**Melverley Internal Drainage Board**

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| R L R Jones FRICS FAAV |  | 17 Rowton Road |
| SURVEYOR & CLERK |  | Shrewsbury |
|  |  | SY2 6JA |
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| Our ref: RLRJMIDB17.20 |  | Tel: 07980 785111 |
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**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD OUTDOORS AT**

# ARGOED FARM, Kinnerley on Wednesday 9 SEPTEMBER 2020 at 7.30pm

**Members Present:**

Bryan Edwards

Betton Cambidge

Steve Roberts

Ron Edwards

R Jones (Clerk and Surveyor)

**Apologies:**

These were received from Councillor B Williams, N Whittingham, R Frank

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|  | **Minutes of the Previous Meeting held 22 January 2020** |
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|  | These had been previously circulated and were approved by the Board and signed by the Chairman. |
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|  | **Matters arising** |
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|  | Tontine Cottage – Flooding |
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|  | The Clerk referred to his report of 1 April regarding this. Stuart Lockley of Shropshire Council Highways was not able to agree to meet part of the cost of the proposed scheme. We would need Shropshire Council’s drainage officer’s firm support to have any chance of getting any funding. Due to COVID, the Surveyor has not yet met John Bellis, Shropshire Council drainage officer, but he will be doing so in October when this scheme will be looked at together. |
|  | Coed-y-Rae Lane |
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|  | The underground drain leading from the end of the Board maintained ditch, which had become blocked, has been cleared by contractor John Roberts and the defective pipe section replaced. |
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|  | *Acksea Watercourse* |
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|  | Some hand clearance work downstream of the farm bridge at Brook House, Kinnerley, has been undertaken, but it is possible that some revetment work will be needed to provide a permanent solution to the bank slippage which is the issue here. |
|  | **Surveyor's Report** |
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|  | Contracts for maintenance work have been let to three contractors, R A Morris, B Bebb and J Roberts. Due to the season, large areas of grass are still shut up for silage and corn crops are yet to be harvested, so only limited work on the maintenance programme has started. Bebb would be starting on Looking Glass watercourse on 10 September, Morris has done some work on Lower Turfmoor watercourse and Tom Lane watercourse to date. A large number of trees and boughs have fallen into the watercourses due to the serious flooding earlier in the year and exceptional high winds during August. Work on replacement culvert at Fox Hall watercourse was about to begin. Flooding has affected the road culvert on the Pwll watercourse. The Surveyor would inspect this. |
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|  | **Clerk’s Report** |
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|  | Bank balance at 2 September 2020:Current account £38,429.31Business premium account £10,076.98Total: £48,506.29 |
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|  | Rates have been collected from 101 ratepayers, totalling £13,850.64. This represents approximately one-third of the rates due, as per the schedule attached. |
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|  | Payments made since last meeting total £11,671.84, as per the list attached. |
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|  | Outstanding invoice to pay for work re jetting land drains and cleaning ditch etc, as a consequence of the Sandford Brook water escaping into the field drainage system - £2,622.50, plus VAT. The Board agreed to pay this. |
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|  | Two ratepayers have expressed an interest in joining the Board, D Ward, Manor Farm, Crickheath and A Jones, Clawdd Coch, Carreghofa, Llanymynech. Possible co-option of these ratepayers to the Board deferred to next meeting. |
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|  | A Flood Action Group has been set up in Melverley following the severe February floods. Mrs J Murray of Malt House, Melverley is the Chair. A meeting with the Flood Action Group together with John Bellis, Shropshire Council drainage officer and the MIDB, is being arranged soon. |
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|  | A flood embankment on the line of the Shrewsbury North West Relief Road is coming under consideration again. A similar scheme was first mooted approximately 15 years ago, but was cut due to its cost. This scheme would create a temporary storage lake upstream running towards Fitz and Montfort Bridge in flood times to help reduce the peak levels running through Shrewsbury and prevent the extensive flooding in the town. The Clerk feels it is most important that this must not impact detrimentally on our area and protection measures for the village of Pentre and properties in Melverley must be incorporated. |
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|  | **Correspondence** |
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|  | The Clerk highlighted that ADA had made a lengthy response to the government’s consultation on the Environmental Land Management Scheme. ADA had stressed the importance of making payments under this scheme to farmers for the storage of flood water. |
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|  | **Approval of 2019/20 Accounts** |
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|  | The accounts for 2019/20 previously circulated, were presented by the Clerk. He explained that EA had not paid the foreign water grant and therefore we had not paid them the precept. He had chased them over this and he confirmed the net sum due for both 2018/19 and 2019/20 had just been received. .Admin Costs were down as we only now pay an annual maintenance charge for the DRS programmeThe Board approved the accounts and the Chairman and Clerk signed them accordingly |
| **7** | **Approval of Annual Governance and Accounting Statement** |
| 7.1 | The annual governance statement was approved by the Board and duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk. |
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| 7.2 | The accounting statements were approved by the Board. The Chairman and the responsible financial officer then signed the return .The return will be submitted to our auditors, PKF Littlejohn. The public inspection period for the accounts would run for 30 days from 14 September 2020. |
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| **8** | **Any Other Business** |
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|  | In view of the recent tightening of rules relating to COVID-19 and the time of year, the Clerk reported the next meeting would have to be by way of a Zoom virtual meeting.  |
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| **9** | **Dates of Next Meeting** |
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|  | The Board would have to meet during January 2021 to set the rate on a date to be agreed. |
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| There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm |

Signed: .............................................................

Dated: ..............................................................