

Minutes of the meeting of the Welland and Deepings Internal Drainage Board held at Deeping House, Welland Terrace, Spalding on Thursday, 4th October 2018 at 11:00 am

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|-------------------|-------------------------|
| * G R Aley | Mrs C J Lawton |
| * H J W Bingham | * Mrs A Newton |
| A J Branton | * T C Purllant |
| * W D Branton | * G W Sly |
| * M H Bratley | Mrs J Smith |
| R Broughton | * Mrs E J Sneath |
| * A Casson | * B Tidswell |
| M Cooper | * Mrs R Trollope-Bellew |
| P Coupland | * J Ward |
| * P Dilks | * P N Watts MBE |
| S J Dobney | * E J Whitfield |
| * T W Franks | Ms S Wray |
| J F W Holdich OBE | |
| * Present | |

In Attendance:	Mrs K Daft	Chief Executive
	N Morris	Operations Engineer
	J Boden	Assistant Engineer
	R Caudwell	Chairman, ADA

32/18 The Chief Executive welcomed new member, Mr Bingham, to the Board. Board Member, Mr Casswell, had made the decision to stand down from the Board due to business commitments. Mr Bingham will be representing the North Electoral District, as had Mr Casswell previously.

Mr Purllant recommended a letter be sent to Mr Casswell from the Board, to formally thank him for his invaluable input during his term.

Mr Caudwell, Chairman of the Association of Drainage Authorities, was also introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

33/18 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Mr A Branton, Mr Broughton, Mr Cooper, Mr Dobney, Mr Holdich, Mrs Lawton, Mrs Smith and Ms Wray.

34/18 TO ELECT CHAIRMAN

Proposed by Mr Franks and seconded by Mr Casson, it was RESOLVED that Mr T Purllant be elected as Chairman of the Board.

The Chairman thanked the Board for electing him as Chairman and remarked he was very happy to serve for another term.

35/18 TO ELECT VICE CHAIRMAN

Proposed by Mr Casson and seconded by Mr Sly, it was RESOLVED that Mr D Branton be elected as Vice Chairman of the Board.

The Vice Chairman thanked the Chairman and Board members for electing him again. He remarked that he would endeavour to do his best, and had the Board's best interests at heart.

36/18 TO ELECT FINANCE COMMITTEE

The existing Finance Committee, consisting of Mr D Branton (Chairman), Mr Holdich, Mrs Lawton, Mr Purlant (Vice Chairman), Mrs Smith, Mr Tidswell, Mr Ward and Mr Watts will continue as members of the Finance Committee.

It was RESOLVED the existing Finance Committee stand for another year.

37/18 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Vice Chairman declared an interest in planning applications H03-0628-18 (Outline), Residential development – re-submission of H03-0366-17, and H16-0888-18 (Outline), Residential development as laid out in the Engineering report on pages 21 and 27 respectively.

38/18 TO CONFIRM MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting held on 24th May 2018, a copy of which had been circulated, were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

39/18 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

39/18/01 To receive the report on future maintenance of drains previously undertaken by specialist drainage machinery

This matter will be an agenda item at February 2019's meeting after the one year trial.

39/18/02 Bell Tunnel Drain, Cowbit Wash

The Operations Engineer reported that South Holland IDB have started on the first section of the drain and that we will continue to liaise with the affected landowners.

39/18/03 Special Matters – Crowland & Cowbit Pumping Station

The Operations Engineer reported that the order to overhaul the weedscreen and to fit a new control panel has now been placed with Ovivo Ltd. It is anticipated that delivery will be next month.

39/18/04 Special Matters – Fourth District Pumping Station Electrical Refurbishment

Mr Bratley queried the reason why double glazed windows had been installed, rather than wire-screened glazing. Both the Operations Engineer and the Assistant Engineer advised that double glazing was less costly and helped to maintain the internal temperature of the pumping station.

