



# Representing Drainage Water Level & Flood Risk Management Authorities

Branch Chairman: Charles Pudge  
Branch Director: James Hereford  
Branch Hon. Secretary: Adrienne Davies  
Office: Hoople Ltd, Plough Lane,  
Hereford, HR4 0LE  
Telephone: 01432 260405  
Email: RLIDB@hoopleltd.co.uk

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the ADA Marches Branch

Held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 1.00 pm  
at Hallmark Hotel Stourport Manor, Stourport on Severn.

### Attendees

Name	Initials	Organisation	Present
Innes Thomson	IT	ADA	√
Charles Pudge (Chair)	CP	River Lugg IDB	√
James Hereford (Branch Director)	JH	River Lugg IDB	√
Betton Cambridge	BC	Melverly IDB	√
Derwas Dale	DD	Rea IDB	√
Kate Mayne	KM	Strine IDB	√
Richard Jones	RJ	Melverly / Rea IDB	Apologies
Graham Litteton	GL	Lower Severn IDB	√
James Druett	JD	Lower Severn IDB	√
Sarah Faulkner	SF	NFU	√
John Bellis	JB	Telford & Wrekin Council	√
Adrienne Davies (Hon Secretary)	AD	River Lugg IDB	√

### 1. Welcome

CP welcomed everyone to the ADA Branch AGM

### 2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Richard Jones

### 3. Announcements

A discussion took place about combining the EA and ADA branch meeting. It was unanimously agreed that, to avoid duplication of attendees and discussion items, the current EA/IDB Liaison meeting and the Marches Branch AGM could be combined into a single meeting, subject to the agreement of the EA.

**Action:** AD to contact the EA re incorporating the ADA Branch meeting into the EA meeting.

### 4. Branch Constitution

All present approved the constitution for the Marches Branch.

### 5. Branch Chairman

CP was unanimously confirmed to continue as as the Chairman.

## **6. Marches Branch Director on the ADA Executive Board**

JH was confirmed to continue as the Marches Branch nominated ADA Director. IT indicated that Branch Directors can serve for up to three consecutive terms of three years and the next review of JH's appointment is due Nov 2019.

## **7. Confirmation of the Branch Secretary**

AD was confirmed to continue as the Secretary to the Branch.

The AGM of the ADA Marches Branch was followed by a Branch meeting

## **8. ADA national update**

In addition to items covered at the EA/IDB liaison meeting, IT mentioned that work was underway to identify the right person to be Lord De Ramsey's successor has started. If anyone knows of a suitable candidate, please let IT know via JH, or directly.

IT reported that ADA is in a comfortable financial position and, having built up its reserves, is now able to re-invest some of those reserves back into membership support services and projects.

The feedback from the ADA conference the previous day was very positive and had given everyone who attended 'food for thought'. The overall theme of the conference was Emergency Management and Climate Change. How members of the public would react in the event of an emergency; IT reported that work is underway with the EA to develop a protocol that would enable those IDB's who want to work closely with the EA in emergency situations, with the intention that IDB's would be able to recoup costs from the EA.

## **9. Natural Flood management**

A discussion took place about the Natural Flood Management (NFM) initiative that is taking place across the Branches area. Concerns were raised that the right people were not being involved these projects from the outset. Communications needed to be improved (in particular the over-use of jargon and acronyms) which would contribute to a more positive dialogue between all parties involved.

Various methods are being used to slow the water flow including the introduction of natural dams, but these soon silt up and become ineffective; concerns were raised about their maintenance after the project has ended. Beavers have been sighted in some waterways within the Branch's area, concerns were raised that beavers do not become the next "Badgers".

The group felt that NFM on its own is not the answer in the long term and IT emphasised that ADA sees NFM very much as part of the solution but not the only solution.

IT indicated that there are examples of NFM projects across the country as a whole that are working well and that these can be shared.

## **10. AOB.**

**11.** As there was no further business the meeting was declared closed.