

**Minutes of the meeting of the Lower Severn (2005) Internal Drainage Board  
Held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 2.00 pm  
At Gables Hotel Falfield**

Present:

Cllr M Riddle	Chairman	
Mr M Barnes	Vice-Chairman	Mr G R Littleton
Cllr Abraham		Ald S Milestone
Cllr B Behan		Cllr S Morgan
Cllr P Burford		Mr J Nichols
Mrs F Collins		Cllr E Orpen
Mr J Cornock		Mr I Ractliffe
Mr T Cullimore		Ald B Richards
Mr R Godwin		Cllr S Walker
Miss R Hewlett		Ald C Williams
Mr J Hore		Mr K Withers
Mr R Hyslop		

Staff:

Martin Dear	Accounts Officer	AO
James Druett	Land Drainage Engineer	LDE
James Thomas	Civil Engineer	CE
Kieran Warren	Principal Officer	PO
Sue Williams	Minutes	

<b>2747.</b>	<p><b>Election of Chairman 2018/19</b> Mr Littleton took the Chair and invited nominations for the post of Chairperson. Cllr Riddle was proposed and seconded for the post. No other nominations were proposed.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b> <b>Cllr M Riddle be elected Chairman for the ensuing year.</b></p> <p>Cllr Riddle thanked the members for their faith in him and supporting his nomination as Chairman.</p>	
<b>2748.</b>	<p><b>Tribute to Mr Graham Littleton</b> Cllr Riddle paid tribute to Graham Littleton who had been Chairman of the Board since 1994. He expressed on behalf of the Board their thanks for his dedication to the role through the many changes and challenges during that time.</p> <p>Members and staff had presented Mr Littleton with a print of the wetland landscape at Slimbridge at an earlier presentation attended by Mrs Littleton, retired members and drainage Board employees.</p> <p>Mr Littleton thanked members and staff current and past for the gift and their support during his chairmanship</p>	
<b>2749.</b>	<p><b>Election of Vice-Chairman 2018/19</b> Cllr Riddle took the Chair and invited nominations for the post of Vice-Chairperson. Mr M Barnes was proposed and seconded. No other nominations were proposed.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr M Barnes be elected Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.</b></li> </ul>	
<b>2750.</b>	<p><b>Apologies and Welcome</b> Apologies were received from and Mr P Goodey, Cllr J Jones, Mr G Simms and Mr R Thatcher.</p>	
<b>2751.</b>	<p><b>Chairman's Announcements</b> <u>ADA Conference 2018</u> The Chairman announced that himself, Mr G Simms and the CE would be attending the forthcoming ADA Conference in London.</p>	<p><u>Action 1</u> PO to circulate</p>

