



John Wright  
Town Clerk

## Lyme Regis Town Council

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### Environment Committee

**Core Membership:** Cllr B. Bawden, Cllr S. Cockerell, Cllr B. Larcombe MBE, Cllr P. May, Cllr D. Ruffle, Cllr R. Smith, Cllr G. Stammers, Cllr G. Turner

Notice is given of a meeting of the Environment Committee to be held at the **Guildhall, Bridge Street, Lyme Regis** on Wednesday 5 July 2023 commencing **on the rise of the extraordinary Full Council meeting** when the following business is proposed to be transacted:

John Wright  
Town Clerk  
30.06.23

*The open and transparent proceedings of Full Council and committee meetings will be audio recorded and recordings will be held for one year by the town council.*

*If members of the public make a representation to the meeting, they will be deemed to have consented to being audio recorded.*

*If members of the public have any queries regarding audio recording of meetings, please contact the town clerk.*

Members are reminded that in reaching decisions they should take into consideration the town council's decision to declare a climate emergency and ambition to become carbon neutral by 2030 and beyond.

### AGENDA

#### 1. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

To allow the committee to receive nominations and elect its chairman and vice-chairman for the council year 2023/24

#### 2. Terms of Reference

To allow the committee to receive its terms of reference

**3. Public Forum**

Twenty minutes will be made available for public comment and response in relation to items on this agenda

*Individuals will be permitted a maximum of three minutes each to address the committee*

**4. Apologies**

To receive and record apologies and reasons for absence

**5. Minutes**

To confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on 3 May 2023

**6. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Members are reminded that if they have a disclosable pecuniary interest on their register of interests relating to any item on the agenda they are prevented from participating in any discussion or voting on that matter at the meeting and to do so would amount to a criminal offence. Similarly if you are or become aware of a disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter under consideration at this meeting which is not on your register of interests or is in the process of being added to your register you must disclose such interest at this meeting and register it within 28 days.
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**7. Dispensations**

To note the grant of dispensations made by the town clerk in relation to the business of this meeting.

**8. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held on 3 May 2023**

To update members on matters arising from the previous meeting that are not dealt with elsewhere on this agenda and to allow members to seek further information on issues raised within the minutes of the previous meeting.

**9. Update Report**

To inform members about progress on significant environmental developments

**10. River Lim Action Group Report**

To receive a report from the River Lim Action group

**11. Bathing Water Quality Meeting 3**

To present the minutes of the third bathing water quality meeting

**12. Climate Emergency Mindset**

To present a report on climate emergency mindset

**13. Exempt Business**

**Committee:** Environment

**Date:** 5 July 2023

**Title:** Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

**Purpose of Report**

To allow the committee to receive nominations and elect its chairman and vice-chairman for the council year 2023/24

**Recommendation**

- a) The committee receives nominations for the chairman of this committee and elects its chairman for the council year 2023/24
- b) The committee receives nominations for the vice-chairman of this committee and elects its vice-chairman for the council year 2023/24

**Background**

- 1. The terms of reference for the council's committee structure state each committee will elect its chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership.
- 2. Consequently, nominations are sought for the chairman and the vice-chairman of this committee.
- 3. The relevant standing orders that inform and govern the election of chairmen and vice-chairmen are detailed below.
- 4. Standing order 3.t states:

'Unless standing orders provide otherwise, voting on any question shall be by a show of hands. At the request of a councillor, the voting on any question shall be recorded so as to show whether each councillor present and voting gave their vote for or against that question. Such a request shall be made before moving on to the next item of business on the agenda. If at least two members request, voting may be by signed ballot.'

- 5. Standing order 8.a states:

'Where more than two persons have been nominated for a position to be filled by the council and none of those persons has received an absolute majority of votes in their favour, the name of the person having the least number of votes shall be struck off the list and a fresh vote taken. This process shall continue until a majority of votes is given in favour of one person. A tie in votes may be settled by the casting vote exercisable by the chairman of the meeting.'

6. Standing order 8.b. states:

‘As the first business of a council is to elect a chairman (the mayor in the case of Lyme Regis Town Council) who is also an ex-officio voting member of all committees, they are in a position to open and chair a sub-committee meeting temporarily, with the benefit of a casting vote, until a committee chairman is elected. In the Mayor’s absence, the Deputy Mayor could officiate in the same way, The town clerk or other officer cannot open or chair a committee or sub-committee meeting.

7. The election of the chairman and vice-chairman of the Environment Committee will be reported to the Full Council on 26 July 2023.

John Wright  
Town clerk  
July 2023

**Committee:** Environment

**Date:** 5 July 2023

**Title:** Terms of Reference

**Purpose**

To allow the committee to receive its terms of reference

**Recommendation**

The committee receives its terms of reference

**Background**

1. The terms of reference for the Environment Committee, along with the general terms of reference that apply to all the council's committees is attached, **appendix 2A**.
2. Any recommendations from this committee will be considered by the Full Council on 26 July 2023.

John Wright  
Town clerk  
July 2023

**Terms of Reference**

**2. Committees – General**

- 2.1 The purpose of the council's committees is to consider issues under their remit. Issues will normally be outlined in a report prepared by officers and each report will normally include a recommendation.
- 2.2 Any recommendation(s) from a council committee will be considered at the subsequent meeting of the Full Council. Any decision or recommendation from a council committee has no status until it has been adopted by the Full Council by way of a resolution. This is unless a committee has devolved powers, i.e. Planning in respect of making recommendations direct to Dorset Council on planning applications.
- 2.3 Each committee will:
  - 2.3.1 Elect its chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership;
  - 2.3.2 Confirm the accuracy of the minutes of the last committee meeting;
  - 2.3.3 Agree and review the terms of reference for sub-committees, working or advisory groups that report to the committee;
  - 2.3.4 Receive nominations to existing sub-committees, working or advisory groups that report to the committee;
  - 2.3.5 Elect chairmen and vice-chairmen to existing sub-committees, working or advisory groups that report to the committee;
  - 2.3.6 Appoint any new sub-committees, working or advisory groups, confirmation of their terms of reference, the number of members (including, if appropriate, substitute councillors), receipt of nominations and the election of chairmen and vice-chairmen to them;
  - 2.3.7 To examine on behalf of the council various policies, strategies and plans relating to its subject area and to report these to the Full Council;
  - 2.3.8 To undertake reviews or policy development tasks in relation to any matters falling within the remit of the committee;
  - 2.3.9 To work with other relevant committees of the council where an area of work is shared with that committee.
- 2.4 Council-approved projects and objectives will be delegated to the relevant committee.
- 2.5 No business may be transacted at a committee meeting of the Full Council unless at least one third of the whole number of members of the committee are present and in no case shall the quorum of a meeting be less than three.

