

# Elections to North Somerset Levels IDB

## **How often are Elections held?**

Elections for membership of the Board are held every 3 years, so if you are interested you have the opportunity to exercise your vote as a ratepayer or stand for election yourself. The last election was held in 2015.

## **When does the next Election take place?**

The Board consists of 14 elected members and, if we receive more than 14 valid nominations, the poll for the 2018 election will take place between 24 October and 1 November 2018. The exact dates of the election and of the nomination meeting will be published in the local press and on this website between 7 and 15 September 2018.

## **Who are my existing representatives?**

Please visit our Board Members webpage to identify your current representatives. The last election was not contested.

## **How do I stand for election or nominate someone?**

To stand for election you will either be a Drainage Ratepayer or you will be nominated by a Drainage Ratepayer who is the owner and occupier of land. Full details regarding qualification for membership and nominating candidates are included on the nomination paper, which can be downloaded from this website or otherwise obtained from the Board's office. Please note that your nomination paper must be validly completed and returned to us by the published deadline i.e. at the nomination meeting.

## **Who gets to vote, should a poll be required?**

If the number of candidates exceeds the number of places available (14) a poll will be held. You will be entitled to vote providing that you have paid your Drainage Rates at least one month before the date of the election and your entitlement is shown in the Register of Electors, which is available for inspection at the Board's office. You will be sent a Voting Paper at least 7 days before the poll, which you need to complete and return to the Board's office before the poll takes place.

## **When do we know who has been elected?**

If a poll is required, the count will take place at the Board's office on the poll date and will be duly observed. Candidates and members of the public are also welcome to observe the count. The results will then be published in the local press and on this website. The declaration will list the elected members.

## **What happens if there are fewer candidates nominated than places available?**

If we do not receive at least 14 valid nominations a 'no poll declaration' will be published in the local press and on this website, shortly after the deadline for receiving nomination papers. The declaration will list the elected members, with retiring members being reappointed to make up the full complement of places. Casual vacancies will be filled by the election by the Board of new members.

## **How do I get more information?**

If you would like more information about the election process please refer to the Land Drainage Act 1991 or contact the Returning Officer at the Board's office.

Ailsa Colbourne  
Returning Officer and Clerk to the Board