

Minutes of an Extra Ordinary Parrett Board Meeting held at Bradbury House, 33-34 Market Street, Highbridge on Wednesday 30 August 2017 at 19.00 hrs. **Chairman: Mr P Maltby**

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting, explaining that the meeting was to discuss streamlining of the Board as recommended by the Task & Finish Group. The Chairman expressed categorically, that no other matters of discussion would be conducted at this meeting.

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| 1 Attendance & Apologies for Absence: as per register appended. | |
| 2 Declarations of interest: The Chairman considered declarations of interest were not applicable for this meeting. | |
| 3 Opportunity for members of the public to address the Board meeting: No public present. | |
| 4 Paper for consideration – Streamlining of Board governance: N Stevens (NWS) briefed members on the appended paper (enc 1) and draft minutes of the Task & Finish Group (enc 2), stating that two recommendations had been submitted for full Board approval and that the Chairman and Vice Chairman had recommended the Board adopt electoral districts as detailed in Option 3 of the Governance review. | |

Member discussion (this list is not exhaustive):

- A number of Boards nationally are seeking demaining of Main River water courses and their transfer to other bodies. As part of the arrangements government is seeking far greater oversight of IDBs as part of the transfer, however this is leading to increased scrutiny of the size and governance of all Boards across the country including our local Boards.
- Disappointment was expressed that only 9 of 23 elected members were in attendance at this meeting
- Catchment representatives will still be necessary, however consultation and communication arrangement will be crucial for a reconstituted Board
- Option 2 electoral districts may be better as King's Sedgemoor is not divided in this option
- The west side of the district have similar sized electoral districts that are pump drained, whereas the East side is mainly gravity fed through King's Sedgemoor resulting in the Chair's preferred Option 3
- If the Board does not proceed with reconstitution at this time, Defra (EA or District Councils) would impose a solution that may not be favourable to members, or compatible with good working practice of the Board
- Concern expressed for loss of interest of absent members; it may be that some members are not in attendance as they have chosen to abstain.
- Some members prefer discussions to be held at strategic level, therefore put off by current repetition at meetings
- Following 2005 amalgamation Board district wide matters, rather than catchment, are discussed at meetings
- At future meetings it may transpire that strategic discussion is held at Board meetings whilst operational and governance issues are dealt with by officers on a daily basis
- New philosophy is required by members for the future Board
- Being smaller and more compact will improve the Board
- It is very important that elected members are actin in country life and keen representatives of the Board so as not to lose the local input
- The Board needs to change to meet EA, SRA and other bodies in the future
- Elected representatives have a democratic duty to ensure landowners are represented fully
- Future sustainability of elected membership is a great concern
- Age of members is a concern – new members need to be encouraged
- Historically Board membership was less democratic; current/future time requirement is a concern
- Succession planning is important and to be encouraged
- Task & Finish Group could consider annual catchment meeting with ratepayers and appointed members

PARRETT INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

EXTRA-ORDINARY FULL BOARD MEETING

DATE & TIME: WEDNESDAY 30 AUGUST 2017, 19:00 HRS,

VENUE: BRADBURY HOUSE, 33-34 MARKET STREET, HIGHBRIDGE

BOARD MEMBERS	MILEAGE Please enter return mileage	PRESENT	APOLOGIES
Richard Archer RSPB			
William Barnard			
Roger Barrington	14	R.T. Barrington	
Matthew Bero			
Philip Betty	28	P. Betty	
Ann Bown Ctr (SDC)		A. Bown	
Tony Bradford	14	T. Bradford	
Barrie Bryer		B. Bryer	
Michael Caswell Ctr (SDC)		M. Caswell	
Roger Coombes			
David Durdan Ctr (TDBC)		D. Durdan	
Chris Day			
Ian Dyer Ctr (SDC)		I. Dyer	
Anna Fraser MBE Ctr (SDC)			✓
Andy Fewings			
Andrew Gilling Ctr (SDC)	18	A. Gilling	
Jessica Healey (SDC)		J. Healey	
Mark Heywood		M. Heywood	
Rebecca Horsington			✓
Peter House			✓
John Irish			
Stuart Kingham Ctr (SDC)		S. Kingham	
John Lang (SDC)			✓
Mike Lewis Ctr (SSDC)			
Rachel Lilley Ctr (SDC)			
John Lock			✓
Brenda Maitland-Walker Ctr (WSC)		B. Maitland-Walker	
Peter Malby		P. Malby	
Adrian Moore Ctr (SDC)			
Chris Morgan Ctr (WSC)		C. Morgan	
Stephen Parker (NE)		S. Parker	

NAME	MILEAGE	SIGNATURE	APOLOGIES
Colin Passmore	26	C. Passmore	
Liz Perry Ctr (SDC)	15	L. Perry	
Brian Rowe	14	B. Rowe	
David Spicer (SDC)			✓
Trevor Stanbury			
Phil Stone Ctr (TDBC)		Phil Stone	
John Swayne (SDC)	18	J. Swayne	
Julian Taylor (SDC)	24	J. Taylor	
Geoffrey Theed			
David Vigar			✓
Nick Weeks Ctr (SSDC)		N. Weeks	
James Winslade			
Mervyn Winslade MBE			✓
Malcolm Young			✓