



John Wright
Town Clerk

Lyme Regis Town Council

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Environment Committee

Core Membership: Cllr C. Aldridge, Cllr B. Bawden, Cllr S. Cockerell, Cllr P. May, Cllr C. Prichard, Cllr G. Stammers, Cllr J. Trevena, 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 26 June 2024 commencing at 7pm when the following business is proposed to be transacted:

John Wright
Town Clerk
20.06.24

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 2024-25

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 28 February 2024

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.

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 28 February 2024

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. Bathing Water Quality Meeting 5

To present the minutes of the fifth bathing water quality meeting

11. River Lim Action Group – Ecology Freshwater River Survey

To allow the committee to receive the Ecology Freshwater River Survey

12. Carbon Literacy Organisation Accreditation

To allow the committee to discuss the project and inform the committee about the carbon literacy organisation awards ceremony

13. Great Big Dorset Hedge update from Little Green Change

To allow members to receive an update from Little Green Change on the Great Big Dorset Hedge project - Lyme Regis

14. eRIB Round Britain update

To allow the committee to receive an update on the eRIB Round Britain project

15. Dorset Council Contaminated Land Strategy Consultation

To allow the committee to discuss the Dorset Council Contaminated Land Strategy consultation

16. Lithium Ion Battery Safety of eBikes and eScooters Parliamentary Bill

To allow members to discuss the Lithium Ion Battery Safety of eBikes and eScooters Parliamentary Bill

17. Exempt Business

Committee: Environment

Date: 26 June 2024

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 2024-25

Recommendation

- a) The committee receives nominations for the chairman of this committee and elects its chairman for the council year 2024-25
- b) The committee receives nominations for the vice-chairman of this committee and elects its vice-chairman for the council year 2024-25

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 17 July 2024.

John Wright
Town clerk
June 2024

Committee: Environment

Date: 26 June 2024

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 17 July 2024.

John Wright
Town clerk
June 2024

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 28 FEBRUARY 2024

Present

Chairman: Cllr R. Smith

Members: Cllr B. Bawden, Cllr C. Aldridge, Cllr P. May, Cllr. Brian Larcombe, Cllr S. Cockerell, Cllr D. Ruffle, Cllr G. Stammers, Cllr G. Turner.

Officers: M. Adamson-Drage (operations manager), A. Shepherd (administrative and community engagement assistant)

Guests: V. Elcoate (River Lim Action Group) J. Leah (Great Big Dorset Hedge)

24/52/ENV Public Forum

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

24/53/ENV Apologies

Cllr C. Aldridge
Cllr B. Larcombe
Cllr B. Bawden
Cllr G. Turner

24/54/ENV Minutes

Proposed by Cllr P. May and seconded by Cllr S. Cockerell, the minutes of the meeting held on 17 January were **ADOPTED**.

24/55/ENV Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Cllr P. May declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 8, River Lim Action Group Report, as he was a member of the group, and he was also a member of the Dorset Climate Action Network.

24/56/ENV Dispensations

There were none.

24/57/ENV Matters arising from the previous meeting held on 17 January 2024

Electric Vehicle Charging Points

The operations manager confirmed the price of electricity had changed and was now 60p kWh, which was what was being charged previously. The information on the sign

stating that customers were being charged 10p over the rate had been covered over as this was no longer valid. He added at present, the sign did not have a charging rate on it.

Carbon Literacy Training

The operations manager said he had applied for silver level accreditation and he was waiting to hear back from the Carbon Literacy Organisation (CLO). The council paid for the accreditation nearly a year ago, so he hoped this application would be sufficient for accreditation.

Cllr P. May recommended that all the members, if they hadn't already completed it, should consider taking the course next time it was available.

24/58/ENV Update Report

There were none.

24/59/ENV River Lim Action Group Report

The chairman invited V. Elcoate from the River Lim Action Group (RLAG) to speak.

The operations manager asked if the full biodiversity report was available yet for the council to view.

V. Elcoate said it was not ready yet as RLAG were having problems with the formatting but the discussion document and the summary had been completed and would be posted onto the Turn Lyme Green website. She said the Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed, ongoing monitoring, and the signal crayfish were all things that had emerged from the report which the RLAG could now follow up on.

As the council had already agreed to pay RLAG up front for monitoring kit, Cllr P. May asked officers if the money could be paid as soon as possible as members of RLAG were using their own money.

The operations manager advised V. Elcoate to contact the finance manager to have the money transferred.

