

Minutes of Braunton Marsh Drainage Board Meeting held on Thursday, 9 July 2020 in the Vivian Moon Community Centre at 7.45pm.

<p>Chaired by: District Councillor Mrs J Chesters</p>	<p>Clerked by: Sue Squire</p>	
<p>Present:</p> <p>Mr C Bottomley Mr D Chugg District Councillor Mrs J Chesters Mr H Dart Mr D Hartnoll Mr R Haynes District Councillor M Wilkinson</p> <p>Mr A Bell, Devon County Council</p>	<p>Agenda: - Biodiversity Action Plan Mr Rowland Dibble Apologies Declarations of Interest Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2020 and the notes of actions taken in place of the meeting scheduled for 14 May 2020 which was cancelled due to the coronavirus epidemic Finance Matters Arising Maintenance Correspondence Items raised at the Chairman's discretion Date of next meeting</p>	
		<p align="right">Action:</p>
<p>1.</p>	<p>Biodiversity Action Plan. Mr A Bell had prepared this document specifically on behalf of the Braunton Marsh Drainage Board, the biggest flood plain in north Devon, which had been circulated to Members.</p> <p>Mr Bell was present to answer questions and give further information.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Action Plan is a statutory document which is to be corrected by Braunton Marsh Drainage Board Members, then out for consultation before being sent to stakeholders.</p> <p>The first priority was to give feedback to Mr Bell who would correct any amendments felt necessary.</p> <p>District Councillor Mrs Chesters thanked Mr Bell for his help. When the document had been corrected by Mr Bell, it will be put on the Board's website.</p> <p>Mr Bottomley had noted there was no mention of the Devon Wildlife Trust, who own a large area of the Marsh. In reply, Mr Bell advised that the organisation is referred to within the document, it being noted they were landowners now, having bought Horsey Island.</p> <p>Shooting rights on the Marsh were discussed.</p> <p>Mr Bottomley had made observations for correction and clarification acknowledging that as a small Marsh it would be difficult to promote biodiversity or have the resources to do so.</p> <p>Mr M Tucker, the Board's contractor, had attended a Spraying Course at Bridgwater College on 13 April 2017 where he was given a Pass Certificate. The expiry of this Certificate to be checked.</p> <p>Mr Bottomley spoke about a Water Level Management Plan. The Drainage Board is to make an approach to the Environment Agency for help in</p>	<p>A Bell / Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>producing this document and to ascertain the grants available. Mr Bell will suggest some names of people who could undertake this task.</p> <p>Mr Bell advised that Devon County Council are undertaking national flood management. There is a lot of silt by the stone wall near the White House which leans itself to good fencing. This could be improved by the addition of bush, willow or hazel. Mr Haynes advised that the Braunton Marsh Inspectors had plans to install a willow bank at the site but this resource had stopped being used.</p>																						
2.	<p>Mr Rowland Dibble. It was noted that Mr Dibble had resigned from the Board. The Chairman had sent a card of appreciation on behalf of the Board.</p> <p>To consider a gift to mark Mr Dibble's long association with the Board and the input he had during that time.</p> <p>Board Members considered a possible event and gift to recognize Mr Dibble's connection with the Board over many years. Due to the current restrictions in relation to Covid-19, a meal to be organised later in the year when a photograph of the Linhay on the Marsh will be presented.</p>	JC																					
3.	Apologies. Mr J Hartnoll.																						
4.	Declarations of Interest. None																						
5.	<p>Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 March 2020 and the notes of actions taken in place of the meeting scheduled for 14 May 2020 which was cancelled due to the coronavirus epidemic.</p> <p>Proposed by Mr Dart to be approved and signed as a correct record. Seconded by Mr Bottomley and unanimously agreed.</p>																						
6.	<p>Finance. Balances: Lloyds Bank Treasurers Account as at 17 June 2020: £40,107.20</p> <p>6.1 The following payments were approved and authorised:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Vivian Moon Community Centre</td> <td>Hire of room for meeting</td> <td>£14.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mrs S Squire</td> <td>Two monthly salary & expenses Redacted under Data Protection</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HM Revenue and Customs</td> <td>PAYE</td> <td>£100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr M Tucker.</td> <td>Invoice No. 578. Work on 9/3/20 & 15/4/20.</td> <td>£547.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Invoice No. 582. Work on 21/6/20</td> <td>£372.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£919.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mr R Dibble</td> <td>Work on the Marsh</td> <td>£180.00</td> </tr> </table> <p>Members were informed that the Bank below the Toll Road has slipped into the drain.</p> <p>6.2 Invoices for 2020/21. 27 paid 13 outstanding</p> <p>6.3 Approval of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020. Proposed by Mr Chugg</p>	Vivian Moon Community Centre	Hire of room for meeting	£14.00	Mrs S Squire	Two monthly salary & expenses Redacted under Data Protection		HM Revenue and Customs	PAYE	£100.00	Mr M Tucker.	Invoice No. 578. Work on 9/3/20 & 15/4/20.	£547.20		Invoice No. 582. Work on 21/6/20	£372.00			£919.20	Mr R Dibble	Work on the Marsh	£180.00	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Free Hire for this meeting</p> <p>Ch.No.297</p> <p>Ch.No.298</p> <p>Ch.No.299</p> <p>Ch.No.300</p>
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	<p>Seconded by Mr Haynes</p> <p>2019/20 Audit.</p> <p>6.4 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20. Approval of Section 1. Proposed by Mr Chugg Seconded by Mr Hartnoll</p> <p>6.5 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20. Approval of Section 2. Proposed by Mr Hartnoll Seconded by Mr Haynes</p> <p>6.6 Approval of the 2019/20 Statement of Internal Control. Proposed by Mr Chugg Seconded by Mr Hartnoll</p> <p><i>All the above documents had been circulated to Board Members ahead of the meeting to study.</i></p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Matters Arising.</p> <p>7.1 Great Sluice. The current position was that the tunnels had not yet been inspected due to Covid-19. District Councillor Wilkinson had given some names of contractors to District Councillor Mrs Chesters who ask contractors to carry out a site visit and provide a quotation.</p> <p>Mr Haynes will also follow up a contractor for a quotation.</p> <p>7.2 Biodiversity Action Plan. Members agreed to accept the document with corrections.</p>	<p>September Agenda</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Maintenance. Work would be carried out in the Autumn.</p> <p>The sand trap at Wrafton had been cleared and Parrots Feather sprayed. Invoice to follow. A drain for Mr Dymond had been filled.</p> <p>Mr Chugg will speak to Mr Tucker about the sump on the main drain.</p>	<p>DC</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Correspondence.</p> <p>9.1 Mr S Barbeary. Correspondence, including a Freedom of Information Act Request, regarding the use of a Marsh not for agricultural purposes.</p> <p>Mr Barbeary had been in contact with various Agencies in this connection and has requested a letter of support from the Board.</p> <p>The Chairman and the Clerk had liaised in this connection and a letter sent to Mr Barbeary advising that the Board is not responsible for the Marshes, only the water level management aspect. This was not accepted by Mr Barbeary, who has sent an aerial picture of the Marsh in question which is being used for motor bike activities, causing noise and disruption to him as a neighbour. The picture had been circulated to Board Members.</p> <p>District Councillor Mrs Chesters had visited Mr Barbeary to explain the situation.</p>	