39/18/05 Inspection 2018

Members who had attended Papplewick Pumping Station in Nottingham in July reported they had thoroughly enjoyed their visit.

40/18 TO RECEIVE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

The Operations Engineer advised members that the Board has continued with its proactive approach to health and safety training. The following training and/or refresher training courses had taken place:

- Safe Use and Installation of Tower Scaffolds
- Safe Use of Mobile Elevating Work Platforms
- Safe Use of Cherry Pickers
- Grenadier and Tractor Combination
- Royal Yachting Association Boat Handling

Annual 'SHOC' training (overhead cable awareness), delivered by SHOC Consultancy Ltd over a period of two days, took place at the beginning of June. A written report prepared and sent by SHOC stated they were very impressed with all delegates regarding our working practices.

The Operations Engineer mentioned that it was gratifying to receive positive feedback from an independent body's viewpoint. The Operations Engineer stated he was very pleased with the Board's practices and working procedures and asked for his comments to be recorded.

Mr Caudwell thanked the Operations Engineer for completing and submitting the ADA Health and Safety survey.

41/18 TO RECEIVE THE ENGINEERING REPORT

The Operations Engineer and Assistant Engineer presented the report to the Board.

Matters arising from the report:

41/18/1 General District

Board members were updated with details of general maintenance works carried out in the general district.

41/18/2 Workshops & Plant

Board members were updated with details of general maintenance works carried out to plant.

41/18/3/1 Special Matters – Riddingtons Pumping Station, Pinchbeck Marsh

To address the issue of the pumps overproducing, and in turn drawing higher amps, the advice to try variable speed drives had been taken.

Inter-Lec Ltd were able to loan an inverter drive to the Board, to test the possibility of slowing the pumps down. The inverter drive was installed; although, due to the prolonged dry summer, no water was available to test it. At the end of July, however, a storm brought some water into the Pinchbeck Marsh system and we were able to test the drive. As expected, the drive worked and flow meter readings were all positive.

An order was subsequently placed with Inter-Lec Ltd for a drive for each of the two pumps. The drives have now been fitted and are being fully tested before the pumps 'go live'.

The Operations Engineer commented he was hopeful that the issue with the over-producing pumps and the higher amp figures would now be resolved.

41/18/3/2 Special Matters – Pode Hole Diesel Pumping Station

The 50 year old high pressure compressed air tanks failed their periodic inspection by the Board's insurers. New compressed air tanks have been made and supplied by Abbott & Co (Newark) Ltd. The replacement tanks, which have the capacity to hold air at 300 psi, have been rated at 500 psi to provide a good margin of safety and a more robust tank.

The new tanks have been installed by the Board's fitters and are now awaiting sign off by the Board's insurance inspector.

41/18/3/3 Special Matters – Scraggs Dyke Piped Watercourse, Wardentree Lane, Pinchbeck

The Engineer advised that Scraggs Dyke pipeline, which comprises of two sections of 1.5m Armco corrugated steel pipe with a small section of twin 0.9m concrete pipes between, had come up for review as part of our ongoing asset inspections.

Inspections have revealed that the pipes are suffering from severe corrosion which may lead to collapse in the near future.

There are two methods to repair the pipe.

The first option would be to open dig the area and replace the steel with concrete sections. Factors to be considered using this approach:

- The area around the pipeline concrete would need to be de-watered to provide a stable bed for the pipes.
- Two additional inspection chambers would need to be built.
- Duration is expected to be at the very minimum six weeks, but most probably nearer to eight to ten weeks (dependent on weather).
- A 6" water main runs within a few metres parallel to the pipeline. With driving piles for the open dig, the location of this asset becomes much more critical to prevent damage from either a strike or vibration.
- Whilst the excavation is open, bad weather could make conditions unworkable thereby hindering progress. Delays could cost up to an additional £7,000 per week.
- Estimated costs are in the region of £272,000.