V. Elcoate said the Church Cliff Beach bathing designation application had been approved by Defra and was now at the consultation stage. She asked the council to share the consultation as much as possible.

Cllr P. May asked for the consultation to be promoted on the council website.

The operations manager said the next bathing water quality meeting had been organised for 12 March 2024.

V. Elcoate said she planned to write to South West Water and ask for a tour of the sewage treatment works. She said she would also reserve four spaces for the town council.

24/60/ENV Funding Transfer Great Big Dorset Hedge to Little Green Change

The operations manager said although this was unusual, it was legitimate to transfer funding to another organisation, provided the same services were being undertaken and the council was content to do so.

The chairman invited J. Leah from Great Big Dorset Hedge (GBDH) to speak.

J. Leah said progress had been slow but there had already been engagement with the community. She said those involved with Little Green Change were teachers of various environment specialities and were passionate about teaching children. She had met with the acting operations manager about how they could investigate the grounds and hedges owned by the council and that this could also involve the local school.

J. Leah informed said she was aware the funding had to be spent by 31 March 2024 but she felt this was too much pressure to complete the tasks in this time, mostly due to carrying out school work with the Easter holidays approaching. She said any schools that participated in March would not be able to carry out any of the relevant surveys during this time period.

Cllr S. Cockerell asked if the money needed to be spent by the end of March or if it just needed to be allocated. She asked if asked if they could have until August for data submission, and the end of this academic year (September) for presenting the final report back to the town council.

The operations manager said he would need advice from the town clerk and finance manager.

Proposed by Cllr P. May and seconded by Cllr D. Ruffle, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to transfer the remainder of the grant from the current Great Big Dorset Hedge project to Little Green Change, allowing for the funding to be carried over into next financial year, such that the project must be finished by September 2024.

24/61/ENV Bathing Water Quality Meeting 4

Cllr R. Smith asked what MST data was.

V. Elcoate said MST stood for microbial source tracking; she went on to explain what it meant in detail.

Proposed by Cllr P. May and seconded by Cllr S. Cockerell, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to ask officers to write to South West Water asking them to share details of the relevant sections, concerning Lyme Regis and the River Lym, in their investment programme that they would be presenting to Ofwat.

24/62/ENV Potential Installation of PVs on the flat roof above toilets, rainwater harvesting and use in the gardens, 'grey water' use and recycling in Marine Parade toilets and the change to a metered electricity supply to gardens lighting

Cllr P. May asked to clarify if this was the potential installation for the photovoltaic (PV) panels, currently in the budget, that had been carried over.

The operations manager said the PVs in the current budget were for the amenities hut. He said members could either allocate some of next year's environment budget towards it, or there was a small amount left over from this year's environment budget that could be carried over and allocated towards this next year.

Proposed by Cllr G. Stammers and seconded by Cllr P. May, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to support further work to investigate the potential Installation of PVs on the flat roof above the toilets, rainwater harvesting and use in the gardens, 'grey water' use and recycling in Marine Parade toilets and the change to a metered electricity supply to gardens lighting.

24/63/ENV Use of Biodiesel in Council Tractor and Other Vehicles

Cllr R. Smith asked where the tractor was stored and where the planned biodiesel would be kept.

The operations manager said the tractor was stored at the end of Monmouth Beach car park and that was where the intended space would be.

Cllr P. May said he understood the council's biggest user of diesel was the tractor so he felt it would be a good idea to move to as much use of biodiesel as possible, particularly with the tractor, as this would reduce emissions dramatically.

Cllr R. Smith asked if the council could consider asking other businesses on the seafront if this was something they would be interested in too.

Proposed by Cllr G. Stammers and seconded by Cllr R. Smith, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** to consider the principle of running the council's tractor and, possibly other diesel vehicles in the current fleet, on biodiesel and providing a pumped and bunded tank at or within the Monmouth store to facilitate this and investigate further into the possibility of a combined biodiesel facility for other businesses on the seafront.

24/64/ENV Budget Spend

Cllr P. May suggested the remainder of the 2023-24 environment budget was put toward the projects agreed at this meeting.

The operations manager said members would need to pick a specific project to allocate carried over funding to.

Cllr R. Smith asked if the project didn't happen this year, could the money be carried over into the next financial year.

The operations manager said this was possible.

