

Agenda
Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) Board Meeting
10:30am – 1:00pm, Friday 7 March 2025
at Somerset Council, Brympton Way, Yeovil, BA20 2HT.

Members of SRA Board:

Cllr Mike Stanton - *Chair*, Somerset Council (SC)
Tony Bradford - *Vice-Chair*, Parrett Internal Drainage Board (IDB)
Cllr Nick Cottle, Somerset Council
Jeff Fear, Axe Brue IDB
Andrew Gilling, Axe Brue IDB
Rebecca Horsington, Parrett IDB
David Jenkins, Wessex Regional Flood and Coastal Committee
Cllr Harry Munt, Somerset Council
Claire Newill, Natural England
Cllr Nick O'Donnell, Somerset Council
Ian Withers, Environment Agency
Cllr Ros Wyke, Somerset Council
Vicky Farwig, Wessex Water

In Attendance:

Damon Bridge, RSPB
Caroline Dunn, Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA)
Ross Edwards, Environment Agency
Donna Gowler, Natural England
Sam Hitchcott, Somerset Council
Piers Hooper, Environment Agency
David Mitchell, Somerset Rivers Authority
Iain Sturdy, Somerset Drainage Boards Consortium

Apologies

Cllr Mike Caswell, Somerset Council
Sean Papworth, Somerset Council
Matt Wheeldon, Wessex Water

AGENDA

Item No	Title	Purpose	Lead
1.	Apologies for absence	Clarification	Chair
2.	Declarations of Interest	Transparency	Chair
3.	Minutes of previous meeting 24 January 2025	To agree accuracy Matters arising from last meeting -	Chair
4.	2025-26 SRA Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Constitution	To agree and sign the 2025-26 SRA Memorandum of Understanding and Constitution	Chair
5.	Recent flooding update	Update on recent flooding events and recovery process from Food Risk Management Authorities.	Chair
6.	Public Question Time	To allow the public to ask questions	Chair
7.	Finance Report and Enhanced Programme Performance Monitoring	To update the Board: a. Quarter 3 2024-25 Finance Report b. Quarter 3 2024-25 Performance Monitoring	Sam Hitchcott Caroline Dunn
8.	SRA 2025-26 Enhanced Programme & Budget	To review and approve the 2025-26 Enhanced Programme and Budget	David Mitchell
9.	RSPB Presentation	Presentation on the Greater Sedgemoor landscape recovery project	Damon Bridge
10.	Community Flood Action Fund	Update following passing of first application deadline of 25 February	David Mitchell
11.	River Sowy-King's Sedgemoor Drain	Verbal update on progress and next steps on outfalls and bank raising.	Iain Sturdy
12.	River Brue Modelling	Verbal update on progress of modelling work.	David Mitchell
13.	Any other business (AOB)	Please notify the Chair of AOB in advance of the meeting	Chair
14.	Taunton Strategic Flood Alleviation Improvements Scheme	Paper to note	
Next meeting: 6 June 2025			

Somerset Rivers Authority (SRA) GUIDANCE NOTES

For the SRA Board Meeting 10:30am – 1pm, Friday 7 March 2025 at the Brympton Way,
Yeovil, BA20 2HT

For further information about the meeting, please contact Somerset Rivers Authority on
(01823) 355111 or email sra@somerset.gov.uk

This meeting will be open to the public and press.

The agenda, reports and background papers are available on request prior to the meeting
in large print, Braille, audio tape & disc and can be translated into different languages. They
can also be accessed via Somerset Rivers Authority's website on
www.somersetiversauthority.org.uk/meetings



1 Inspection of Papers

Any person wishing to inspect reports or the background papers for any item on the agenda
should contact Somerset Rivers Authority on 01823-355111 or email sra@somerset.gov.uk.
Papers can also be accessed at www.somersetiversauthority.org.uk/meetings

2 Notes of the Meeting

Details of issues discussed, and decisions taken at the meeting, will be set out in the
Minutes, which the Board will be asked to approve as a correct record at its next meeting.
In the meantime, details of decisions and draft minutes will be available on the SRA website
seven days after the meeting has taken place:
www.somersetiversauthority.org.uk/meetings

3 Public Question Time

At the Chair's invitation, you may ask questions and/or make statements or comments
about any matter on the Board's agenda. You may also present a petition on any matter
within the Board's remit. The length of public question time will be no more than 30 minutes
in total.

A slot for Public Question Time is set aside near the beginning of the meeting, after the
minutes of the previous meeting have been signed. However, questions or statements
about any matter on the agenda for this meeting may be taken at the time when each
matter is considered at the Chair's discretion.

If you wish to speak at the meeting, or submit a petition, then you will need to submit your statement or question in writing to Somerset Rivers Authority by 12 noon on Monday 3 March 2025. Email sra@somerset.gov.uk

You must direct your questions and comments through the Chair. You may not take direct part in the debate. The Chair will decide when public participation is to finish. If there are many people present at the meeting for one particular item, the Chair may adjourn the meeting to allow views to be expressed more freely.

If an item on the agenda is contentious, with a large number of people attending the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group.

An issue will not be deferred because you cannot be present at the meeting.

Remember that the amount of time you speak will be restricted normally to three minutes only.

4 Access and Attendance

The Board meeting at Cannard's Grave is open to the public and press but there is limited capacity for health and safety reasons.

The venue has free parking

The venue has a maximum capacity and cannot be exceeded. If numbers attending exceed capacity, then priority will be given to those who have registered to speak at Public Question Time and thereafter admittance will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

5 Emergency Evacuation Procedure

The emergency evacuation procedures are displayed on notices throughout the venue.

6 Recording of meeting

Somerset Rivers Authority supports the principles of openness and transparency, it allows filming, recording and taking photographs at its meetings that are open to the public providing it is done in a non-disruptive manner. Members of the public may use Facebook and Twitter or other forms of social media to report on proceedings and a designated area will be provided for anyone who is wishing to film part of or all of the proceedings. No filming or recording will take place when the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting. As a matter of courtesy to the public, anyone wishing to film or record proceedings is asked to provide reasonable notice to Somerset Rivers Authority so that the Chair can inform those present at the start of the meeting.

We ask that, as far as possible, members of the public aren't filmed unless they are playing an active role such as speaking within a meeting and there may be occasions when speaking members of the public request not to be filmed.

Somerset Rivers Authority
County Hall
Taunton, TA1 4DY



Somerset Rivers Authority makes audio recordings of Board meetings in order to have verbatim records of what was discussed. A copy of the Recording of Meetings Protocol should be on display at the meeting for inspection, alternatively contact Somerset Rivers Authority in advance.