



River Char Action Group Project CAMPAIGN 2025

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 12-19 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.

We call on the Environment Agency to:

- a) Restart regular water quality monitoring along the River Char and the Monkton Wyld Stream and to publish that data.
- b) Restart monitoring water quality again at the mouth of the River Char and to publish that data.

We undertake to continue our programme of independent riverfly, CSI and bacteriological testing along the length of the river with the aim of identifying and eliminating all major sources of pollution.

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

We call on Wessex Water to:

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 undertake to start independent testing of the sea east of the River Char to establish whether significant amounts of sewage are washed inshore from the Long Sea Outfall.

3. Other Sea and River Issues – we will also campaign on 2 key issues:

- a) **Climate-led Sea Level Rise:** we will press for full information on Wessex Water's strategy.
- b) **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 31st May, 2025.

Find out more and join us at:
www.riverchar.org