#### **4. Environment Committee**

4.1 The purpose of the Environment Committee is to:

4.1.1 Research and advise the council on environmental issues.

4.1.2 Consult external bodies on environmental issues.

4.1.3 Make recommendations on the council's policy on environmental issues.

4.1.4 To identify and monitor progress against environmental objectives.

4.1.5 To contain spend to approved budget.

4.2 Up to six non-members may sit on the committee, with no more than two people from one organisation. Non-members will not have voting rights.

**LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL**

**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3 MAY 2023**

**Present**

**Chairman:** Cllr R. Smith

**Members:** Cllr B. Bawden, Cllr B. Larcombe, Cllr P. May, Cllr D. Ruffle, Cllr D. Sarson, Cllr G. Stammers

**Officers:** M. Adamson-Drage (operations manager), A. Mullins (support services manager)

**Guests:** L. Davis and V. Elcoate (River Lim Action Group)

**22/62/ENV Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present.

**22/63/ENV Apologies**

Cllr G. Turner

**22/64/ENV Minutes**

Proposed by Cllr B. Larcombe and seconded by Cllr P. May, the minutes of the meeting held on 15 March 2023, were **ADOPTED**.

**22/65/ENV Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Cllr P. May declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 10, River Lim Action Group Report, as he was a member of the group.

Cllr B. Bawden declared non-pecuniary interests in the same agenda item for the same reason.

**22/66/ENV Dispensations**

There were none.

**22/67/ENV Matters arising from the previous meeting held on 15 March 2023**

**Proposed budget for Invertebrate Garden**

Cllr B. Larcombe asked if it was necessary to wait until next year to plant the garden and if it could be done in the autumn this year.

Cllr P. May said it had been agreed with the operations supervisor to plant wildflower seeds this year because they could go in before the growing season.



## **Designation of Church Cliff Beach as a Bathing Beach**

V. Elcoate and L. Davis, from the River Lim Action Group (RLAG), were invited to speak.

V. Elcoate said RLAG had launched its redesignation campaign. They had held a meeting with seafront businesses and watersports' associations to discuss with them a number of issues, including drains and water quality, and asked them to get behind the campaign, of which they were very supportive. She said they had to get support from all the associated landowners and Dorset Council (DC) had formally given its support.

V. Elcoate said the group had to do a water users' survey from 15 May 2023, when they would be counting people on the beach on the busy days and then submitting data for 20 days over the bathing season to demonstrate the water use requirement. She said they had opened a public consultation to seek support for the application and asked if the town council could help publicise the link to the online survey.

Cllr B. Larcombe said he supported the redesignation but he was concerned dogs were allowed on Church Cliff Beach, so the group may need to think about the impact of this. He said the beach was also the least safe beach in Lyme Regis, especially if people swam around the corner, and he suggested this was taken up with the RNLI lifeguard service by the council.

The operations manager said the RNLI would be attending the next Town Management and Highways Committee meeting so this could be raised then.

L. Davis said the group had spoken to three swimming groups, the RNLI and the harbour users' group and despite any concerns, people still felt on balance redesignation should be pursued.

Members agreed the council would publicise the link RLAG's public consultation and circulate the link in any communications sent out to the community.

## **22/68/ENV Update Report**

### **Front Beach**

L. Davis was invited to speak.

Cllr R. Smith asked if the drains behind and in front of the Royal Standard could be unblocked.

L. Davis said the drains were blocked when the sandy beach was created, so the storm water went into the gullies and blocked them up. She said the problem had been identified so this was a start and gullies were the responsibility of DC Highways.

Cllr B. Bawden said she would follow this up with DC Highways.

Cllr R. Smith asked if anyone was doing anything to resolve the sewage drain cracks at the Cobb Arms.

L. Davis said following a CCTV camera survey in front of the Royal Standard and SWiM, this would hopefully establish where sewage was leaking further down. Once this had been identified, she said someone would have to take responsibility for it.

Cllr R. Smith asked what the discharge system for storm water drains in this area would be.

L. Davis said as the storm water drains were blocked, the only solution might be to put them into sewage pipes so it would go back to the Cobb pumping station. She said she couldn't see where else it could discharge to.

Cllr S. Cockerell said it sounded like a re-design of the whole system was needed as since the drains were put in, hundreds more houses had been built.

Cllr D. Sarson asked if the results of the tests on the dredged sediment from the harbour were available yet.

L. Davis said she had been in correspondence with the DC engineer responsible for this and he confirmed they did get the results on 28 April 2023. He said the results looked satisfactory but he needed further clarification and would then share them.

### **Updates from Community Organisations**

Cllr B. Bawden gave the following updates:

- The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) had set up a new climate emergency network and she was involved in the place-based initiative.
- The Community Energy Champions were hosting a workshop on Friday 5 May 2023 about energy efficiency in partnership with the Centre for Sustainable Energy.
- The Community Energy Champions and the champions from the Citizens' Advice Bureau had a joint stall at the May Fete in Lyme Regis.
- NALC were hosting a webinar on 24 May 2023 on what town and parish councils can do on climate action.
- The Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils were continuing their Working Together webinars, including one with Dorset Council about natural environment, climate and ecology and the recording was available.
- Recordings would be available from planning webinars, which included information about latest decisions and best practice on things like street design and incorporating green and blue infrastructure.