Proposed by Cllr P. May and seconded by Cllr S. Cockerell, members agreed to **RECOMMEND TO FULL COUNCIL** that the £4,496 left in the 2023-24 environment budget is earmarked to go towards changing to use of biodiesel in council tractor and other vehicles, in principle.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Committee: Environment

Date: 26 June 2024

Title: Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 February 2024

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

The scheduled meeting of this committee on 17 April 2024 was cancelled and therefore the matters arising refer to the meeting held on 28 February 2024.

24/62/ENV – Potential Installation of PVs on the flat roof above toilets, rainwater harvesting and use in the gardens, ‘grey water’ use and recycling in Marine Parade toilets and the change to a metered electricity supply to gardens lighting

Work is ongoing to investigate the potential installation of PVs on the flat roof above the toilets, rainwater harvesting and use in the gardens, ‘grey water’ use and recycling in Marine Parade toilets.

National Grid were contacted to investigate switching the gardens lamp column lighting to a metered supply but it would require a new electricity supply to achieve this, which would be prohibitively expensive for a project which was intended to save the council on its electricity costs.

24/63/ENV – Use of Biodiesel in Council Tractor and Other Vehicles

At the last meeting of this committee, the leftover budget of £4,496 from the annual £25,000 environment budget from 2023-24 was brought forward to 2024-25 for a potential biodiesel storage tank project. Investigation into the viability of using biodiesel in the council’s tractor is ongoing.

Matt Adamson-Drage
Operations manager
June 2024

Committee: Environment

Date: 26 June 2024

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.

Business Waste Regulation Changes

Business waste regulations are due to change on 31 March 2025. This will require businesses in England to have separate streams for dry recyclables and commercial food waste. Other changes include enhanced duty of care enforcement, a standardised recycling system and deposit return schemes amongst others. Cllr B. Bawden will be organising a meeting between Matthew Boulter (Dorset Council's commercial services manager, Commercial Waste and Strategy) and the business group to discuss these changes and their consequences.

Bathing Water designation for Church Cliff Beach

Following the excellent work of the River Lim Action Group and support from this council and the local MP, Church Cliff Beach was designated as a bathing beach from 10 May 2024 and was added to the list of bathing waters by DEFRA in time for the 2024 summer season. The water is now being monitored regularly by the Environment Agency. So far, the readings have generally been satisfactory, except for one of the results which was poor.

Matt Adamson-Drage
Operations manager
June 2024

Committee: Environment

Date: 26 June 2024

Title: Bathing Water Quality Meeting 5

Purpose of Report

To present the minutes of the fifth bathing water quality meeting

Recommendation

Members note the report

Report

1. The fifth bathing water quality meeting took place on 12 March 2024 and the minutes are attached at **appendix 10A**.
2. The meetings continue to be productive and the Environment Agency and South West Water (SWW) are engaging with each other proactively on the issues.
3. The following meeting, meeting six, was held on 18 June 2024. Minutes for that meeting were in the process of being produced at the time of release of this agenda and will be forthcoming to the next meeting of this committee.
4. The date for the seventh meeting is still to be decided but is expected to be in late-September when the majority of the summer bathing water quality readings will be in hand for both Front and Church Cliff Beaches.
5. Any recommendations from this committee will be considered by the Full Council on 17 July 2024.

Matt Adamson-Drage
Operations manager
June 2024

LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY, SOUTH WEST WATER/PENNON GROUP, DORSET COUNCIL &
LYME REGIS TOWN COUNCIL BATHING WATER QUALITY MEETING 5MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12 MARCH 2024
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.
Jay Harris, South West Water – Regional Operations Manager.
Carolyn Cadman, South West Water – Director of Natural Resources.
Tristan Kelsall-Spurr, South West Water – Senior Environmental Manager.
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.
Cllr Stuart Cockerell, 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.
Matthew Penny, Service Manager for Flood and Coastal Erosion, Dorset Council.
Adam Steele, Project Engineer, Dorset Council.
Ian Fitz, Project Engineer, Dorset Council.
Blair Turner, Community Highways Officer, Dorset Council.

Apologies:

Carolyn Cadman
Tristan Kelsall-Spurr
Cllr Belinda Bawden
Cllr Rob Smith
Matthew Penny
Adam Steele
Ian Fitz
Blair Turner

Purpose of Meeting

The meeting was convened from a resolution of the Lyme Regis Town Council's Environment Committee. The purpose was to encourage all relevant parties to work collaboratively and to identify and implement solutions for potential poor bathing water quality on Front beach. The inaugural meeting was held 14 December 2022. This was the fifth meeting. The meetings are held quarterly.

