

Charmouth Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE FORESHORE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 7:30PM ON TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2024

In attendance: Cllrs, Judith Sheppard, Katie Moore, Jane Bremner, Melanie Harvey, Julie Leah and the Administrator, Katherine Besant

FS15.24 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

Judith Sheppard was nominated as chair following no other nominations it was

Resolved that Judith Sheppard be elected as chair of the Foreshore committee for the coming year

FS16.24 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Katie Moore was nominated as vice chair following no other nominations it was

Resolved that Katie Moore be elected as vice chair of the Foreshore committee for the coming year

FS17.24 PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

There were no member of the public

FS18.24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Peter Noel – Holiday

Sally Roberts - Family

FS19.24 DISPENSATIONS

There were no dispensations.

FS20.24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest

FS21.24 MINUTES

It was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Foreshore Committee held on the 20 February 2024 be agreed as a correct record and signed.

FS22.24 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

FS23.24 TERMS OF REFERENCE

These were reviewed and agreed with suggested amendments

FS24.24 PROGRESS REPORTS

a) Toilets

There have been problems with the sanitary bins not being emptied which has now been resolved. The Facilities Manager has written to Dorset Council again about the raised area outside the ladies' toilets.

b) Nurdle clean up event

After a successful event the CPC contacted the Lower Char Group to thank them for their hard work

c) Recycling Bin

The bin is emptied every Monday and is working well. To be monitored.

d) Beach access steps

A new 'Uneven Steps' sign has been installed at the top of the steps

e) Beach access ramp

The planning application has been submitted and approved

f) Hedge and footpath cutting on West Cliff

Following the hedges being trimmed by an outside contractor last year for the parishioners it was felt that CPC should take on this task to avoid the cutting being too harsh (as it was last time) and possibly in contravention of the Foreshore Assent Document.

National Trust have been approached and given permission for CPC to cut back the hedge/path on their land which runs from the eastern border of Cliffend for the remainder of the path which runs back into Higher Sea Lane.

A specification is being drawn up to enable quotes to be sought for the cutting back of the hedge on the sea side of the path once a year in the Autumn. There is no plan to cut the hedges on the northern side of the path which link to rear entrances from a couple of the properties.

Following the harsh cutting of the brambles, stinging nettles and sticky weed have taken over and therefore the outside team have been asked to keep the path itself trimmed to enable people to use it with the plan being to allow the brambles to recover.

g) Beacon lighting

Following the beacon lighting on 6th June it was felt that it was not well supported, more advertising is needed for another time

FS25.24 HAZARD & INCIDENT REPORT

There were no reports received

FS26.24 ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP ITEMS

a) Charmouth in Bloom

Judging takes place on 25th July 2024, the tour will include the reed bed.

FS27.24 DISCUSSION ITEMS / TO BE NOTED

a) Beach huts

(i) Replacement huts - As some of the blue huts are in a worse condition than the green huts, the Facilities Manager has negotiated with Poultons who can replace 7 blue huts instead of 4 green huts for the same price. The committee agreed.

(ii) Advertisement of old huts – It was agreed to sell the old blue huts on a first come, first serve basis within the parish at £150 each plus VAT. Cllr Leah asked if one hut could be held back for storing recycling from the beach cleans. All agreed.

(iii) Beach huts hire policy – reviewed and agreed

b) Buoys

(i) Correspondence – received from a parishioner asking about the placement of the swim buoys near the river mouth. The Facilities Manager has explained the reasoning, and it may be reviewed in 2025. It was noted that one buoy has become detached and is safely stored at the depot.

(ii) Boat engines – boat owners will be written to asking them to take more care when launching from the beach towards the buoys

c) Wooden access ramp to west beach

The Facilities Manager has written to the Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management department at Dorset Council and was advised that the ramp is the responsibility of CPC. It was suggested to contact Dorset Council Property or the Coastal Rangers and get quotes for repairs.

d) School Parking Permits

The committee agreed for the school to be offered the same facility again and the price to stay the same at £25

e) Drain cleaning in car park

A quote has been received to clean out the drain in the middle of the car park which is blocked. The maintenance staff will try and clean it themselves first. It was also suggested to get more quotes to make a comparison

f) Lookout refurbishment

It was proposed to accept the higher quote which included scaffolding at £1250 at the next Finance and General Purposes meeting in July.

FS28.24 COASTAL TRANSITION ACCELERATOR FUND

a) Update

An update was received from the clerk who attended two sessions on the CTAP

FS29.24 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

a) Permissions

(i) Metal Detecting – total permissions 46 (38 renewed in March and 8 new)

b) Thank you letter re: bench

Noted

c. Disabled parking complaint

The clerk has responded and explained that “discrimination” due to size of a vehicle isn’t specific to disabled spaces, this is a general rule due to the size and nature of the car park. The Committee also believes that CPC does comply with the spirit of the Disability Discrimination Act as it very rarely receives complaints regarding disabled parking.

d. Fossil collecting complaint

This was noted, new signage is being put up at the beginning of July

e. Village map – Charmouth LHS

Permission was approved by the Clerk and Chair to replace the map

f. Dogs on beach complaint

The clerk has responded explaining the PSPO in Charmouth

g. Adder bite complaint

The clerk has responded, and the maintenance staff were asked to keep the grass around the bins on the amenity areas short.

h. Library Book Sales

The committee agreed that this can take place for 4 dates over the summer season

i. CHCC Banner

The committee agreed that a banner could be placed on the fence beside the reed bed.

j. Natural England’s approach to SSSI requests from public bodies

After a short discussion this was noted, and CPC would assess each action required and complete the necessary documentation.

FS30.24 POLICIES

a. Review

(i) Casual Launching of Microlight Aircraft July 2024

It was agreed to add ‘excluding all rescue aircraft’ to the document

(ii) Metal Detector Policy – Annual/Daily Permission June 2024

Reviewed and agreed with suggested amendment

(iii) Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (Uvas/Drones) Policy Statement June 2024

Reviewed and agreed

FS31.24 IN COMMITTEE

a. Lookout agreement

A new five-year lease is being drawn up

Proposals to F & GP

F27.24 (e) Lookout refurbishment

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed

Date