

# CROWD: Clean Rivers Of West Dorset

## Long List of **CROWD** requests to Wessex Water – May 2023

### **REDUCING WATER USE**

- CROWD – and its member river groups and Parish/Town Councils – want to encourage households to reduce water use. Will Wessex Water go beyond its current publicity campaigns and offer targeted advice and financial support that we can use in working with residents?

### **IMPROVING RAINWATER SEPARATION AT SOURCE**

- CROWD – and its member river groups and Parish/Town Councils – want to encourage households (via community engagement events, parish councils, newsletters, etc.) to separate out rainwater at source to lessen incidence of storm overflows. Will WW go beyond its current publicity campaigns and offer targeted advice and financial support that we can use in working with residents?
- Specifically, will WW work with us to pilot a programme of installing soakaways and other measures on properties in the CROWD area and use these as a case study for the impact of misconnections and the benefits of intervention?
- We believe it is a priority action (for CROWD *and* WW) to work with caravan and holiday parks, schools and large businesses to separate out rainwater at source. Will WW offer CROWD – and its member river groups and Parish/Town Councils – materials and financial support to do this?

### **IDENTIFYING POLLUTION AT SOURCE / WATER QUALITY MONITORING**

- CROWD community members regularly ask for information on the relative significance of agricultural / septic tank / STW sources of pollution. Has WW got monitoring information that can answer this, river by river? If not, will WW support with photometer and laboratory resources a CROWD initiative to pinpoint the sources of pollution in its rivers along the lines of that launched by the [Wylve Valley Farmers](#).
- Will WW undertake enhanced monitoring of water quality over the summer months to gain a better understanding of the impacts of visitors on the water environment?

### **WATER QUALITY MONITORING**

- CROWD asks WW to advise the results of the investigations into ground water infiltration in the River Winniford catchment around Chideock and Seatown.

### **FARMING**

- CROWD asks WW to roll out EnTrade (or a similar scheme) in the CROWD area.
- CROWD asks WW to fund catchment advisors in the CROWD area to support farmers to move towards more regenerative practices, and thereby lessen the impacts on the water environment.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

- For public engagement events, CROWD needs high quality, large, printed maps of each river catchment. Will WW provide mapping data (to include overflow points and auto monitoring) and fund printing of those maps?
- CROWD (and WW) would significantly benefit (in terms of community engagement) from the production of a 'State of the CROWD Rivers' report. This would build on the previous work of the Dorset AONB (with the Rivers Asker and Char in particular) and set out the features and characteristics of the rivers in question, and the threats and opportunities that they face. Will WW produce or fund the creation of such a report?
- CROWD asks WW to advise quarterly what improvement/remedial actions it has taken in our river catchments (and when they were completed) so that we can convey that news to our members and communities.

## **REGULATORY ISSUES**

- CROWD asks WW to share information on what action it seeks at national /county level on regulations to ensure separation of surface water in housing developments and runoff from highways – with a view to local MPs lobbying government on these issues.