

Our Ref: RGB/C-AP

Date: 3 July 2018

**MINUTES OF THE AXE BRUE FULL BOARD MEETING HELD AT BRADBURY HOUSE ON 26 JUN 18**

<b>Attendance:</b>			
<b>Elected Members:</b> Mr Jeff Fear (Chairman) Mr Ray Adlam (Vice-Chair) Mr R Clapp Mr C Durston Mr A Franks Mr J Frost Mr J Lukins Mr N Lukins Mrs P Thorne Mr D Tratt Mr M Wall Mr D Watts Mr M Watts Mrs W Welland	<b>Appointed Members:</b> Mrs H Case Cllr P Costello Cllr A Gilling Mrs J Healey Mr P Holms Cllr W Human Cllr R Keen Mr S Mews Cllr J Savage Cllr L Scott	<b>Officers:</b> Mr R Burge Miss C-A Porter Mr I Sturdy	<b>Public:</b> Mr M Higgins
<b>Apologies:</b>			
Mr C Ainge Mr E Badman Mrs P Judah Mr M Smith Mr R Wilcox	Cllr A Chidley Cllr A Hamlin Mr D Poole		

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>Detail:</b>	<b>Action</b>
1. Attendance and Apologies:	Apologies as per the above Attendance List.	
2. Items additional to the agenda	<p>2.1. Term of Chairmanship – Mr R Clapp</p> <p>2.2. Repair to outfall at Walliers Bridge – Mr ?</p> <p>2.3. Mr M Watts advised that Mr M Higgins had requested nomination to the Board. The Clerk responded that, at this time, no election process was to be held due to reconstitution, however an election process would take place in accordance with the Election Regulations in Nov 19 and further advised that Mr M Higgins' nomination to stand as a Member would be required to be submitted formally as part of that election process.</p>	

3. Declarations of Interest:	3.1. Cllr A Gilling – Any and all planning matters and matters concerning Ashford Solicitors.	
4. Opportunity for members of the public to address the meeting	None.	
5. Approval of minutes:	<p>5.1. Minutes of the Full Board Meeting of 30 Jan 2018: It was agreed that at Item 6d, the line should read "...rainfall forced levels to rise upstream". With this one amendment, the Minutes were accepted unanimously and signed by the Chair as an accurate and true reflection of the Meeting.</p> <p>5.2. Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Board Meeting of 24 May 18: The Minutes were accepted unanimously and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate reflection of the Meeting</p>	
6. Matters Arising	<p>6.1. Meeting of 30 Jan 18 – None.</p> <p>6.2. Meeting of 24 May 18 – None.</p> <p>6.3. Cllr Gilling advised that Sedgemoor District Council (SDC) had advised that appointed membership was being discussed as a matter of urgency.</p>	
7. Governance Update	7.1. The Chair proposed that Item 7(Governance Update) was moved to later in the meeting so as not to impinge on the primary focus of the Meeting which was to approve the End Of Year (EOY) Accounts. All agreed. (See Later Agenda Item)	
8. Finance Report:	<p>8.1. The Clerk opened this Agenda Item by advising the Board that both the SDBC and Axe Brue Accounts the EOY accounts had been thoroughly scrutinized by the Policy, Finance &amp; Governance Committee at a Meeting of 12 Jun 18.</p> <p>8.2. Cllr Gilling Proposed, Seconded by J Lukins, that <b>"the SDBC OOY Accounts to 31 Mar 18 as submitted be approved by the Axe Brue IDB."</b> Vote: Unanimous.</p> <p>8.3. Cllr Gilling then proposed, Seconded by W Welland that <b>"the Axe Brue EOY Account to 31 Mar 18 be approved by the Axe Brue IDB."</b> Vote: Unanimous.</p> <p>8.4. With regards to the Annual Governance &amp; Accountability Return 2017/2018 Part 3 Section 1, Members were satisfied that there was a sound system of</p>	<p><b>RESOLUTION 1</b></p> <p><b>RESOLUTION 2</b></p>