### **22/69/ENV Bathing Water Quality Meeting**

The chairman moved this item forward on the agenda.

Cllr R. Smith asked if the Fats, Oils and Greases (FOG) environmental compliance campaign was underway and if there had been any feedback from local businesses.

The operations manager said this would be followed up at the next meeting.

Cllr P. May said the bathing water quality meetings were a very important initiative and the council should continue to participate in any way it can because it was in its interests to have a successful outcome.

Cllr R. Smith asked if the council had had a reply from the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to the letter supporting the Church Cliff Beach redesignation.

Cllr P. May said a response wasn't expected; it would just be noted the council was in support of the redesignation.

## **22/70/ENV River Lim Action Group Report**

The chairman moved this item forward on the agenda and invited V. Elcoate to speak.

V. Elcoate said the RLAG had received the sewage data for 2022, showing discharge into the River Lim had tripled, which wasn't what they were expecting. Most of the sewage was coming from the Uplyme sewage station works' overflow and at Jericho where a small pipe was putting untreated sewage into the river. She said they had questioned the data as the overflow at Cobb Gate had shown a massive decrease and the Environment Agency was looking into it.

V. Elcoate said there had been a lot of activity from South West Water; they had resolved the issue at Windsor Terrace and were still trying to resolve the issue at Woodmead Road where there were high levels of ammonia. She said there were serious problems at the Town Mill and the trustees had taken this up with South West Water, who would send CCTV contractors to find out what the issue was.

V. Elcoate said South West Water had put £20million in their budget for 2025 to spend on the River Lim and sewage treatment works but she felt the funding could be brought forward to 2024 as they were clearly in breach of their legal obligations. She said the RLAG had written to them asking questions under the Freedom of Information Act but as a town council could request that the funding is brought forward, this would add more weight.

Cllr R. Smith asked if there was a mechanism for making the request to South West Water.

V. Elcoate said local communities could put ideas forward through South West Water's WaterFit scheme but the council could also write to the chief executive. She suggested the council could also write to the communications team and cite the WaterFit initiative.

Proposed by Cllr P. May and seconded by Cllr D. Sarson, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** that the council writes to South West Water to urge them to invest in 2024-25 to help solve the severe impacts caused by sewage in the River Lim at the earliest possible opportunity.

Cllr B. Bawden asked if South West Water's investment included work on the seafront.

V. Elcoate said she believed the investment was only for the river. She also updated on the Riverfly training, which the council said it would pay for if funding could not be found elsewhere; the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty had provided funding and the training would start on 25 May 2023.

## **22/71/ENV Environment Policy Review**

Cllr P. May suggested a working group was set up to look at other policies and formulate a policy to be brought back to this committee for consideration.

Cllr B. Larcombe said he didn't see a lot wrong with the current policy as all it needed to do was set out the council's aims and any details and timescales would then be outlined in separate documents and tied in with the council's objectives.

Cllr P. May felt the current policy was lacking as it didn't mention the path to zero carbon or carbon literacy training or the kinds of things other councils comparable to this council had included in theirs. He said the policy needed to be relevant to Lyme Regis,

Proposed by Cllr P. May and seconded by Cllr B. Larcombe, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to set up a working group to formulate an Environment Policy for consideration by the Environment Committee and to appoint Cllrs P. May, B. Larcombe, B. Bawden, D. Ruffle and S. Cockerell to the working group.

## **22/72/ENV Local Energy Clubs**

Cllr R. Smith said if the town council was putting solar panels on assets, he would like members to be aware of the Energy Local Club model. He explained the concept to members and said Totnes Town Council was in the process of launching this by putting solar panels on its town hall with a view to launching an Energy Local Club in its community. He said he would like to see how it goes in Totnes and then this council could discuss it further.

Cllr R. Smith clarified that an Energy Local Club was different to a community energy project.

*The meeting closed at 8.17pm.*

**Committee:** Environment

**Date:** 5 July 2023

**Title:** Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held on 03 May 2023

**Purpose of Report**

To update members on matters arising from the previous meeting that are not dealt with elsewhere on this agenda and to allow members to seek further information on issues raised within the minutes of the previous meeting.

**Recommendation**

Members note the report and raise any other issues on the minutes of the previous meeting that they require further information on.

**Report**

**22/70/ENV – River Lim Action Group Report**

A letter was written from the council to South West Water to urge them to invest in 2024-25 to help solve the severe impacts caused by sewage in the River Lim. In response, South West Water have agreed to bring forward funding into the next financial year.

**22/71/ENV – Environment Policy Review**

A date for the first meeting of the Environment Policy review working group has been set as Monday 24 July at 11am in the council office. Members of the working group are Cllr May, Cllr Bawden, Cllr Larcombe, Cllr Ruffle and Cllr Cockerell.

Matt Adamson-Drage  
Operations manager  
May 2023

**Committee:** Environment

**Date:** 5 July 2023

**Title:** Update Report

### **Purpose of the Report**

To inform members about progress on significant environmental developments

### **Report**

#### **Updates from Community Organisations**

Members of any local community organisations present at the meeting will be asked if they wish to update the committee on their initiatives. A maximum of three minutes will be allowed for each organisation to present to the committee.

#### **Round Britain eRIB project**

Jaqui Besley has been in touch this week. The eRIB has still not come off the production line as the propulsion system for the boat has only just passed through customs. Unfortunately, this means she is reluctantly having to delay the record attempt until next summer. A press release has been issued and will be shared on the council's platforms.

#### **Environment pages on the town council website**

The support services manager will be working from home one day a week to be able to complete the environment pages.

#### **Business Briefing – Environmental credentials/initiatives**

The former chairman has asked if we could highlight the environmental credentials and initiatives of local businesses in the Business Briefing to encourage others to think greener. The community engagement assistant will action this if the businesses forward details.

#### **Next agenda setting meeting**

Members are encouraged to forward agenda ideas to the chairman for the next agenda setting meeting. This is expected to be held on Thursday 21 September 2023 for the next calendared meeting on 4 October 2023.

