

# CROWD: Clean Rivers Of West Dorset

At the 9<sup>th</sup> August meeting we agreed to reconsider our aims and focus. We did so at our online meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November. Below is the wording we arrived at during that meeting, for discussion and approval at our full January meeting:

## **CROWD aims and focus**

CROWD works with Water Companies, the Environment Agency, local communities, river groups, Town and Parish Councils and our MP to clean up West Dorset's rivers, beaches and coastal waters so they meet or exceed the targets set in the Government's 25-Year Environment Plan (2018) and the Environment Act (2021).

CROWD's current focus is on:

- An **Integrated Monitoring Strategy (IMS)**: We will develop an IMS framework that sets out our objectives and approach. Meanwhile we will continue to collect monitoring data for rivers, coastal waters and beaches in the CROWD area. This will create a group resource that supports and supplements EA data and establishes a baseline from which we can track future environmental changes.
  - **Whole-of-River Testing**: As part of this strategy, we are pressing for a pilot scheme to identify types of pollution present at specific points along one CROWD river, pinpoint the sources of that pollution and eliminate them. We will extend this to other CROWD rivers as soon as possible.
  - **The lagoons at Charmouth and Seatown**: we will seek to test water quality regularly and try to get designation as part of the neighbouring (marine) bathing waters or as bathing waters in their own right.
- **Rainwater separation at source**: We will continue to work with Wessex Water and our MP to encourage, support and extend the trial projects with householders and at larger sites (holiday parks, schools, etc.)

## **Public information and publicity**

We will issue a public statement and press release after each meeting with a link to a webpage with relevant reports and materials.

This statement will avoid party politics and will be circulated to all members for comment before being released.

To ensure that we can all communicate openly, we do not propose to publish detailed minutes or any correspondence from Wessex Water, EA and others without their explicit permission.