but throughout the whole year. Cllr Leah said that she would report back as there was new information.
- c. Clarification on foraging – The forager had provided lots of information about the foraging days and the members were satisfied with the information provided.

FS31.22 HAZARD & INCIDENT REPORT

- a. Vandalism attempts to beach huts – Noted. The members thought this might be a homeless person trying to find shelter.
- b. Bench breakage due to wave action – Noted.
- c. Bin fire 28 May 2022 – A disposable barbecue had caused a bin fire. Notices had been placed at the bins stating no barbecues in the bins. More notices will be put up.

FS32.22 ITEMS TO REPORT FOR DISCUSSION

- a. Reed bed sluice to be opened – Cllr Sheppard reported that herself and Cllr Leah had a meeting with Robert Lloyd from Natural England. He said the reed bed is healthy but quite dry. The sluice gate is full of stones and the concern is that if the sluice gate is opened the stones will wash down and prevent the gate being shut again. Cllr Sheppard and the Deputy Clerk will write to Dorset Council and arrange for the sluice gate to be inspected and cleared. He said he may be able to get some funding to carry out a survey of the reed bed.

- b. Environment Group Notes

- i) Accommodate four planters near the Heritage Coast Centre

Cllr Sheppard said that the Facilities Manager has said that there are no extra planters at the foreshore. There are some empty ones at the playing field. The original foreshore ones have collapsed. Cllr Leah thought planters would work if they were planted up with the correct plants. It would only be plants such as thrift though and whether they would grow well in a planter would be trial and error. One planter could go by the car park machine and one by Sea Lily. The area where they were before was too exposed and the plants just don't survive. It was agreed to have a look into this for next year.

- ii) The Environment Group had the idea of commissioning a plaque describing management of the reed bed. The Clerk has found the original artwork for the previous reed bed plaque, and it is in the office. Cllr Sheppard thought the Council should do a survey of the plants and flowers

at the foreshore, reed bed area. Then a really good information plaque with all the correct information could be commissioned. Cllr Noel suggested the new board should be tied in with the ideas from the Playing Field Committee for new signage at Lower Sea Lane and around the village. The members agreed that there should be a consistent theme across all Council property.

iii) Actions for SW in Bloom entry – differential mowing

Cllr Sheppard was against the idea as the area on west cliff is used by children for playing and the concern is that you cannot see the dog mess in long grass. Cllr Leah said that she thought it would be an area of patches of longer grasses. Cllr Moore was concerned about dogs being allowed on that area. Whereas dogs are not allowed on the playing field. It was agreed to wait and see how the differential mowing trial on the playing fields works out.

FS33.22 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

a. Request for filming at foreshore late September

The Deputy Clerk explained that there had been a request for a live broadcast in September, about metal detecting, mud-larking and fossil searching. She reported that the Clerk is ok with the idea however they would want to hire the foreshore car park. The members agreed to delegate to Cllr Sheppard and the Clerk to agree the final details and charges. Cllr Leah was concerned that hiring out the whole car park would take away the disabled spaces. It was agreed that any arrangement would still allow disabled parking.

b. Request for permission for Lyme Splash – The members agreed to the swim event from Lyme Regis to Charmouth on Sunday 4th September.

c. Request for tables in pedestrian area for children's events in the school holidays from Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre. The members agreed to the request.

d. Paddle board social events – A complaint had been received about an organised large scale paddle board event. The members agreed that as there was no charge and as it was a social meeting the Council had no concerns.

e. Beach Hut rental prices – An email was received from Jane Morrow about beach hut occupancy and that empty huts should be let out at half price. Cllr Sheppard explained that one blue and two green beach huts were kept back from seasonal lets, and are let out constantly at full price on a daily or weekly basis over the summer. The price charged goes towards the upkeep and replacement of beach huts that are very expensive to purchase.

FS34.22 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. Lease 6 review – This item had previously been dealt with at the last full Council meeting.
- b. Beach Hut replacement quotes – There are many complaints about damp in some of the beach huts over the winter. The members discussed buying more expensive, better quality beach huts to see if this helps the problem. It was agreed to recommend the acceptance of the more expensive quote for a better specification of beach hut. Funds to come from the FSH6 EM Reserves and FSH Beach Hut Replacement budget, to purchase seven new huts.

The meeting closed at 8.51pm.

Signed

Dated

Referred to Full Council

FS30.22a Firework Displays on Council Land

Referred to Finance Committee

FS34.22b Beach Hut Replacement

APPENDIX A

Policy Statement – Firework Displays on Parish Council Owned Lands

Introduction

This policy statement is intended to provide guidance to those organisations wishing to hold a firework displays on or over Parish Council owned lands at Charmouth's Foreshore, the Playing Fields and Cemetery. This policy statement has been prepared to ensure organisations wishing to hold events on and over Parish Council's lands plan and conduct the event in an appropriate manner and ensure that the Parish Council discharges its responsibilities as the land owner as required by law.

Planning

Firework displays shall only be held on or around Guy Fawkes Night and New Year's Eve at the Foreshore as well as during the 'Party-in-the-Park' event held in the summer on the Playing Fields. Permission for these events requires prior permission from the Clerk as detailed below. The display of fireworks on other occasions will be exceptional and will require the specific prior approval of the Parish Council.

All organisations wishing to hold firework displays shall inform the Clerk to the Parish Council four weeks before the proposed date. The application shall also include the following information:

- (a) The name of the lead organisation and the name(s) of all subsidiary organisations involved in the proposed event;
- (b) A comprehensive risk assessment and risk mitigation plan; and
- (c) A copy of the public liability insurance policy cover note or other documentation that provides insurance cover for each organisation involved in the event. The public liability insurance shall specifically include insurance cover for firework displays as well as for those persons responsible for and operating the discharge of the fireworks.

On receipt of the required information the Clerk to the Parish Council shall conduct due diligence and ensure that the Facilities Manager or other like person within the Parish Council reviews the risk assessment and risk mitigation plan to ensure that the document is correct and complete and thus ensures that the Parish Council discharges appropriately its responsibilities as the land owner.

Firework Safety

The person responsible for the discharge of the fore works shall be appropriately trained to the requirements of the insurance company.

If the proposed site for the discharge of the fireworks involves the closure of any public foot path then application shall be made to Dorset County Council as the Highway Authority and the Parish Council shall be provided with copies of any permission(s) granted by the Highway Authority.

Fund Raising

Any funds, net of expenses, raised through events held on Parish Council owned lands shall be distributed exclusively to good causes within the Parish of Charmouth.

Rubbish

The event organiser shall be responsible for clearing away all rubbish from both the site used for the discharge of the fireworks and the vicinities where the general public have watched the display or consumed refreshments, beverages, etc. The details about disposal of the collected rubbish shall be agreed with the Parish Council's Facilities Manager or other like person within the Parish Council.