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RIVER CHAR CHARTER

A river is a living entity. While the banks and bed of the River Char are privately owned, the health of the river is a resource entrusted to us all. We all share in the benefits it provides and we all share responsibility for it. The flow of clean water through its cycle of rain, river, sea and cloud is essential for the maintenance of all life.

We the people who live, work and play here, name ourselves as stewards of the River Char. We uphold the rights of the river and its tributaries:

- To be alive and to thrive**
- To be clean and unpolluted so that it can enable biodiversity to flourish**
- To flow freely from source to sea**

...so that it can give life and enjoyment to all, enable biodiversity to flourish and be a vital part of a healthy ecosystem.

We especially value and name as our shared assets:

- The river's role as a wildlife corridor for birds, mammals, amphibians, insects and fish**
- Healthy water in sufficient quantity**
- Trees along the banks**
- A cherished river where our forebears have worked, played, walked, farmed, swum and drunk for many generations**
- Lawful access wherever possible along the length of the river and beside it**

Two River Guardians will represent the River Char on behalf of the community. Both are tasked with representing the River Char on any occasion when its interests are at stake.

This Charter is held jointly by Char Valley Parish Council and Charmouth Parish Council.