#### **Carbon Literacy Organisation Accreditation**

The application for silver level (and bronze) accreditation was submitted by the operations manager on 25 April 2023. At the time of writing the Carbon Literacy Organisation had just replied and had requested some further detail for the application. This will be progressed as soon as possible.

#### **Transit Route for boots/hooves/wheels/mobility scooters etc**

Winston Maskell (Chideock resident) is attempting to create an east/west - west/east transit route for boots/hooves/wheels/mobility scooters etc. for residents and tourists alike. The Dorset Council ward

member, Cllr Bawden, has supported the idea and some more details on the project are available at appendices 9A and B. Winston hopes members can see the benefit such a route would provide.

Matt Adamson-Drage  
Operations manager  
July 2023

FAO Clerks to:  
Bridport and Lyme Regis TCs and  
Charmouth, Catherston Leweston, Char Valley  
Chideock, Symondsburry, and Bradpole PCs.  
And all Elected Members.  
Cc. Simon Christopher Chris Loder MP  
D. Coates, W. Grafton, and C. Allen

Dear Clerks and Elected Members,

**Re: Bridport to Lyme Link (BLLINK).**

In 2020, I made an enquiry to Dorset Council, requesting they look at the problem of the narrow, dangerous, section of the A35 leading east from the village to the old London Inn with the hope that a cycle lane could be provided. I was advised to initially make representation to my Parish Council. This, with the assistance of three other residents, evolved into the formation of the Chideock Path to Bridport group (CPTB). Further contacts/discussions etc. made us aware that CPTB was too narrow a focus, looking to benefit a small number of people. We looked again at this and then came up with the idea that a designated, and recognisable trail could connect from National Cycle Route 2 (NCR 2) at Bradpole in the east, leading west towards Lyme Regis passing through the parishes of Bridport, Symondsburry, Chideock, Catherston Leweston, and Char Valley. This 'trail', along its route, would connect again with NCR2 in the west at Whitchurch Canonicorum and then lead on to Charmouth and Lyme Regis.

The purpose of this trail is to offer a west/east-east/west route for walkers, runners, cyclists, families, wheelchair/mobility scooter users and horse riders away from the dangerous elements of the A35.

**The majority of this route could be achieved by using the existing infrastructure.**

**The missing links are in the parishes of Chideock and Symondsburry.**

All of our supporters - local and nationwide- residents and visitors, are unanimous in their view that this is a solid idea and, with the need to leave the car, take more



exercise etc. feel it should be implemented immediately. Also, our supporters in the business/tourist community are fully behind this.

The route has been walked and the description and comments are in the attached document "Route description".

N.B. I must apologise firstly: - For not including the parishes of Catherston Leweston and Char Valley in previous correspondence, I was not aware of locations of the parish boundaries (still not 100% sure).

And secondly: - The quality of the map in the attached document, I'm working on trying to get a better copy.

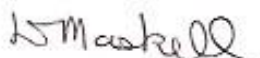
We are aware that those parishes that have been kept informed support the idea in principle and we greatly appreciate their support. In the Route Description document you will see that a planning application to construct a new Public Right of Way (ProW) in Chideock has, just recently, been submitted. Our feelings are that this project should now be a matter of serious discussion, within the affected parishes, eventually bringing about its conclusion.

I have, very recently, been informed of the "Slow Ways" scheme which is creating a network of walking routes that connect all of Britain's towns, cities, and national parks. An excellent scheme and, in looking at the on-line information, I would suggest that this route could certainly be included within the "Slow Ways" map. I recommend you visit the site and make your own judgement.

<https://beta.slowways.org/>

I would welcome any opportunity to speak with you on this, please feel free to contact me.

Yours faithfully,




Winston Maskell 3 June 2023.


**BLLINK - Route description (From Lyme to Bridport)****TCs and PCs on route.**


Lyme Regis Town Council Clerk	<a href="mailto:john.wright@lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk">john.wright@lymeregistowncouncil.gov.uk</a>
Charmouth Parish Council Clerk	<a href="mailto:clerk@charmouthparishcouncil.gov">clerk@charmouthparishcouncil.gov</a>
Catherston Leweston Parish Council Clerk	<a href="mailto:michael@millhousemelbourn.co.uk">michael@millhousemelbourn.co.uk</a>
Char Valley Parish Council Clerk	<a href="mailto:charvalley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk">charvalley@dorset-aptc.gov.uk</a>
Chideock Parish Council Clerk	<a href="mailto:chideock@dorset-aptc.gov.uk">chideock@dorset-aptc.gov.uk</a>
Symondsburry Parish Council Clerk	<a href="mailto:clerk@symondsburry-pc.gov.uk">clerk@symondsburry-pc.gov.uk</a>
Bridport Town Council Clerk	<a href="mailto:enquiries@bridport-tc.gov.uk">enquiries@bridport-tc.gov.uk</a>
Bradpole Parish Council Clerk	<a href="mailto:bradpole@dorset-aptc.gov.uk">bradpole@dorset-aptc.gov.uk</a>
<u>Loders PC (Dave Cannon)</u>	<a href="mailto:david.cannon33@btinternet.com">david.cannon33@btinternet.com</a>


## Bridport to Lyme Link (BLLINK) Route Description.



Planning application submitted 

Route 

Options 

New PROW required 

## Description.

### Lyme Regis to Charmouth (Berne Lane).

Go north on the A3052 Church Street/Charmouth Road, turn west on Timber Hill, and follow until re-joining the A3052, continuing to the roundabout junction A3052/A35/Axminster Road.

Take the Axminster Road - south-west/west down through Charmouth to where the road becomes The Street.

**Note: Turning north on Green Pit Knapp would lead to connecting with National Cycle Route 2 (NCR 2).**

From The Street continue into Berne Lane and to where it crosses the A35.