ITEM 1. INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting commenced with introductions around the table for newer members of the meeting.

ITEM 2. MINUTES

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record. Vicki Elcoate proposed and Liz Davis seconded the proposal.

ITEM 3. MATTERS ARISING / ACTIONS

Matters Arising / Actions from 13 December 2023 meeting:

a. Gully blockages beach side of the Royal Standard pub/Harbour Inn (work to add a positive outfall).

No DC officers or councillors were present to update the meeting. Adam Steele had sent an email update that “diggers were currently moving the dredged material into position on the sandy beach and no additional drainage investigation works were planned. This part of the system may be covered with the CCTV survey in April. Michael Hansford should be able to confirm this”.

Action DC

Matt Adamson-Drage read out Adam Steele’s email from earlier that morning. “Regarding the Marine Parade drainage. We have up to date as built drawings and have completed jetting works. Following subsequent sampling and analysis, the presence of bacteria had been found to the east of the Groyne. The CCTV survey of this system is now programmed in for week commencing 15th April. We should have a better understanding of the cause following this survey. If SWW could elaborate on their recent works “defective reinstatement” (19th -21st March), as this may have been contributing to our test results in the same area”. Alan Burrows suggested that ‘defective reinstatement’ referred to replacing tarmac that had sunk after a recent repair.

b. Drain investigation outside the Boat Building Academy.

Jay Harris explained that the manhole outside the BBA front door had been investigated recently for blockages. No interception was found, which would help stop any smell, and no blockage was found. Jay Harris said that SWW would investigate again when the Monmouth chalets were in operation, perhaps at the May half term.

Action SWW

Liz Davis suggested that perhaps the town council could contact all the chalet owners, as the chalets feed this sewer, about what could be put into the toilet; eg. pee, poo and paper. SWW said they have a leaflet that the council could use as a template on their website.

Action LRTC

c. Monmouth Beach possible CSO deterioration and smell

SWW had asked for evidence and Liz Davis had sent a picture taken from the Cobb wall and told the meeting about the accompanying smell. There was some discussion about whether the smell was likely to come from sewage or from other organic matter breaking down. Without further information it would be difficult to establish what it might be. SWW requested more evidence (pictures/dates/times) that might establish a pattern.

Action RLA (if able)

Liz Davis asked if a CSO discharge only alerted after 10 minutes. Alan Burrows said alerts would depend on several factors not least the volume released.

d. Uplyme Sewage Works upgrade.

Jay Harris confirmed that SWW had committed to upgrading the Uplyme Sewage Works but he had no further details at this time. Alan Burrows said that investment was planned by 2027.

There was some discussion about potential mis-connections from new housing estates and the good work Tristan Kelsall-Spurr was doing.

e. Church Cliff Beach - bathing designation.

Vicki Elcoate said she hoped to hear about the outcome of the application by April. She then introduced the briefing note from the Environment Agency. Jim Flory summarised the report.

There was some discussion about outfalls and mis-connections at Mill Green and the Town Mill brewery. Liz Davis suggested that the pipe in the riverbed could be at fault. Alan Burrows said that any investigations should be based on evidence. Some further investigation was required based on the EA's findings. If Church Cliff beach was designated, although a lot of good work rectifying mis-connections had been accomplished to date by Tristan Kelsall-Spurr's team at SWW, they would be expected by the public to re-double their efforts.

Regardless of this work Jim Flory said that enhanced bacterial loadings would be expected at a bathing beach by the mouth of a river due to cattle and avian activity upstream.

RLA had completed an ecological study of the river and agreed to send the report to Jim Flory.

Action RLA

ITEM 4: EA UPDATE

Jim Flory explained that inaccurate press releases could be very damaging and cause a lot of unnecessary work for the EA and other agencies and requested that the RLA was mindful of that.

Chris Angel said he was investigating the abstraction of water by the town mill as this could influence the water quality downstream.

Vicki Elcoate and Liz Davis requested that the EA investigate rubble being dumped in the peat bog at Shapwick and an oil spill elsewhere that could be affecting the river. Jim Flory asked them to email him with the details.

Action RLA/EA

ITEM 5: SWW UPDATE

Alan Burrows informed the meeting that the Storm Overflow action plan had been approved for release and was published this morning.

Vicki Elcoate asked about when all CSO data would be available on the WaterFit Live website. Alan Burrows said that the issue was sensitive and they were working with beach managers to hopefully be able to provide that later in the year. He apologised for the delay on this.