	<p><u>SWADA Branch Meeting</u> Any members interested in attending the SWADA branch meeting to be held at Highbridge on the 28<sup>th</sup> November to let the office know.</p>	details of SWADA meeting to members																																																																																
2752.	<p><b>Declaration of Members Interest</b> Mr Ractliffe declared his interest in the item discussed under minute 2762.</p>																																																																																	
2753.	<p><b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b> Ald Milestone asked that her apologies be recorded for the meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018 minute 2734. A correction was required to clarify that although Mr Hore and Mr Thatcher had not attended that meeting, their apologies had been received and recorded.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Subject to these amendments the Minutes of the meeting held 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018 be approved.</b></li> </ul>																																																																																	
2754.	<p><b>Actions from Minutes</b></p> <p><u>Action 1</u> A meeting had still to be arranged with members to look in detail at the Slimbridge WLMP. The Chairman asked members who were interested to attend to contact the Engineers.</p> <p><u>Action 2</u> An executive summary had been prepared to add to the WLMP.</p>																																																																																	
2755.	<p><b>Dates of Future Board Meetings</b> The PO had prepared a schedule of dates for 2019/20 Board and Committee meetings for approval.</p> <p>The Chairman explained that a S&amp;P Committee meeting arranged for the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 had been cancelled, Committee members agreed the business from this meeting would be dealt with at the S&amp;P meeting already scheduled to be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019.</p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The following schedule of meetings be approved:</b></li> </ul> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Meeting</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Time</th> <th>Venue</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Full Board Meeting</td> <td>6 February 2019</td> <td>2.00 pm</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rate Setting</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasury Sub</td> <td>13 March 2019</td> <td>10.00 am</td> <td>DB Offices</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance &amp; Probity</td> <td>3 April 2019</td> <td>10.30 am</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff &amp; Pensions</td> <td>8 May 2019</td> <td>10.30 am</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F&amp;GP</td> <td>22 May 2019</td> <td>10.30 am</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Full Board Meeting</td> <td>5 June 2019</td> <td>2.00 pm</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Treasury Sub</td> <td>4 September 2019</td> <td>10.00 am</td> <td>DB Offices</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F&amp;GP</td> <td>11 September 2019</td> <td>10.30 am</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Full Board Meeting</td> <td>25 September 2019</td> <td>2.00 pm</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Full Board Meeting</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Annual Meeting</td> <td>6 November 2019</td> <td>2.00 pm</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Engineering</td> <td>20 November 2019</td> <td>10.30 am</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance &amp; Probity</td> <td>4 December 2019</td> <td>10.30 am</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F&amp;GP</td> <td>11 December 2019</td> <td>10.30 am</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff &amp; Pensions</td> <td>8 January 2020</td> <td>10.30 am</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>F&amp;GP</td> <td>22 January 2020</td> <td>10.30 am</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Full Board Meeting</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rate Setting</td> <td>5 February 2020</td> <td>2.00 pm</td> <td>The Gables</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Meeting	Date	Time	Venue	Full Board Meeting	6 February 2019	2.00 pm	The Gables	Rate Setting				Treasury Sub	13 March 2019	10.00 am	DB Offices	Governance & Probity	3 April 2019	10.30 am	The Gables	Staff & Pensions	8 May 2019	10.30 am	The Gables	F&GP	22 May 2019	10.30 am	The Gables	Full Board Meeting	5 June 2019	2.00 pm	The Gables	Treasury Sub	4 September 2019	10.00 am	DB Offices	F&GP	11 September 2019	10.30 am	The Gables	Full Board Meeting	25 September 2019	2.00 pm	The Gables	Full Board Meeting				Annual Meeting	6 November 2019	2.00 pm	The Gables	Engineering	20 November 2019	10.30 am	The Gables	Governance & Probity	4 December 2019	10.30 am	The Gables	F&GP	11 December 2019	10.30 am	The Gables	Staff & Pensions	8 January 2020	10.30 am	The Gables	F&GP	22 January 2020	10.30 am	The Gables	Full Board Meeting				Rate Setting	5 February 2020	2.00 pm	The Gables	
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2756.	<p><b>Member Appointment to Committees and Sub-Committee 2018/19</b></p> <p><b>Resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The membership of the Committees for the ensuing year be as shown below:</li> </ul> <p><u>Finance &amp; General Purposes Committee - 11 Members</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Mr M Barnes</td><td>Cllr P Abraham</td></tr> <tr><td>Mr J Cornock</td><td>Cllr P Awford</td></tr> <tr><td>Mr J Hore</td><td>Ald B Richards</td></tr> <tr><td>Mr G Littleton</td><td>Cllr M Riddle</td></tr> <tr><td>Mr G Simms</td><td>Ald C Williams</td></tr> <tr><td>Mr R Thatcher</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p><u>Staff &amp; Pensions Committee - 9 Members</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Mrs F Collins</td><td>Cllr P Awford</td></tr> <tr><td>Mr R Godwin</td><td>Cllr B Behan</td></tr> <tr><td>Mr G Littleton</td><td>Cllr P Burford</td></tr> <tr><td>Mr J Nichols</td><td>Ald S Milestone</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Cllr S Morgan</td></tr> </table> <p><u>Engineering Committee - 11 Members</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Mr M Barnes</td><td>Cllr J Jones</td></tr> <tr><td>Mr J Cornock</td><td>Mr P Goodey</td></tr> <tr><td>Mr T Cullimore</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Mr R Godwin</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Ms R Hewlett</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Mr R Hyslop</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Mr I Ractliffe</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Mr G Simms</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Mr R Thatcher</td><td></td></tr> </table> <p><u>Governance &amp; Probity Committee - 6 Members</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Mr K Withers</td><td>Cllr P Abraham</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Cllr B Behan</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Cllr J Jones</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Ald S Milestone</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>Cllr M Riddle</td></tr> </table> <p><u>Treasury Sub-Committee – 4 Members</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr><td>Mr M Barnes</td><td>Cllr M Riddle</td></tr> <tr><td>Mr J Nichols</td><td>Ald C Williams</td></tr> </table>	Mr M Barnes	Cllr P Abraham	Mr J Cornock	Cllr P Awford	Mr J Hore	Ald B Richards	Mr G Littleton	Cllr M Riddle	Mr G Simms	Ald C Williams	Mr R Thatcher		Mrs F Collins	Cllr P Awford	Mr R Godwin	Cllr B Behan	Mr G Littleton	Cllr P Burford	Mr J Nichols	Ald S Milestone		Cllr S Morgan	Mr M Barnes	Cllr J Jones	Mr J Cornock	Mr P Goodey	Mr T Cullimore		Mr R Godwin		Ms R Hewlett		Mr R Hyslop		Mr I Ractliffe		Mr G Simms		Mr R Thatcher		Mr K Withers	Cllr P Abraham		Cllr B Behan		Cllr J Jones		Ald S Milestone		Cllr M Riddle	Mr M Barnes	Cllr M Riddle	Mr J Nichols	Ald C Williams	
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2757.	<p><b>Staff &amp; Pensions Committee</b></p> <p>As reported the S&amp;P Committee meeting arranged for 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018 had been cancelled and agreed to be re-arranged for 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019.</p>																																																							
2758.	<p><b>Election 2018</b></p> <p>The PO reported that the 2018 Election had been uncontested and 14 members had been elected to fill the 14 vacancies. Notice of the result had been published in accordance with regulations.</p>																																																							
2759.	<p><b>Hill Pill</b></p> <p>The CE had prepared a report (minute 2743 refers) giving details of the area and properties protected by the outfall. The CE report provided three possible schemes, together with a rough indication of the cost of each option.</p> <p>The Engineers' preferred option was the transfer of inland water from the Oldbury High Level Carrier into the Hill catchment to provide a maintenance free solution. The CE could not be confident that this scheme would not increase the risk of flooding in other parts of the Hill catchment.</p>																																																							