**This leg requires no addition to the existing infrastructure other than a safe crossing point to be provided where Berne Lane crosses the A35.**

### Berne Lane to Whitchurch Canonorum X roads Becklands Lane/Goodens Hill.

This would connect to NCR 2 in Whitchurch Canon Canonorum

**Existing infrastructure.**

### Whitchurch C. to Carters Lane Morecombelake.

There are two options:

1. Lower Street through Whitchurch C. - Ryall Road to Star Lane Morecombelake, junction with Carter's Lane.

**Existing infrastructure.**

2. From the X roads Goodens Hill/Tizard's Knapp junction A35. Through Morecombelake to junction A35/Charter's Lane.

**Existing infrastructure. The A35 through Morecombelake is quite wide, traffic is within a 40mph. zone and vision is good. There are wide pavements and 2 X pedestrian controlled crossing points permitting safe crossing of the main road. There is, probably, sufficient width for a cycle lane to be provided.**

**Carter's Lane to Park Farm, Chideock.**

East down carter's Lane to junction with North Road. South along North Road to junction with A35 at the Church in Chideock.

East along Main Street/A35 to Park Farm entrance at the east end of the village. Here is where the pavement on the north side ends.

**Existing infrastructure. Not ideal, but no other options. This section of the A35 is wider than what it becomes eastwards from beyond Park Farm. It is within a 30mph zone and vision is good.**

**Park Farm to junction Quarr Lane/west Road (A35)/Eype Down Road.**

A new PROW to be provided allowing users to transit without having to use the very narrow, limited forward vision, A35. This PROW to run parallel to the A35 and terminates at the small car park at the top of the hill.

**A planning application has been submitted for this new PROW by the land-owners.**

### **Quarr Lane to Symondsburry and/or Miles Cross.**

There is not the option of being able to continue eastwards to the old London Inn. To avoid users crossing the main road at the A35/Quarr Lane/Eype Down Road X roads, a route, east, connecting from Quarr Lane to the B3162/Miles Cross to Symondsburry road would be desirable. The alternative would be to continue north along Quarr Lane, now a bridleway, to its junction with Hell Lane and Shute's Lane, west and then south on Shute's Lane would lead into Symondsburry. (Indicated by highlight on map above - sorry - does not show very bright).

**Engineering would be required from where the metalled road ends in Quarr Lane to its junction with Shute's Lane and the top part of Shute's Lane to make this 'all-purpose'. It would be preferable to be able to come across the land south of Colmers Hill to the Symondsburry Road, this would give good access to Symondsburry/Bridport or Miles Cross/Eype West bay.**

### **Symondsburry/Miles Cross east to Bridport NCR 2.**

The existing infrastructure in this section is in place including cycle-lanes/trails etc. in and around Bridport. It would be an easy task for Bridport Town council to designate which way the trail should go to link up with NCR 2 at Bradpole.



**A safe, north/south, crossing point needs to be provided at Miles Cross with consideration given to utilising New street Lane and its connection to the Eype Picnic area and access to West Bay and Eype.**

To achieve a trail that would be either traffic-free or away from the A35 the key is for the Chideock planning permission to be approved and the new PROW constructed. From that it would be not at all onerous for the adjoining Town and Parish councils to make the links to form a 'designated trail' providing a much safer east/west-west/east transit route connecting Bridport and Lyme Regis, and the communities along the route.

See <https://beta.slowways.org/>

Winston Maskell 3 June 2023.

**Committee:** Environment

**Date:** 5 July 2023

**Title:** River Lim Action Group Report

**Purpose of Report**

To receive a report from the River Lim Action group

**Recommendation**

Members consider the River Lim Action Group report

**Report**

1. The River Lim Action Group's latest report is at **appendix 10A**.
2. Any recommendations from this committee will be considered by the Full Council on 26 July 2023.

Vicki Elcoate  
River Lim Action Group  
July 2023

Matt Adamson-Drage  
Operations manager



River Lim Action group report to LRTC Environment Committee July 5<sup>th</sup> 2023

### **1. Good News – South West Water application to fast track Lyme Regis investment programme**

At the last Environment Committee meeting the RLA group asked the Town Council to get behind its efforts to get South West Water to fast track promised investment to clean up the River Lim. We were very pleased to find out in May that this was successful and that SWW will be applying to Ofwat to allow the advance funding this autumn. The amount previously mentioned was £20m – the RLA has asked if this is a cap or if there is scope for further funds should this prove insufficient.

The investment programme includes:

- Increasing storm storage at Uplyme Sewage Treatment works
- Improvements to storm overflows
- Control and instrumentation improvements at Horn Bridge, with the aim of reducing spills “towards the target of 10 spills per annum”
- New screens at Gosling Bridge and Mill Lane
- Surface water separation activities in the network to reduce volumes of storm water reaching the Sewage Treatment Works

There will be a public consultation on the construction works needed.

The RLA is due to meet SWW’s Chief Operating Officer in July to discuss this further and another issue about sewage release data (see below). The RLA has done media work welcoming this good news and Chris Loder MP says he will write to Ofwat asking for their support.

### **2. Media coverage**

There has been intense media interest in the state of the River Lim following the news of the trebling of sewage releases into the river in 2022 and the ecological plight of the river. It was used as an example to highlight widespread problems of under investment and sewage pollution by ITN at the start of the bathing season in May.

There was national coverage in various publications including the Mail Online, the Times, the Telegraph, Independent and on local radio. Lyme Online has been covering the river’s issues for some time so it was rewarding to see the national press catching up! We have also had visits from Swiss Radio and the French publication Le Figaro. Although the high level of media attention was challenging to deal with it prompted a call from the SWW Chief Operating Officer asking to meet, and the news followed soon afterwards about the investment fast track. Hopefully our next round of press interest will focus on good news about a cleaner river.

### **3. Data on sewage overflows**

In the last set of Environmental Information Regulations replies we received, SWW said it had overstated the hours of sewage discharge into the river in 2022. We had queried the figures which were out of line with the national trend – in particular the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) at Jericho which apparently discharged for over 600 hours (despite that not being observed). SWW now says that was overstated by 50%. The RLA has asked for the actual data and also for a check on the other CSOs, some of which demonstrated a significant reduction in overflow hours. The data needs to be reliable.