Liz Davis asked about the Rising Main work at Uplyme Sewage Works. Jay Harris said that the system had been repaired but had failed pressure testing, but that further work to repair it should be completed tomorrow. Alan Burrows said that SWW might be able to put a video on their website explaining this.

Action SWW (if able)

ITEM 6: RLA UPDATE

Vicki Elcoate said all the matters for update had been spoken about during the course of the meeting but requested Sonde data from SWW. Alan Burrows said he had met with Rob and discussed the Sonde data at length. He was happy to release the data to the RLA, but no explanation of the data would be provided again.

Action SWW

Liz Davis said it was great to see the town council working closely with the emergency services centre to clear drains and gullies in that area.

Vicki Elcoate mentioned that the RLA would be looking at the fish passages/ladders with the Wild Trout trust.

ITEM 7: DC UPDATE

There was no-one from Dorset Council present at the meeting.

ITEM 8: LRTC UPDATE

None.

ITEM 9: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 10: DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be scheduled for a date/time in June 2024. Matt Adamson-Drage would email all parties nearer the time to establish a preferred date.

The meeting closed at 1.30pm.

Committee: Environment

Date: 26 June 2024

Title: River Lim Action Group – Ecology Freshwater River Survey

Purpose of Report

To allow the committee to receive the Ecology Freshwater River Survey

Recommendation

Members note the report

Report

1. The River Lim Action (RLA) group was given £5,000 funding from the environment budget to conduct an ecological freshwater river survey, recommended at a meeting of this committee on 23 November 2022.
2. The RLA group have had difficulty with the formatting of the report since its completion and until now only excerpts have been released. The full report is now available and a summary extract is at **appendix 11A**.
3. At the bathing water quality meeting with the Environment Agency, South West Water, Dorset Council and this council held on 18 June 2024, the river was discussed in relation to misconnections and Church Cliff Beach bathing water designation. The Environment Agency regularly monitors the life in the river and reported trout and other life, such as mayfly and invertebrates.
4. Any recommendations from this committee will be considered by Full Council on 17 July 2024.

Matt Adamson-Drage
Operations Manager
June 2024

CATCHMENT STUDY OF THE RIVER LIM LYME REGIS

Spring/Summer 2023

Summary



DOMINIC STUBBING HND, PhD, MIFM, CEnv.

Watergates Fisheries Ltd

With additions and editing by RLAG

For and on behalf of River Lim Action Group and
funded by Lyme Regis Town Council

The following is a summary of the report commissioned by the River Lim Action Group following concerns over water quality issues in the lower River Lim. It has been funded by the Lyme Regis Town Council.

This is a study into the historic and current ecology of the the River Lim, in the context of its catchment land-use. These surveys were done at 14 sites around the full spread of the catchment. Electric fishing was only done at four downstream sites due to low flow. The survey was conducted against a background of nearly 2 years of previously collected data, from citizen science, RLAG volunteers and information shared from both the Environment Agency and South West Water.

Geology

The geology principally shows that there is Greensand deep down and also near the surface around the edge of the catchment; this holds water and produces springs. Lias is apparent throughout much of the middle of the catchment on the surface. This has poor permeability and likely fissures mean the river does not hold water well and effectively leaks underground in areas.

Abstraction

There is widespread history of abstractions that are mostly small but currently there are no major abstractions.

Land use

The land use in the catchment is mostly permanent grassland with some arable fields influencing the upper catchment. There is some woodlands which were planted forestry and some good riparian woodland fringes along much of the middle river below Uplyme. The grassland is of mixed use. Some is improved and there are some small cattle farms with silage pits. There is a small land-fill site.

Sewage and drainage network

The sewage works is between Lyme Regis and Uplyme, and a main storage tank is at the bottom of the town, which should get pumped up to the works. There have been visual records of untreated sewage coming out of various pipes and pumps into the river in recent years. Some welcome improvements and upgrades have recently been made by SWW. There are probably many misconnections where rainwater and sewage overload the pumping stations and Sewage Treatment Works in Uplyme particularly during the busy tourist months in the town.

Mills and weirs

There are many old mills in the area. The weirs associated with them are, in places, a barrier to natural fish migration. The one at Woodmead Bridge does have an adjacent fish pass which possibly is not fully effective. The other two sites definitely would restrict fish passage particularly in low flow conditions.

