

Petition for Debate – Save our beach toilets at Goodrington – Council 19 June 2019 – referred to Cabinet 9 July 2019

1292 paper signatures

Petition to protect and improve toilet capacity for Central and South Goodrington Beach. Toilet facilities on Goodrington Beach are not sufficient and capacity must be increased. Because the very young or very old may have difficulty getting to a distant toilet in time, it is important that toilet facilities continue to be available at the north, central and south ends of the beach.

We petition the council:

- 1) to continue to provide toilet facilities on the south end of the beach – these must not be closed nor made private to patrons of the café. When the paper regarding the future of toilets was brought to and agreed by Council, it was not anticipated that there would be any suggestion of closing the south end toilets. We understand that the capacity calculations for the new central block were based on historical data on usage for the central block only. We do not believe that there is sufficient capacity at the central block to cover the South Sands block also. We further note that if these toilets charged 30p, as the new ones do, the asset could show a profit, similarly to Healthmatic's profit at this rate.

- 2) to increase toilet capacity in the central part of the beach. The existing arrangements are based on historical data of the average numbers of people present, but our local economy relies on peaks in visitor numbers during the season. With 3000 to 6000 visitors to the Beach on peak days, the few cubicles available are insufficient. The impact of insufficient toilet facilities is likely to be hygiene and public health issues in the short term, and a reduction in visitor numbers and online reviews of our destination soon thereafter. Both outcomes create financial problems for the community and the Council.