### **4. Church Beach redesignation**

We now have well over 200 respondents to the public consultation, 98% of them in favour. The consultation is still running online and at various events we attend in person. ***It would be helpful if the Town Council could continue to promote it.***

We now have the written support of South West Water to add to the messages of support.

The water quality on Church Beach was improved when the RLA E.Coli team tested it in June. The Environment Agency is carrying out weekly monitoring on Front Beach, which is so far clear of bacterial pollution.

## **5. Seafront drains**

Most of the update on this is covered in the notes from the meeting on June 14<sup>th</sup>. Since then South West Water have confirmed that they have fixed the defects discovered on Marine Parade. The RLA has thanked them.

Dorset Council has now confirmed that it is most likely responsible for the problematic drains contaminating the Front Beach groyne. It is looking into specialist contractors to fix this.

These meetings are so helpful to secure progress with the various stakeholders and we're grateful to the Town Council for facilitating them.

## **6. Monitoring**

The Riverfly Monitors have had their training and will start monitoring seven sites from July. These have been chosen to complement the sites being monitored by the ecologist for the survey which the Town Council has funded. Invertebrates are a good indicator of long term ecological health and we look forward to seeing improvements as the river gets cleaned up (South West Water says we should already be able to detect this thanks to improvements it has made at the sewage treatment works).

## **7. Woodmead Road**

Finally – the pipe at the Woodmead Road bridge that started it all for the River Lim monitors. It continues to discharge smelly effluent – at times blue and occasionally actual poo. The RLA and other residents report this on a regular basis and SWW attend in response, but still no solution. At the last time of asking they said they were investigating more properties. We now think enough time has gone by (several years) and the pipe should be plumbed into the sewage system, as it's a sewer and has no permit.

It would be helpful if the Town Council could write to South West Water (and ask the Environment Agency to support the request) asking for that course of action to be taken at the earliest opportunity (not to wait for the Ofwat decision, as this is illegal pollution).

**Committee:** Environment

**Date:** 5 July 2023

**Title:** Bathing Water Quality Meeting 3

**Purpose of Report**

To present the minutes of the third bathing water quality meeting

**Recommendation**

Members note the report

**Report**

1. The third bathing water quality meeting took place on 14 June 2023 and the minutes are at **appendix 11A**.
2. The meetings continue to be productive and both the Environment Agency and South West Water are fully engaged in the process and are actioning issues that are brought to their attention in a timely fashion. The River Lim Action Group are to be commended for their tenacious, yet supportive and productive approach to these meetings.
3. There is a long way to go to clean the river up, but everyone involved would agree that working together in this way, productively with the key agencies, is having a positive effect.
4. The next meeting date is to be decided but is expected to be in mid to late September.
5. Any recommendations from this committee will be considered by the Full Council on 26 July 2023.

Matt Adamson-Drage  
Operations manager  
July 2023

**LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL**

**ENVIRONMENT AGENCY, SOUTH WEST WATER/PENNON GROUP, DORSET COUNCIL  
HIGHWAYS & LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL BATHING WATER QUALITY MEETING**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14 JUNE 2023  
AT 12PM IN THE LYME REGIS GUILDHALL**

**Chairman & Secretary:** Matt Adamson-Drage, Lyme Regis Town Council operations manager

**Members:**

Jim Flory, Environment Agency Area Environment Manager – Hampshire Avon;  
Chris Angel, Environment Agency Area Officer  
Alan Burrows, South West Water - Director of Environmental Liaison and Culture;  
Vicky Garner, Pennon Group - Community and Partnerships Manager;  
Helen Dobby, South West Water – Director of Bioresources  
Jay Harris, South West Water – Regional Operations Manager  
Paul McNie, South West Water – Waste Water Environment Manager  
Tristan Kelsall-Spurr, South West Water – Senior Environmental Manager  
Blair Turner, Dorset Council Community Highways Officer;  
Cllr Belinda Bawden, Dorset Councillor for Lyme Regis and Charmouth & Lyme Regis Town Councillor;  
Cllr Rob Smith, Chairman of Lyme Regis Town Council Environment Committee (joined on Teams);  
Cllr Philip May, Deputy Chairman of Lyme Regis Town Council Environment Committee;  
Vicki Elcoate, Lyme Regis River Lim Action group.  
Liz Davis, Lyme Regis River Lim Action group.  
Graham Roberts, River Lim Action group co-ordinator and ecologist

**Apologies**

Alan Burrows, South West Water - Director of Environmental Liaison and Culture;  
Cllr Rob Smith, Chairman of Lyme Regis Town Council Environment Committee;  
Cllr Philip May, Deputy Chairman of Lyme Regis Town Council Environment Committee;  
Vicki Elcoate, Lyme Regis River Lim Action group.

**Purpose of Meeting**

The meeting was convened from a council resolution through a recommendation of the Lyme Regis Town Council Environment Committee. This was to ask all relevant parties to come around the table to discuss solutions for potential poor bathing water quality on Front beach. The inaugural meeting was held 14 December 2022. The meetings are held quarterly.

**ITEM 1. INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting commenced with introductions around the table as they were a few new members.

**ITEM 2. MINUTES**

Minutes of the previous meeting were seen fit as a true record.

**ITEM 3. MATTERS ARISING**

Matters Arising from 15 March 2023 meeting:

Actions:

*a. Water Quality Noticeboard move to the beach – **LRTC***

The operations manager reported that he was unsure of ownership of the bathing water quality noticeboard between Dorset Council and Lyme Regis Town Council. He was still attempting to contact the harbourmaster to discuss moving the board.

**Action LRTC**

*b. Investigate gully blockages beach side of the Royal Standard pub/Harbour Inn – **DC Highways***

The gully appears to be blocked where the beach has been built up. Investigations will be conducted at the most appropriate opportunity. This may need to be passed to DC engineers.

**Action DC Highways**

*c. Drains locations at the west end of the seafront investigation through the DC Assets Team – **DC Highways***

Work was ongoing to establish responsibilities for some seafront drains.

