

Charmouth Parish Council

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MINUTES OF THE FORESHORE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 6:30PM ON TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2024

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

FS32.24 PUBLIC QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR REPRESENTATIONS

There were no members of the public

FS33.24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Katie Moore - Personal

FS34.24 DISPENSATIONS

There were no dispensations.

FS35.24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Julie Leah declared an interest in item FS43.24 e

FS36.24 MINUTES

It was

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Foreshore Committee held on the 18 June 2024 be agreed as a correct record and signed.

FS37.24 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

FS38.24 PROGRESS REPORTS

a) Buoys

There are 7 buoys remaining in position from the original 12. The other 5 are stored at the depot. The administrator contacted the Harbour Master who confirmed an approximate price of the chains, weights and rope. The committee proposed, once the costs are confirmed, for replacements to be considered at the next Finance and General Purposes meeting on 10 September 2024.

b) Beach Steps

Two steps have been repaired

c) Lookout Refurbishment

The scaffolding for the works is being put up on the 18 September, the works are commencing on 23 September

FS39.24 HAZARD & INCIDENT REPORT

a. Graffiti on river wall

It is still there from June but is fading

b. Ramp

A part of the bridge/ramp had come loose. The maintenance team have repaired

FS40.24 ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP ITEMS

a) Charmouth in Bloom

Cllr Bremner reported that the judging took place on 25th July. It was a very wet day and only one judge attended. We should hear the results in October.

b. Consider commissioning information plaque for the anthill area

As the information boards in the village and at the Foreshore are a success it was proposed by the Environment Group to have some boards on the West Cliff. There was a discussion on where to position the plaque, it was suggested by the millstone on a cairn. The committee agreed that the Environment Working Group pursue.

FS41.24 DISCUSSION ITEMS / TO BE NOTED

a) VE Day 8th May 2025

After a short discussion it was suggested that the scouts could be involved with a parade and the beacon at the beach possibly moved to another area and not on the cliff above Evans Green. The administrator will find out what the British Legion are doing on the day. The committee agreed this in principle. To discuss further at the next meeting.

b) Foreshore Toilets

Several emails have been received concerning the following issues:

(i) Gents washing facilities – The issue with the Wallgate hand washing facility is ongoing, the committee thanked the Facilities Manager for chasing Dorset Council and the cleaning contractors.

(ii) Cleaning - If any complaints are made at The Foreshore the maintenance team will ask people to make a complaint online at Dorset Council

c) Rubbish/Recycling – changes to legislation

It was agreed to wait for the legislation to be clearer.

d) Matts sculpture/handwork

The committee thanked Matt for his hard work and improving the area

e) New Binoculars

The committee agreed that new binoculars be purchased for the beach office from the car park maintenance budget at a cost of £178.33 plus VAT.

f) Transfer from car park takings to Youth and Non-Youth Charity Funds

It was agreed to allocate £1000 to the Youth fund and £500 to the Non-Youth fund to be approved at the next Finance and General Purposes meeting on 10 September 2024.

g) Budgets 2025/2026

The committee were asked to consider any items for inclusion prior to the draft budgets 2025/2026 for the October meeting.

h) Sparrows at The Foreshore

An email had been received with observations that the bird boxes on The Heritage Centre were not attracting any sparrows. Cllr Julie Leah explained that numbers are depleted. It was suggested to contact the RSPB for advice, the administrator will action.

FS42.24 COASTAL TRANSITION ACCELERATOR FUND

a) Wooden bridge/ramp to beach

It was confirmed that the wooden bridge/ramp has been included as part of the beach access proposal

FS43.24 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

a) Permissions

(i) Metal Detecting – 4 new permissions total is now 50

(ii) Fossil walk requests – a request had been received for around 10 fossil walks per year, the committee agreed

(iii) Fossil extractions – For Information the clerk has approved

(iv) Beach Clean – For information the clerk has approved

b. Observations at The Foreshore

An email received with observations regarding the Foreshore toilets, green beach huts, benches and the reed bed was noted

c. Dorset Coast Forum

Cllr Julie Leah confirmed that she would like to attend. The administrator will action

d. West Cliff

An email for information and photographs showing the area was looking better after the annual cut and attracting more butterflies

e. Boat Launching

Cllr Julie Leah spoke to the committee about boat launching and left the room.

Points raised and discussed included:

Risk assessment – boats cannot be safely launched as people are in the way

The launching area is not regularly flattened, if the tractor cannot do this can a contractor be asked?

Boats are not allowed to park on the beach – when was this decided?

The committee felt that a launching fee cannot be charged if the area is not suitable for launching

Further discussion will be required to establish a way forward

f. Price increase for software for Car Park Machine

Noted

g. Condition of the beach

An email sent via the Charmouth.org website was noted.

FS44.24 IN COMMITTEE

There were no items

Proposals to F & GP

FS38.24 (a) Swim Buoys replacement parts

FS41.24 (f) Youth and Non-Youth Charity Fund

The meeting closed at 7.57pm

Signed

Date