

CROWD: Clean Rivers Of West Dorset

WEDNESDAY 9TH AUGUST 2023 MEETING

ONLINE 7:00PM – 8.15PM

AGENDA

- 1. CROWD meeting (23rd June 2023) with Jim Flory - debrief + brief summary of local EA meeting yesterday (8th August) – 15 mins**
- 2. Review CROWD's founding aims and future direction. 45 mins.**

Our stated aims are as follows:

CROWD works to get positive action to clean up West Dorset's rivers and coastal waters so they meet the targets set in the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan (2018) and the Environment Act (2021).

CROWD will do this by:

- collating factual evidence and local information on all issues related to river and coastal water quality.
- briefing our MP on these issues so he and others can have informed conversations with Water Companies, Dorset Council and relevant statutory bodies and agencies and act on our behalf.
- working together and in partnership with others, including local communities, to deliver action on the ground.

With the experience of the last eight months, how do we want to refine or extend this? Some options:

- Work in a more co-ordinated way to gather and analyse statutory monitoring data and locally derived supplementary from all our rivers, to be able to present a concerted case for local action from Wessex Water and the Environment Agency.
- Formulate specific demands/campaigns (e.g. in relation to the Winniford Lagoon)
- Focus on gathering whole-river data to identify pollution sources and locations (agricultural/septic tanks/WASC).
- Work with communities at a local level on rainwater separation, etc.
- Focus on key target sites (holiday parks, car parks, schools) to address rainwater separation.
- Pay more attention to coastal waters.

We also need to clarify what we want from the relationships we have built with the EA, Wessex Water and Chris Loder. What do we want from them next? (In relation to CL, some options are getting his support to address: surface water runoff from roads; drainage regulations for new buildings; EA funding and monitoring.)

Do we need to assign specific roles to different CROWD members?

- 3. Based on the above, agree and formulate our agenda and asks for the September CROWD meeting. 15 mins**

This could include:

- Reviewing Wessex Water's (not yet received) response to our long list of requests
- A pilot project for whole-river testing
- The role of Citizen Science in CROWD. Weave Ian's Citizen Science project into CROWD.