



## LOWER CHAR COMMUNITY PROJECT

Let's clean up the River Char together

# Lower Char Community Project CAMPAIGN 2023

## 1. River Water Campaign – to clean up our river...

### We call on Wessex Water to:

- a) Take urgent action to stop all sewage discharges at Newlands Bridge (*recently 8-12 per year*)
- b) Work with Newlands Holiday Park and houses on Stonebarrow Lane to • seal any defective drains and • stop rainwater from roofs, roads and hard standing entering the sewer network.
- c) Install 6mm screens at Newlands Bridge – as a temporary measure.

### We call on the Environment Agency to:

- a) Start monitoring water quality again at the mouth of the River Char.

## 2. Coastal Waters Campaign – to clean up our beach and sea...

### We call on Wessex Water to:

- a) Cut discharges of untreated sewage into the sea to less than 10 per year and 3 per bathing season. [*These happen about 70 times a year into the sea, with no pollution alert required.*]

### We call on the Environment Agency to:

- a) Enforce the requirement for no storm discharges at Newlands Bridge
- b) **Extend its definition** of 'Bathing season' beyond May-Sept **and reclassify discharges** from the Long Sea Outfall as "high priority".

### We call on South West Water to:

- a) Clean up its plastic biobeads, which are littering Charmouth Beach.

*To help make this happen, we will film the plume of untreated sewage pouring from the offshore pipe and work with South West Water to implement its agreed beach clean-up strategy.*

## 3. Other Sea and River Issues – we will also campaign on 3 issues:

- a) **Climate-led Sea Level Rise:** we will press for full information on Wessex Water's strategy.
- b) **Sewage Spills:** we will work with Wessex Water to get complete, accurate, real-time data.
- c) **Community Projects:** we will seek funding to help residents use water butts and other water-saving techniques to reduce the amount of rainwater entering the combined sewer.

## CAMPAIGN EVENTS

We are hosting the Charmouth Dragon River Festival on 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2023, with a day of activities and planning for residents on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2023.

**Find out more and join us at:**  
**[www.riverchar.org](http://www.riverchar.org)**