Water quality

Water quality data shows that general nutrient values do not appear excessive but concerning spikes do occur. *E. coli* data, some identified definitely from human source does show however, regular spikes with very high detrimental readings at times. Levels are recorded as unsafe much of the time on the sections of river below Woodmead Bridge.

Habitats

Habitats in the tributaries are generally good, with rough woody and hedge edges. Also, there is rough grassland but with some overgrazed stretches of riverbank. Below Uplyme there is wooded channel, but it lacks instream debris. This is important where shaded stretches prevent in channel

vegetation from growing. There is just one patch of natural instream weed occurring in the vicinity of Middle Mill. Through Lyme Regis the channel is walled or has revetted concrete channel edge. The bed is natural. There is some seasonal emergent vegetation in spring and summer.

Himalayan balsam was widespread throughout the catchment and there were four recorded patches of Japanese knotweed.

Macro-invertebrates

The macro-invertebrate population was fairly variable in terms of families of species but numbers generally low and certainly could be improved. There is not an index for the scores yet, but this will be possible with the Riverfly score based on eight species currently being recorded monthly by RLAG Riverfly volunteers in eight different locations

Fish

The fish population is fairly small and not very diverse. It has trout and smaller species, such as bullheads and minnows. Eels were apparent. Loach did previously exist but were not apparent in this survey.

Otters were present during the time of this survey and the non-native American Signal crayfish were also found at numerous locations.

Recommendations for Future Action

Working co-operatively with South West Water, the Environment Agency and respective landowners, the overall ecology of the river catchment could be greatly improved. Actions along the following lines, but detailed specifically to RLAG, will make this possible. It is hoped by the end of 2025 a review to date will be produced to monitor action and gauge improvements to the overall ecology of the catchment

1. The sewage system needs repair and development and upgrading. Areas linking with storm influx need to be rectified.
2. Monitoring of water quality data ongoing particularly for E coli.
3. Farm improvements to be made in water separation systems and waste containment. Also, protection of riverbanks by cattle fencing in places. Land-fill sites to be advised.
4. Make lower barrier to fish and eels passable and ensure Middle Mill stream passable. Add eel pass on existing fish pass.
5. Start strategic Himalayan balsam control. Eradicate Japanese knotweed. Educate on trapping and restricting movement of crayfish.
6. In channel improvements to include the installation of debris dams (woody debris at strategic places) Some laurel canopy thinning.
7. Continue monitoring for macro-invertebrates to detect pollution and look more widely for stone loach.

AGENDA ITEM 12

Committee: Environment

Date: 26 June 2024

Title: Carbon Literacy Organisation Accreditation

Purpose of Report

To allow the committee to discuss the project and inform the committee about the carbon literacy organisation awards ceremony

Recommendation

Members consider proposals for publicising the silver level accreditation

Background

1. The town council became the first town council in the country to gain silver level accreditation from the Carbon Literacy Organisation on 8 March 2024.
2. The accreditation lasts for three years and lends credibility to the council's climate emergency declaration from 2019 and carbon net zero strategic plan by 2030.

Report

3. The operations manager attended the awards ceremony by livestream on 13 June 2024. Lyme Regis Town Council was introduced as a leading light in the town and parish council sector and Cllr B. Bawden was thanked by the host for her hard work in achieving this accreditation. For information, there were only a few gold awards presented this year and they included organisations such as Rolls Royce and the Duchy of Cornwall.
4. The council has already published the achievement, but members may wish to publicise the accreditation further by adding it to the council website and on email footers like the council does with 'Plastic Free Lyme'.
5. Members may also wish to discuss how the accreditation standard can continue to be achieved by ongoing training, particularly of new councillors and new staff, and how individual pledges can be tracked and achieved.
6. Any recommendations from this committee will be considered by the Full Council on 17 July 2024.

Matt Adamson-Drage
Operations manager
June 2024

Committee: Environment

Date: 26 June 2024

Title: Great Big Dorset Hedge update from Little Green Change

Purpose of Report

To allow members to receive an update from Little Green Change on the Great Big Dorset Hedge project - Lyme Regis

Recommendation

Members note the report

Report

- 1 The Great Big Dorset Hedge project covers the whole of Dorset and funding was sought from this council for the Lyme Regis area element of the project. It funds surveying hedgerows, with the intention of improving and adding hedges to help with biodiversity and provides education for the wider community.
2. Clare Matheson of Little Green Change took over the project from Julie Leah who originally asked the council for £1,512 of funding for the project at a meeting of this committee on 25 January 2023. The funding transfer to Clare Matheson was recommended at a meeting of this committee on 28 February 2024.
3. A copy of the update report is available at **appendix 13A** and can also be found at the [link](#).
4. Any recommendations from this committee will be considered by the Full Council on 17 July 2024.