**Action DC Highways**

*d. Outcomes following SWW CCTV surveys of the sewers at the west end of the seafront – **SWW***

SWW had surveyed all the sewers and were working to solve the issues discovered. This work was due to complete shortly.

*e. Possibility of Monmouth Beach Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) shortening and deterioration having an adverse impact – **EA***

Jim Flory said that all the correct modelling had been conducted when shortening the CSO was decided. It was unlikely that shortening the CSO had resulted in the problems reported by Liz Davis - the CSO had been discharging but the Event Duration Monitor had not recorded this.

**Action SWW**

*f. Progress on the River Fly monitoring collaboration between - **River Lim Action group and the EA***

RLA group had recently received some training and they were working with the EA to set base lines and parameters.

*g. Ongoing work to provide beach user numbers for the designation of Church Cliff beach – **River Lim Action group***

Work is ongoing.

*h. Uplyme Sewage Works upgrades due to the amount of overflow? And RLA visit to sewage works report – **SWW and River Lim Action group***

SWW have brought forward some funding intended for 2024/25 to this financial year to help address these issues.

**ITEM 4. DRAIN & SEWER CCTV INSPECTIONS**

Drain and Sewer CCTV inspections on the seafront / further actions/developments – SWW and DC Highways:

SWW were today repairing the four defects outside the Royal Standard public house which were identified by the SWW CCTV investigations requested by the RLA.

Where there is a potential sewage problem, Jim Flory said that microbial source tracking (MST) could be employed to establish if contaminants are from a human source.

#### **ITEM 5. WATER FIT LIVE – UPDATE**

Vicky Garner explained the roll out of Water Fit Live. She also confirmed that four Sonde's had been deployed by the EA for SWW in the river for hourly monitoring. Specific sites were not known. Jim Flory explained that measurements of turbidity, conductivity, dissolved oxygen and ammonium could be obtained.

#### **ITEM 6. LATEST DATA FROM BATHING WATER QUALITY TESTING**

Jim Flory said the latest readings had shown below detectable levels. Liz Davis was convinced sewage in the form of ammonia was regularly coming from the end of the sandy beach groyne. Blair Turner agreed to investigate who owned the asset (storm water drain).

**Action DC Highways**

#### **ITEM 7. HARBOUR DREDGING**

The sediment testing conducted did not show anything untoward. The town council had paid for additional testing for hydrocarbons.

It was generally agreed that the results of this testing were a positive outcome and that communication with the public was key to ensure it was well understood that the sand was safe.

There was some discussion about the legal requirement to test dredged sediment and which agency was responsible depended on whether it was to be deposited above or below the highwater mark (Marine Management Organisation).

#### **ITEM 8. LATEST RIVER LIM MONITORING REPORTS**

Latest River Lim monitoring reports and ecological study – River Lim Action group

Graham Roberts confirmed that the ecological study would be available to the committee later in the year.

Jim Flory wanted to make it clear that reports in the Press that the river was ecological dead were completely wrong. He said he was walking along the river today and saw dragon fly and trout and that ecology and bacteriological testing were two very different things.

#### **ITEM 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

a. Church Cliff beach redesignation: it was reported that although there is great local support and letters of support, swimmers are avoiding the area due to sewage contamination which will affect the recorded numbers of swimmers from that beach.

b. Liz Davis, RLA group, asked why the Anning Road pumping station was being emptied by tanker. SWW would investigate.

**Action SWW**

c. Liz Davis asked if the Uplyme sewage treatment works could have expanded capacity as it appeared not to be able to cope with the increase in population in the summer months.

d. Liz Davis asked for clarification on the funding schemes (shellfish funding / brought forward/transitional funding via OFWAT).

**Action SWW**

e. Liz Davis commented that the separation of storm water and sewage should be referred to in planning applications. Planning rules are set by government outwith of local authority control.

#### **ITEM 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

A date in September would be forwarded for consideration to the members in due course.

DRAFT

**Committee:** Environment

**Date:** 5 July 2023

**Title:** Climate Emergency Mindset

### **Purpose of Report**

To present a report on climate emergency mindset

### **Recommendation**

Members consider the report and instruct officers as required

### **Background**

1. This report comprises questions, information and thoughts from Cllr B. Bawden emailed to the operations manager on 26 June 2023. Footnotes are written by the operations manager.

### **Report**

2. Our challenge in LRTC is to change our mindset and act on our climate emergency.

How are we going to measure and monitor actions and changes?<sup>1</sup>

How are we going to influence our supply chain and our leaseholders and tenants?

When are we going to take the Carbon Literacy accreditation seriously?<sup>2</sup>

These are the challenges the Environment Committee needs to resolve, as well as supporting those groups and projects like 2030 Vision which is trying to draw everyone's attention to the need for action.

2. A discussion is required about what LRTC's role is in informing our tenants, leaseholders and the wider community about impending legislation which could affect them. For example:

- requirement to collect data on packaging and report to the environmental regulators
- new legally binding environmental targets on air quality, residual waste, marine protected areas, biodiversity and woodland came into force in January 2023
- Biodiversity Net Gain mandatory regulations expected in November 2023
- Restriction on the manufacture and use of perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) – forever chemicals e.g. restricting the use of fire-fighting foam
- Single-use plastics ban: plates, bowls, trays, containers, cutlery and balloon sticks. From 1 October 2023 businesses must no longer supply, sell or offer certain single-use plastic items in England.

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<sup>1</sup> As part of the Carbon Literacy accreditation application, a list of Key Performance Indicators (**appendix 12A**) have been established (such as Emissions to Air, Emissions to Land, Resource use, etc) and will be reviewed annually as part of council governance/corporate reporting. This year's figures will act as a baseline.

The Carbon Net Zero Plan progress towards the 2030 deadline is monitored by the operations manager and reported periodically to the Environment Committee.

<sup>2</sup> LRTC has not received Carbon Literacy accreditation. The application for Silver Level (incorporating Bronze level) is in, further information has been requested and sent, and we are waiting to hear from them.



