

Rea Internal Drainage Board

R L R Jones FRICS FAAV
SURVEYOR & CLERK

New Windsor House
Oxon Business Park
Bicton Heath
Shrewsbury
SY3 5HJ

Tel: 01743 241181
Direct Line: 01743 239222
Fax: 01743 242300

7th July 2016

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE VICTORY HALL, YOCKLETON On Thursday 16th June 2016 at 7:30pm

Present:

D Dale (Chairman)
P Jetson
James Dale
A Jones
David Evans
R L R Jones (Clerk & Surveyor)

1. Apologies for Absence

These were received from A Bebb and J Morris

2. Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on the 30th March 2016 previously circulated were accepted and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

The complaint by the new purchaser of The Villa, Marton was ongoing in that he had recently complained to Shropshire Council Drainage Department and the Clerk would respond to Mr Edwards accordingly.

4. Maintenance Report

The Board confirmed the proposed maintenance for 2016 would be as detailed in previous meeting's minutes.

The shoals in the Reabrook at the ends of Weston Brook and Bromlow New Cut and also immediately downstream of the Rea Bridge would be dealt with as part of this year's maintenance at the usual time in September/October. The Surveyor would now write to land owners of Halston and Pontesford No 1 watercourses to ascertain if they wish these to be done.

An inspection of New Cut and Cruckton Brook would be undertaken and any work necessary then instructed.

5. Financial Report

The Balances – £25,679.59
Payments since last meeting - £8,385.37
Receipts since last meeting - £9,475.54
Arrears - £4,550.33

The Clerk confirmed that demands had gone out during May and a good number of cheques had been received already.

Arrears

The 3 ratepayers who now owed 3 years rates, these being E D Davies, R A Jenkins and C Miles. The Clerk was instructed that if payment had not been received after 2 months, a reminder would be sent and thence if not paid after a further month, action to claim the debt would be pursued.

The Governance Statement in the Annual Return was read out by the Clerk and the Board confirmed acceptance of these statements and the form was duly signed by the Chairman. The accounts for 2015/16 were circulated and discussed and on a motion proposed by D Dale and seconded by J Dale, these were approved and the accounting statement in the DEFRA Return was approved and signed accordingly by the Chairman

6. Correspondence

Received from ADA via email:-

- a) Floodex 2016 – a new event held 18th & 19th May near Peterborough – it is felt this had been a success.
- b) IDB – IDB Clerk's Meeting at Thorney on 6th July. This has now been cancelled and a new date to be set. The Clerk is unlikely to attend due to the travelling distance (now 15th September)
- c) ADA appears before the House of Commons EFRA Committee on future flood prevention policy
- d) Robert Caldwell, Farmer from Lincolnshire has been appointed ADA Vice President. Mr Caldwell will ultimately likely take over from Henry Cator, current Chairman, landowner and surveyor from Norfolk.
- e) Environment Agency Chief Executive appeared before the EFRA Committee.
- f) EFRA Committee publishes 'Worsfold Review' of the Environment Agencies flood maintenance. This had taken 18 months to be published and some points were critical of EA's maintenance policies.
- g) The Lords had recently voted in favour of including a SUDS amendment to the Housing Bill.

Whether the Government would accept this amendment and include this has yet to be seen. Some discussion arose over SUDS and it was felt that it was important for SUDS to be a requirement for all new development to protect excess water flows in watercourses from new development.

- h) Changes in IDB election advertising mean we can now advertise results elections on our website, rather than through expensive newspaper advertising.

7. Any Other Business

- a) The Clerk was asked to submit an up to date list of Board members to ADA for them to receive the ADA Gazette.
- b) The Chairman produced a photograph of Jim Donald's retirement presentation and it was agreed that the Clerk would submit this to the ADA Gazette for inclusion with a small piece to mark Jim's retirement after nearly 40 year's service.
- c) Howard Smith of Worthen Hall had requested permission for a section of the IDB maintained Sludge watercourse to be removed from the Board's responsibility. This was approximately 110m at the Top End of the watercourse. Mr Smith proposes to create a wetland scrape area alongside the Board watercourse. The excess water from this was proposed to flow back into our watercourse. A substantial drain runs from Worthen Hall buildings, the water from which would be used to wet this proposed scrape. As this proposal would not affect any other ratepayer, it was felt that agreement to his proposal could be given, subject to the proviso that should a future landowner wished to re-instate this section of ditch as a Board maintained watercourse, this would be subject at that time to the then Board's approval and could not therefore be guaranteed.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The summer field meeting would be held on Thursday September 1st, meeting at the Rea Bridge in Weston to look at the top end of the Rea.

The next meeting was set for Thursday 6th October 2016 at The Victory Hall, Yockleton.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9pm.

..... **Dated**