	<p>been undertaken for this season at a cost of £350. The Clerk had attempted to arrange an introductory meeting with Mr Sperrings and was awaiting a response. The Meeting was advised that some construction had been undertaken on-site which may prevent further access; <b>SDC Appointed Members took an action to seek confirmation of SDC planning consent on the apparent construction works at Pint Pot Cottage and advise the Board accordingly.</b></p> <p>9.13. Item 10.3 - Cheddar Yeo: Agency Bank Repair update – The bank has been reinstated to a satisfactory standard; this work was not undertaken by the Environment Agency.</p> <p>9.14. Improvement Works: Item 12.2.3 Meareway: <i>(Mr R Adlam declared an interest in this matter)</i>. Officers recommended the development of a scheme to allow flood water on the road to drain quickly and effectively in conjunction with minor road re-profiling. External funding options to be considered. Mrs. P Thorne Proposed, Seconded by Mr R Clapp, that <b>“the Axe Brue IDB approves development of a scheme for formalized spillway with minor highway re-profiling and modest individual measures around Mr Moseley’s property with a budget not greater than £30k.”</b> Vote: For 22, Against 0, Abstain 1; Motion carried.</p> <p>9.15: Item 12.2.10 - Decoy Rhyne: Gratitude was expressed for the achievements of A Dowden in connection with Decoy Rhyne.</p> <p>9.16. Programme Development Control: Item 13.3 - Steart Farm should read Steart Farm, Wedmore Road, Cheddar.</p> <p>9.17. SRA Update: The IDB continued to promote works at SRA on a catchment-based approach.</p> <p>9.18. Members Tour: It was requested that areas that require works should be included within a tour of the area alongside completed works.</p> <p>9.19. Items additional to the agenda: (1) Walliers Bridge: It was stated that members would prefer a more personal and verbal approach rather than ‘official’ letters. The Clerk advised that a communications plan would be formulated to include Area Managers and local representatives talking to land owners to explain and discuss correspondence and future schemes.</p> <p>9.12. (2) Bleaddon Sluice: The Clerk advised that the</p>	<p><b>New Action: AB/20180624-02 – SDC Members</b></p> <p><b>RESOLUTION 8</b></p>
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	<p>Environment Agency was in constant contact with Bristol Water and movement on Bleadon Sluice was expected in due course. Nevertheless, the Clerk took an action to <b>contact the Director of Bristol Water to request an update of the situation and report back to the Board.</b></p>	<p><b>New Action: AB/20180624-03 - Clerk</b></p>
<p>10. Governance Update</p>	<p>10.1. The Clerk summarised to the Board the rationale and current status of the Defra Order for the Reconstitution of the Axe Brue Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defra guidance recommended that a large Board should, ideally, be not greater than 21 members.</li> <li>• The Board had agreed to reconstitute to 25 (12 Elected, 13 Appointed Members)</li> <li>• The Minister was expected to sign the Order week commencing 2 Jul 18.</li> <li>• Elected membership had been agreed at the Extra Ordinary Board Meeting held 24 May 18.</li> <li>• The clerk was awaiting confirmation of Local Authority appointed members (13 seats).</li> <li>• The current Board remained extant until the day after the Order had been signed by the Minister.</li> </ul> <p>10.2. The Clerk recommended that the Joint Axe Brue/Parrett Task &amp; Finish Group meet on 28 Jun 18 to develop and agree the principles and processes to be proposed to the first sitting of the new reconstituted Boards. Cllr J Savage Proposed, Seconded by W Welland, that <b>“the Axe Brue IDB conducts a joint Task &amp; Finish Group meeting with the Parrett IDB on Thu 28 Jun 18 to discuss governance procedures.”</b> Vote: unanimous.</p> <p>10.3. With regards to the Reconstitution of the Board, the Clerk stated that he had received a letter from a member of the public, Mr M Higgins, requesting information and clarification on the background to reconstitution. The Clerk had responded accordingly in a letter to Mr Higgins (in attendance) on 14 Jun 18.</p> <p>10.4. The Clerk also stated that, following the accusation raised by Mr M Watts at the last Meeting of the Chair having misled the Board into its decision to reconstitute stating that it was ‘Defra Policy’, he had written to Mr Watts recommending that his complaint was progressed formally in accordance with the formal Compliants Procedure. Having received a written response, the Clerk had now investigated the background of the claim, had listened fully to the recording of the Extra Ordinary Board Meeting of 31 Aug 17 where the decision was taken, but could find no evidence to support the complaint. Having not been</p>	<p><b>RESOLUTION 9</b></p>

	<p>resolved to the satisfaction of Mr Watts, the next step in the procedure was to approach the full Board for investigation.</p> <p>10.5. In accordance with the Complaints Procedure, the Clerk provided an overview of the complaint and the background to the claim. With no evidence to support Mr Watts' claim, he and asked the Board Members if there was a case to answer. Cllr J Savage Proposed, Seconded by Cllr P Costello, that <b>“the Axe Brue IDB conducts a vote of confidence for the Chair.”</b> The Vice Chair took the meeting. Vote: For 20; Against 0; Abstain 1; motion carried.</p> <p>10.6. The Vice Chair thanked members for their support in the Chair and for the conclusion of the vote. The Clerk advised that the Board that they had not been misled in making its decision to reconstitute and therefore believed that there is no case to answer. Mr M Watts withdrew his complaint. Mr Fear then took back the Chairmanship of the Meeting, thanking the Vice Chair for his action.</p> <p>10.7. The Clerk advised the Meeting that this was most likely to be the final meeting of the Axe Brue IDB in its current form. An emergent meeting of the new reconstituted Board would be called with as much notice as possible.</p> <p>10.8. All out-going Board members were thanked for their contributions over the years; all members concurred with this sentiment.</p>	<b>RESOLUTION 10</b>
<p>11. Date of next meeting:</p>	<p>11.1 The date of the next Axe Brue Full Board would be advised as soon as possible after the Order for reconstitution had been received.</p> <p>There being no other business the Chair sincerely thanked members and officers for their attendance and the meeting was closed at 12.20 hrs.</p>	

CHAIRMAN.....DATE .....