	<p>In reply to his Freedom of Information Act request, the Clerk to reply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Braunton Marsh has no bylaws. 2. Horsey Island was within Braunton Marsh when the breach occurred 3. A note of the Chair's attendance at his property cannot be provided 4. With reference to legal documents of XYZ sluice, please provide a copy of the sluice to which you refer. 5. Land holdings and drainage rates levied. Braunton Marsh does not own any land holdings and look after the water levels only. <p>9.2 Email from Soluform who can provide an innovative solution for headwalls, retaining walls, bridge and riverbank scour protection in the form of a range of prefilled, biodegradable concrete bagwork solutions which are suitable for underwater and above water. Details had been included with the Agenda and spare copies were available for Members at the meeting.</p>	Clerk
10.	<p>Items raised at the Chairman's discretion.</p> <p>10.1 To consider extending an invitation to representatives of the Devon Wildlife Trust to the September meeting, as arranged, to give an update on Horsey Island. The Clerk to ask for a written Report to present at the September meeting.</p> <p>10.2 Mrs Pittick had suffered a burglary in the sheds on her Marsh.</p>	Clerk
11.	<p>Date of next Meeting: Thursday, 10 September 2020 in the Committee Room of Braunton Parish Council at 7.30pm.</p> <p>The meeting ended at 9.56pm.</p>	
<p>Summary of Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 March 2020 and the notes of actions taken in place of the meeting scheduled for 14 May 2020 ➤ Payments ➤ Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2020 ➤ Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20 – Section 1 ➤ Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2019/20 – Section 2 ➤ 2019/20 Statement of Internal Control 		
<p>These Minutes are agreed by those present as being a true record.</p>		
<p>Signed:</p> <p>Chair of Braunton Marsh Drainage Board.</p>	<p>Date:</p>	