STRINE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Monday 12th June 2023, 7.30pm at Kynnersley Village Hall

- 1. Apologies: Neil Phillips, Chris Holman, Andrew Crow, Cristiano Fortuna
- 2. Report from Pete Lambert, Shropshire Wildlife Trust regarding the Severn Trent Low Flows project.

Pete explained that Severn Trent are required to implement mitigation measures in the Strine catchment (including areas beyond the drainage district) to compensate for low flows in the watercourse caused by PWS groundwater abstraction. The funding is available until March 2025.

The board was shown various projects to create pools and wetlands within the drainage district, aimed at increasing biodiversity (rather than increasing flow in the Strine).

The board discussed the importance of working with neighbours when developing these projects. Water retention schemes within the board area have in the past had adverse impacts on neighbouring land. The clerk will keep abreast of projects and inform the board as things develop.

- 3. Declarations of interest: none
- **4. Consideration of minutes from the previous meeting:** The board reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting and Isabel Moseley proposed that they be accepted as a true record. This was seconded by Harry Gregory.
- 5. Matters arising: none
- **6. Approval of annual return to the auditors:** The clerk presented the accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023 and the internal audit.

Both the income and expenditure for this period were below £25,000 and as such the board is able to certify itself as exempt from limited insurance review. The board also discussed the annual governance statement and reviewed its internal control measures.

Isabel Moseley proposed that the Certificate of Exemption, accounting statement for 2022/23 and annual governance statement be approved by the board and this was seconded by Harry Gregory. The board agreed unanimously.

7. Approval of annual report – report was not available at time of meeting

Mr J Belcher (vice chairman) Mr R Hockenhull Mr A Crow 8. Accounts for payment: - Kate Mayne, clerking duties - £816.30 Kynnersley Village Hall, hall hire - £36.00

The board agreed unanimously to settle these accounts.

- **9. Financial report:** The clerk presented the cash flow accounts to date. We have so far recovered just over half of the rates payments due for the 2023/24 financial year. Late reminders also brought in more arrears from the previous financial year. A Vat claim for year ending 31st March 2023 was recovered in June.
- **10. Maintenance Plans 23-24:** The clerk noted feedback from 3 rate payers regarding need for maintenance in specific locations, and questions regarding our spraying permit. The board discussed these matters. The chair asked that the board be made aware of any locations not yet identified that need to be prioritised for maintenance this year.
- 11. Correspondence & meetings attended: the clerk has attended a catchment based approach meeting on behalf of the board where we discussed the importance of considering flood impacts to farmland and farm businesses as well as to properties and infrastructure. The clerk has also been working with Betton Cambidge, chairman of the ADA Marches Branch to comment on the water Resources West regional planning document.

The ADA Marches branch has invited Strine Board members to a meeting in Melverley on 27th June. The clerk and chairman will be attending.

- **12. Report from Telford & Wrekin council:** There has been no further news regarding the North Interceptor Channel and the legal ruling regarding its ownership.
- 13. Any other business: none
- 14. Date for the next meeting: 11th September 2023

Mr J Belcher (vice chairman) Mr R Hockenhull Mr A Crow