

Strine Internal Drainage Board

Minutes for the meeting held on Monday 2nd June 2025

at Kynnersley Village Hall

Present: Harry Gregory (chairman), John Belcher (vice-chairman), Isabel Moseley, Bruce Udale, Neil Phillips, Lucinda Lycett (Telford & Wrekin Council)

1. **Apologies** – Chris Holman & Harvey Moseley
2. **Declarations of interest** – none
3. **Consideration of minutes from the previous meeting held on 31st March 2025** – The board considered the minutes and John Belcher proposed that they be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. This was seconded by Isabel Moseley.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes** – The clerk has not completed the update of the Health & Safety files but will look at this before work starts in the late summer. All other matters were to be covered elsewhere in the agenda. Isabel & John have looked into purchasing tree sheers to undertake bankside work but nothing had been purchased as yet. *ACTION:* Clerk to confirm file updates prior to the maintenance season. The purchase of tree sheers to be discussed again at the next meeting.
5. **Approval of annual return to the auditors** – The clerk presented the profit and loss account and the balance sheet of accounts for the year ending 31st March 2025. The clerk pointed out that income had exceeded the £25,000 limit enabling boards to certify themselves as exempt from external audit. Variances of significance from the previous year were discussed. The board also inspected and discussed the internal audit report, annual governance statement and the accounting statement for 2024 to 2025. John Belcher proposed that the annual governance statement and the accounting statement be approved and this was seconded by Neil Phillips. The board unanimously supported this, so the statements were duly approved.
6. **Annual report approval** – the annual report was not available for completion at this time.
7. **Accounts for payment** –
 - Faulkner & Mayne sustainable Ag Ltd: clerk duties, postage and travel - £866.88 + vat
 - Catherine Gregory: Accounts preparation & internal audit for 2024-25 - £400.00Bruce Udale proposed that these accounts be paid and this was seconded by Neil Phillips
8. **Financial report** – The clerk presented accounts to date for the year ending 31st March 2026. Rates demands were sent out the previous week and 38% of rates had been collected so far. The clerk had a good response from the last set of reminders sent prior to this, clearing a number of debts that had accrued.
9. **Maintenance plans for 2025-26** – It was noted that an amount of additional work was done last winter when conditions allowed, so expenditure has been a long way up from the previous year.

The board discussed trees along the Commission at Longwood Farm which need clearing to improve conveyance. *ACTION*: The clerk will contact Jonathon Jackson to discuss access for this winter.

There was discussion regarding the set charge for maintenance work undertaken by the board. There is a significant difference between external contractor costs and work completed by the board's own contractors. It was felt that contract charges could be maintained at current levels for this year and reconsidered for 2026 – 27.

10. Correspondence and meetings – covered elsewhere in the agenda.

11. Planning & development update – Bruce Udale, Lucinda Lycett and the clerk have a site visit on 3rd June with the developers involved in the urban extension areas across north Telford. The IDB will take photos of flooding, data from the levels gauges on watercourses and maps of the local area. Bruce was particularly concerned that additional water is not put in the Eyton Brook beyond its current catchment.

12. Reports from Lucinda Lycett, Telford & Wrekin Council – Severn Trent modelling of the Northern Interceptor is ongoing, so nothing further to report on this currently. The board discussed flooding issues from the Wall Brook, and this watercourse's ability to take further water from development at Muxton.

13. Any other business – Harry Gregory has been to see a rate payer about an inadequate culvert on the Wall.

14. Date of next meeting – 8th September 2025