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.

1 Attendance & Apologies for Absence: as per register appended.

Action

- **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

Proposed CIIr Ian Dyer, Seconded Colin Passmore 'that the Parrett IDB reconstitute to reduce the number of members and create closer working through the consortium and ensure consistent and effective governance between both organisations. Amalgamation will be considered within three years of reconstitution and that the Parrett IDB reconstitutes with 25 members comprising 12 elected and 13 appointed members and that the Task & Finish Group considers Option 2 and 3 of the Governance Review.' Vote: unanimous RESOLUTION 1

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The Chairman thanked members for their support and consideration on this matter.

Item 8 Further Actions:

Members gave consideration to awarding delegated powers to the Task & Finish Group as detailed in the Streamlining paper, with the addition of considering options 2 and 3 of the Governance Report for the Parrett IDB.

Proposed Cllr David Durden, Seconded Cllr Michael Caswell 'that the Parrett IDB award delegated authority to the Task & Finish Group to a) prepare and submit a draft scheme to the Environment Agency b) deal with any objections c) select the name of the reconstituted Board d) prepare and agree a Scheme of Delegation for the new Board e) prepare and agree all the policies of the new Board and f) consider options 2 and 3 of the Governance Review Report for the Parrett IDB.' Vote: unanimous RESOUTION 2

Item 8.2

Members concurred that the Clerk should write to the current elected membership seeking expressions of interest for those electoral districts that they would wish to be considered for, whilst meeting the Land Drainage Act 1991 criteria. Where more than one person wishes to stand in a district, the Main Board shall decide who should be put forward to the Minister.

Board Byelaws, Standing Orders and the Land Drainage Act 1991 need to be adhered to strictly to ensure a professional future body.

- 5 Procedure for approval of the minutes of the meeting: The draft minutes shall be disseminated via email for confirmation with formal approval at the Full Board meeting to be held on 14 November 2017 – all agreed.
- 6 Date of next Task & Finish Group meeting: as necessary to be confirmed.
- 7 Date of Next Board Meetings:
 - Works Committee: 12 September 2017
 - Policy, Finance and Governance: 26 September 2017
 - Full Board: 14 November 2017

There being no other business the Chairman thanked members and officers for attending and closed the meeting at 19.50 hrs

| CHAIRMAN | DATE |
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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 |
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| Mark Heywood | | WILL | |
| Rebecca Horsington | | | - |
| Peter House | | | - |
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| Stuart Kingham Clir (SDC) | | 8 | |
| John Lang (SDC) | | | ~ |
| Mike Lewis Clir (SSDC) | | | 2102 |
| Rachel Lilley Clir (SDC) | | | |
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| Peter Malfby | | Flo Yalltoy | |
| Adrian Moore Clir (SDC) | | | |
| Chris Morgan Clir (WSC) | | Clone Myrgan | |
| Stephen Parker (NE) | | 318 | |

| NAME | MILEAGE | SIGNATURE | APOLOGIES |
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| Brian Rowe | 14 | BROW | |
| David Spicer (SDC) | | | ~ |
| Trevor Stanbury | | 0.1.1 | |
| Phil Stone Clir (TDBC) | | Philippe | |
| John Swayne (SDC) | là. | 125-97 | |
| Julian Taylor (SDC) | 24 | Juliatagley | |
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| David Vigar | | | |
| Nick Weeks Clir (SSDC) | | Dec - | |
| James Winslade | | | |
| Mervyn Winslade MBE | | | ~ |
| Malcolm Young | | | 1 |