

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Board (the 59th Meeting) held at 9.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 15th July 2009 at Great Carlton Village Hall to discuss the Board's response to the draft Flood and Water Management Bill.

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|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| * Messrs M. Clark (Chairman) | * Cllrs H. Marfleet (Vice-Chairman) |
| G. Billings                  | G. Allan                            |
| * W. Cooper                  | * D.G. Andrews                      |
| * G. Crust                   | C.J. Davie                          |
| R.J. Epton                   | * S.W. Eyre                         |
| * T.H. Heys                  | * C. Finch                          |
| * J.M. Mowbray               | G.M. Gooding                        |
| R.H. Needham                 | * A. Howard                         |
| N. Pike                      | P. Leivers                          |
| * P.W. Pridgeon              | R.J. Palmer                         |
| * D.R. Tagg                  | * W. Parkinson                      |
| R.A.D. Unsworth              | N.L. Pimperton                      |
| vacancy                      | * M. Preen                          |
|                              | * R.B. Shields                      |
- \* Present
- \* Messrs C. Hinchcliffe (Clerk and Chief Executive)
- \* D.J. Sisson (Engineer)
- \* In attendance

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs G. Billings, R.H. Needham, N. Pike, R.A.D. Unsworth, Cllrs C.J. Davie and R.J. Palmer.

2. BOARD'S RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT FLOOD AND WATER MANAGEMENT BILL

The Clerk circulated a suggested response that the Board may like to make to the draft Flood and Water Management Bill sponsored by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

The Clerk stated that the proposed draft presented internal drainage boards (IDBs) with challenges but also great opportunities, particularly in the areas of partnership working with local authorities and the Environment Agency. He explained that the Bill would be a fifth session Bill which might mean that a very much shortened Bill was actually presented to Parliament but a later larger Bill would probably appear in the first or second sessions of the new Parliament. It was agreed that as the Association of Drainage Authorities (ADA) was making a detailed response on behalf of all drainage boards, the Board's individual response should support the views expressed by ADA.

The Clerk reported that the draft Bill included a consultation paper and the Board would be responding to that consultation. He stated that it was the consultation paper which could have the major impact upon the regulation and financing of IDBs. The consultation asked for views on changes to the boundaries of IDBs, changes to the name of IDBs, revised funding structures directly from the Environment Agency instead of local authorities, and changes to the membership of IDBs.

After much discussion and changes to the wording, it was **RESOLVED** that the attached response should be sent to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

CHAIRMAN