3. The Nature Recovery, Climate and Ecological Strategy for Dorset Council (DC), the Planning and Sustainability Checklist and Listed buildings guidance were out to public consultation. LRTC's view on these was only to say that the form was not user-friendly enough. Until the public feedback has been analysed and fed into the final documents, I don't think there's anything to report from DC.
4. Essentially, I am very pleased that DC is moving forward with re-engineering their entire operation to adapt to and mitigate against the climate and biodiversity emergencies but they could and should do more and faster.
5. I attended a Rewilding Walk and Talk for Dorset councillors today (26 June 2023) at Wild Woodbury. There are lots of good ideas we could adapt and I've also got examples of signage from other places.
6. Any recommendations from this committee will be considered by the Full Council on 26 July 2023.

Cllr Belinda Bawden  
July 2023

## Lyme Regis Town Council Key Performance Indicators 2022

### Emissions to Air:

Vehicle emissions (CO<sub>2</sub> is calculated under fuel below)

HF72 BNE - Hi Sun Vector 4x4 electric ATV – purchased 2022

WG19 USB - L200 Dbl cab with tipper – diesel - purchased 2022

Mileage: 61,598 at purchase - 12 Dec 2022

MT69 FCJ - EP AMP small electric vehicle with cage – purchased 2019

DN62 XWL – L200 with tipper – diesel - purchased 2017

Mileage in 12mths: 3,184 miles CO<sub>2</sub> is calculated under fuel below

FH16 FFU – Ford Courier small van – petrol - purchased 2016

Mileage in 12mths: 2,241 miles

HK16 MTO – Ford Transit 350 Dbl cab Tipper – diesel - purchased 2016

Mileage in 12mths: 2,424 miles

HF09 EDP – New Holland T5 Tractor – diesel - purchased 2009

Hours: 150hrs = 1,800ltrs

*The council are moving away from fossil fuelled vehicles by 2030 and have already replaced two with electric alternatives to date.*

### Total Vehicle and Equipment emissions

Petrol emissions 3,887kg of CO<sub>2</sub> (1,683 ltrs)

Diesel emissions 7,118kg of CO<sub>2</sub> (2,656 ltrs)

*In addition to the non-fossil fuel vehicle replacement program, equipment will also be replaced for non-fossil fuel alternatives by 2030.*

\*CO<sub>2</sub> calculation example: 100 vans covering 1500 miles a month at an average MPG of 25. That means each vehicle burns 60 gallons of fuel each month (1500/25). This translates to 272 litres, as there are 4.54 litres in a gallon. 272 litres of diesel will create 728 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> (272 \* 2.68 = 728). So the entire fleet's emissions are 72,800 kg of CO<sub>2</sub>. (one litre of petrol produces 2.31kg CO<sub>2</sub>// one litre of diesel produces 2.68kg CO<sub>2</sub>).

### Bonfires (number)

12 in 2022

### Emissions to Land:

#### Pesticides and Fertilisers (used)

SBK tough weedkiller

MAP 12711

2022 – 4 Litres

New-way weed spray

MAP 15319

2022 – 15 Litres

Roundup Proactive

MAP 17380

2019 – 7.5 Litres

2020 – 0 Litres

2021 – 10 Litres (Japanese Knotweed treatment)

2022 – 7.5 Litres (Japanese Knotweed treatment)

2023 – 0 Litres (to date)

Katoun Gold

MAP 17879

2020 – 5 Litres

2021 – 7.5 Litres

2022 – 10 Litres

2023 – 0 Litres (to date)

Chikara

MAP 14189

2020 – 50 grams (one pot)

2021 – 50 grams (one pot)

2022 – 50 grams (one pot)

2023 – 0 (to date)

Miracle grow all-purpose soluble plant food

NPK 24-8-16

For tubs and baskets

1.8 kg a year

Evergreen Complete 4 in 1 Lawn feed

NPK 14-5-0

2019 – 100 kg

2020 – 100 kg

2021 – 0 kg

2022 – 0 kg

2023 – 0 kg

## Waste

Skips (6yard) per year = 12

*Litter Bin refuse (everything below) is collected by Dorset Waste Services and sent for recycling:*

Cemetery (1x 1100ltr) collections per year = 104

St Michaels churchyard (1x 1100ltr) collections per year = 104

Langmoor and Lister (2x 770ltr) collections per year = 208

Cobb Gate car park (1x 1100ltr) collections per year = 156

Boat Building Academy (1 x 1100ltr) collections per year = 156

Turning Circle seafront (1 x 1100ltr) collections per year = 156

Janes Café (2 x 1100ltr) collections per year = 312

Bin Store seafront (1 x 1100ltr) collections per year = 156

Woodmead car park (1x 1100ltr) collections per year = 104

Seasonal increase +six 1100ltr bins between April to October

### **Resource Use:**

#### Water

30 cubic units: Apr 2022- Nov 2022 - *Lyme Regis Tourist Info account# 18254656*

#### Gas

1165 gas units (not kWh): 1 Mar 2022 – 1 Dec 2022

#### Paper

15,000 sheets or 6 boxes (5 reams/2500 sheets per box): Jul 2022 – Jan 2023

Office paper recycling bin 1 x 240ltr collections fortnightly = 26 per year

### **Product Use:**

Fuel (includes all fuel - vehicles and equipment fuel)

Petrol 1683.64 ltrs 1 Apr 2022 – 13 Mar 2023

Diesel 2656.79 ltrs 1 Apr 2022 – 13 Mar 2023

#### Electricity

*Office:*

4766.5 units – Day Apr 2022 – 31 Jan 2023

4154.3 units – Night Apr 2022 – 31 Jan 2023

#### Street lamps (sodium to LED)

13 of 40 replaced with LED in year

### **Tree planting 2022:**

14 Arboretum trees – various – Langmoor and Lister Gardens, Lyme Regis

2 Silver birch at Polish Airman's war grave – Anning Rd, Lyme Regis

30 Cherry Trees - Woodland Walk, Langmoor and Lister Gardens, Lyme Regis

26 Cherry Trees - Anning Rd playing field, Lyme Regis