Matt Adamson-Drage
Operations manager
June 2024

Committee: Environment

Date: 26 June 2024

Title: eRIB Round Britain update

Purpose of Report

To allow the committee to receive an update on the eRIB Round Britain project

Recommendation

Members note the report

Report

1. eRIB Round Britain are intending to be the first electric RIB to circumnavigate the UK. Members approved £5,000 from the environment budget to support the eRIB Round Britain project at a meeting of this committee in October 2022. Various issues last year forced the organisers to defer the project from last summer to summer 2024.
2. A full update from Jaqui Besley, project manager is available at **appendix 14A**.
3. Any recommendations from this committee will be considered by the Full Council on 17 July 2024.

Matt Adamson-Drage
Operations manager
June 2024

Dear all Sponsors, Supporters and Stakeholders

We are excited to be ramping up our planning for the Round Britain eRIB attempt in Summer 2024. We are working hard to make this happen and I wanted to give you an update on key delivery elements.

Sea Trials

- We are continuing to plan for sea trials in June and look forward to bringing you further information on this in due course.
- We are hopeful to achieve an expected range of 35nm at 18 knots; and upwards of 50nm at 8 knots
- We tested an electric RIB in the Netherlands in February and gathered very useful data as well as driving experience

Dates

- We are tentatively planning for a departure around the weekend of 13th/14th July. There will be a four day notice to start. We will be keeping this reasonably quiet with regard to public engagement but would be delighted if Sponsors or supporters would like to attend. We will issue contact details in due course for this.

Ground Support

- We are pleased to announce sponsorship from the SAIC Maxus and will be showcasing their [T90EV](#) electric pick up truck as one of our ground support vehicles
- We are hopeful to be able to shortly announce partnerships with the supplier of a mobile DC charger and the supplier of all our charging accessories.
- We have 2 sites with 125A 3 phase, 14 sites with 63A 3 phase, 12 with 32A 3 phase and 4 with fast DC chargers. So that's 32 out of 44 sites with fast charging. There are 5 sites that are yet to confirm but the remaining sites will require an overnight stop.
- If you are one of our Charity partners (RNLI, SAAFA, NCI, Sea Cadets and MVS) you should have received an email to kick off the planning for the Meet and Greet events and we will follow this up with a phone call to check you have all the information you need.

Data and Analysis

- We are hoping to shortly announce a partnership with the UK's leading Carbon Offsetting Initiative
- We are struggling to access maritime data map the sea conditions to power consumption. [If anyone is able to help with a contact at an agency providing maritime data then we will be able to build a data set for the industry to analyse.](#)

Procurement

- We are confident that we have secured the main items required and look forward to announcing further sponsorship arrangements in due course

Fundraising

- We have applied to two grant funds to cover the cost of satellite radios and film equipment. We will find out if we have been successful in due course.
- In June, we will be looking for **Location VIPs** at each STOP Location, at a cost of £500. Details are on the website and our list of Locations is [here](#). [This is an important element of local engagement at each Location as well as a fundraising stream. If you know of anyone that might be interested in being our VIP and signing our log book then do please put them in touch. Thank you.](#)

Education

- We have now published our Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6) Educational materials (see [here](#)) and are in the process of developing teaser materials for 'Green Marine' Age 16+ through our partnership with Bournemouth and Poole College.
- Please share the FREE resources with your relevant networks

Public Engagement

- The website has had an update – please do have a look and let us know if there is anything that you notice that needs changing. The Sponsors page can be found here: <https://www.roundbritain-erib.org/sponsors>
- We have launched a competition to Name the Vessel. This will be pushed out on Facebook and Instagram tonight. [Please like and share for us. Thank you.](#)
- Our Live Tracker page is in development and will provide an estimated arrival time for forthcoming Locations, cumulative distance travelled, and cumulative CO2 saved

Do come back to me with questions if you have them.