	<p>There was a full discussion and some members were concerned that a precedent would be set and further outfalls in the Board's area could require similar action.</p> <p>Members with knowledge of the Hill/Rockhampton area explained how at times of heavy rainfall, when the tide flaps were locked and the high-level carrier was at capacity this put pressure on the Rockhampton catchment, when even under these circumstances the Hill Pill only ran at half capacity.</p> <p>The Engineers recommended the Board fund a hydraulic study to provide a long-term solution for the Hill catchment.</p> <p><b>It was resolved that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A hydraulic study be commissioned to model the Hill catchment to find a solution to the build-up of silt against the flap valve and fully test the consequences of the scheme.</b></li> <li>• <b>The fact that data from this study would contribute to the evidence required for the planned replacement of the Oldbury Pumping Station in 2025/26 be noted.</b></li> </ul>	
<b>2760.</b>	<p><b>Hope Pill Outfall Arlingham</b></p> <p>The LDE reported that this outfall suffered from a build-up of silt caused by the low flow of water this Summer; this had been reported to the Environment Agency for immediate action to remove the silt whilst the flap was still operational.</p> <p>Mr Littleton would be attending the IDB/EA Liaison meeting with the LDE in November and would raise this issue with the EA.</p>	
<b>2761.</b>	<p><b>Saul Pump Station</b></p> <p>The LDE reported that the replacement pump had been received. He had submitted the pump design to the EA for consent and was waiting for their reply.</p>	
<b>2762.</b>	<p><b>River Leadon</b></p> <p>The CE reported that he had attended a meeting hosted by NFU with local landowners and representatives from the EA to discuss the ongoing issues with the main river. Landowners were dissatisfied by the lack of assistance from the Board and in particular the lack of maintenance by the EA.</p> <p>The EA had commissioned a study to assess the economic consequence of flooding of the lower reaches of the River Leadon; this would enable the EA to make a bid for grant aid. The CE reported that a successful bid would not cover 100% of the scheme cost and anticipated the Board would be asked to make a contribution.</p> <p>Mr Ractliffe had also attended the meeting. He said in 2015 the Board had rejected a scheme to de-main the River Leadon based on cost analysis (minute 2266 refers). Ratepayers had paid approximately £25,000 a year in rates to the LSIDB. He said very little had been done over the past 10 years for the £250,000 that had been raised. The LSIDB pump replacement programme had deferred any additional expenditure in the River Leadon catchment. He calculated that a further £250,000 would be spent to benefit other parts of the Board's area that already had a higher standard of service.</p> <p>Mr Ractliffe understood the EA were going to fund a silt test to establish how far up the River Leadon silt was being deposited but he had no faith that this would result in any action from the EA, and might limit the scope of an application for grant aid.</p> <p>Mr Ractliffe continued that the flaps on the outfall had been ineffective for some years. Silt that came in with the tide settled in the same manner as at Hill Pill. Mr Ractliffe warned that the situation would worsen and that ratepayers would become more dissatisfied. Tree clearance and replacing the flaps on the outfall could be carried out, but it needed the LSIDB and EA to work with the landowners.</p> <p>The Chairman asked the LDE how much the Board were currently spending in the River Leadon area. The LDE said that on the IDB watercourses he would estimate</p>	

	<p>that approximately £25k was spent annually. Mr Ractliffe responded that the IDB maintenance was not dealing with the main problem just dealing with the maintenance of marginal tributaries.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Mr Ractliffe for raising the issue. He intended to visit the Board's area to get a better understanding of the different issues that affected land drainage. He planned to make the River Leadon his first visit.</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 3.00 pm.</p>	