Many thanks for your support – Jaqui and Harry

Jaqui Besley

She/Her

Project Manager

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Proudly sponsored by Gill

Committee: Environment

Date: 26 June 2024

Title: Dorset Council Contaminated Land Strategy Consultation

Purpose of Report

To allow the committee to discuss the Dorset Council Contaminated Land Strategy consultation

Recommendation

Members formulate a response to the Dorset Council Contaminated Land Strategy consultation

Background

1. The council received an email from Dorset Council's (DC) service manager for environmental protection, Janet Moore on 22 May 2024. The original end to the consultation was 5 June 2024 but this has been extended to 9 July 2024.

Report

2. Councils are required to produce a written strategy outlining their approach to land with past uses which may have caused contamination. Such 'Contaminated Land Strategies' must be revised periodically. As a unitary council, DC are now updating precursor councils' strategies and unifying them into a single Dorset Council document. Although there is no legal duty to consult, DC are keen to engage stakeholders by making them aware of this process and asking for comments about the draft document.
3. DC has extremely limited scope to develop its own policies about identification, assessment, and regulation of land contamination, as this is quite closely governed by government guidance. Instead, the contaminated land strategy should be seen as DC's local set of arrangements for delivering government policy and good technical practice, whilst reflecting the particular attributes of the Dorset area. The draft Dorset Council 2024 Contaminated Land Strategy is at **appendix 15A**.
4. DC welcome any comments about the document, bearing in mind the comments above. In particular, DC welcome responses to the following questions:
 - Have you heard of the regulatory regime for contaminated land, under Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990?
 - Do you think it appropriate to take a Dorset Council – wide approach to this topic, or should there be some reflection of previous land use boundaries e.g. urban vs rural areas?
 - In terms of land contamination, are you aware of the relationship between the Planning regime and Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990?
 - In terms of land contamination, are you aware of the respective roles of local councils and the Environment Agency?
 - Do you have any questions arising out of the first four questions, or any other comment or questions?

5. Responses must be received using the [Contaminated Land Consultation Survey](#). DC would be grateful to receive comments by 9 July 2024.
6. If you have any questions please contact DC [Environmental Health](#).
7. Any recommendations from this committee will be considered by the Full Council on 17 July 2024.

Matt Adamson-Drage
Operations manager
June 2024

Committee: Environment

Date: 26 June 2024

Title: Lithium Ion Battery Safety of eBikes and eScooters Parliamentary Bill

Purpose of Report

To allow members to discuss the Lithium Ion Battery Safety of eBikes and eScooters Parliamentary Bill

Recommendation

Members instruct officers how to respond to the Lithium Ion Battery Safety of eBikes and eScooters Parliamentary Bill

Report

1. The first reading of the Lithium Ion Battery Safety of eBikes and eScooters Parliamentary Bill was in early-June but there is plenty of time left as the Bill moves through parliamentary process to forward any view of this council. A summary of the bill appears at the bottom of **appendix 16A**.
2. Lord Foster and Electrical Safety First are supporting the bill and there has been a request for local councils to pass on their views and, if able, to support it.
3. Any recommendations from this committee will be considered by the Full Council on 17 July 2024.

Matt Adamson-Drage
Operations manager
June 2024

Dear Local Council

I am writing to ask your Council to support our campaign to improve the safety of lithium batteries (used in e-bike and e-scooters) and their disposal.

Let me begin by introducing myself. I am the researcher for Lord (Don) Foster (hence my email address), who has been campaigning on this issue in the House of Lords. I am also the parliamentary advisor to Electrical Safety First, a UK Charity dedicated to reducing the deaths and injuries caused by electricity.

As you will probably know lithium battery fires are on the increase – there have been over 1000 in the past few years, nearly 200 injuries and a dozen fatalities. Homes have been destroyed. The cost to the UK runs into £billions. You will doubtless know of examples in your area. I attach a spreadsheet of some recent fires – as you will see there have been some in your area.

Lord Foster and Electrical Safety First are promoting the attached Bill (a summary of which is included at the end of this email) to ensure greater safety in the use and disposal of lithium batteries and are aiming to get it into law as soon as possible. It has its First Reading on 5th June.

We have the support of many national organisations, as the attached logos show – including the National Fire Chiefs Council, the Association of Ambulance Chief Executives, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents and the Royal Society for Public Health. In addition 2 coroners have called for the law to be tightened to ensure greater safety.

We are now contacting more locally based organisations, and it would be great if your Council was able to support this campaign. It would be a great boost.

Please do get in touch if you require any further information.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely,

Ron Bailey

PS Don't worry if you are not meeting before June 5th. That is only the 1st Reading – other stages will follow, so you won't be too late. Your support will be valuable at any time.