The second option would be to use a cure in place liner as used at Wygate Park. Factors to be considered using this approach:

- A secured price of £788.42 per metre has been negotiated with Insituform (132 metres of 1.5 metre diameter liner is required).
- Duration of project is expected to be within two weeks. Unlike the Wygate Park project (where this cure in place of liner method was used), due to the location of this site, major road closures will not be required.
- Estimated costs are in the region of £136,000.

A cure in place relining using ultraviolet light to cure had also been considered. However, this method had been ruled out as a 1.2 metre diameter is around the current limit for this method of curing and Scraggs Dyke has a diameter of 1.5 metres.

After discussion as to which method would be the most satisfactory all round, members of the Board unanimously agreed that using a cure in place liner would be the most suitable option.

It was RESOLVED that approval be given to proceed with a cure in place liner supplied by Insituform at an estimated cost of £136,000.

41/18/3/4 Special Matters – Pode Hole Electric Pumping Station

The Operations Engineer advised he anticipated that the delivery of the replacement weedscreen cleaner trolley and control unit ordered with Ovivo would take place next month.

41/18/3/5 Special Matters – Risegate Eau Pumping Station

Temporary repairs made to the discharge pipe of Pump No 2 are still holding firm and watertight. Once further assessments on the long-term solution have been made, this matter will be brought back to future meetings.

The Operations Engineer advised members that ADC will be carrying out a survey on the three outfall pipes and the bankside next week. Again, this matter will be brought back to future meetings.

41/18/3/6 Special Matters – Bourne South Fen Pumping Station

Pump No 1 has been reinstalled after its major refurbishment.

The penstock valve on Pump No 2 also required removal for some minor repairs. This has been carried out and the penstock has now been reinstalled. The penstock valve on Pump No 1 is now out for repair. Hopefully, this should not take long and we will be back at full capacity for the forthcoming autumn/winter months.

41/18/3/7 Special Matters – Five Towns & Risegate Eau Tidal Sluices – FDGiA (Flood Defence Grant in Aid) Bid

A further meeting at the Environment Agency's offices in Peterborough has taken place to discuss options for repair/refurbishment of these structures and how we address the repairs as they are situated near to each other.

A site meeting has also taken place with one of the contractors who has been asked to provide a cost estimate for the works.

The Operations Engineer informed members that he had recently heard from one of his colleagues at the Environment Agency advising that funding for a number of schemes has been pushed back which he found very disappointing. The Operations Engineer commented that this highlighted how FDGiA money was not guaranteed.

41/18/4 Conservation

At the beginning of June, training was given to the workforce on 'Badger and Water Vole Awareness' and 'Non-native Invasive Alien Plants' by the Board's independent ecologist, Tim Smith.

The Chairman, Chief Executive, Operations Engineer and Foreman recently visited Deeping Lakes and Waterside Garden Centre to see permanent Sand Martin nesting accommodation. This visit has provided a number of ideas on how something similar could be replicated alongside the Vernatts Bank at Flints Farm, Pinchbeck Marsh.

A survey of the Deptford Pink site on the banks of the Risegate Eau took place at the beginning of July and was carried out by Jeremy Fraser and Jade Oliver from Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust. Results revealed that there has been a welcome increase in numbers, with 24 flowering stems being recorded, supporting 136 flowering clusters. These figures show that there has been a significant recovery from the major drop in numbers in 2017.

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and Rutland Osprey Team have approached the Board to look for viable sites in Deeping Fen to build a few osprey platforms. Although none of the proposed sites are within the Board's byelaw easement, we have asked that we are kept informed of the sites once locations are fully agreed. Mr P N Watts commented that the first of the two osprey platforms have now been installed.

42/18 TO RECEIVE THE FINANCE REPORT

The Chief Executive presented the Finance Report for the period 1st April 2018 to 31st August 2018.

Arising from the report:

42/18/1 Drainage Rates

Six ratepayers with debts in the region of £2,500 have been summoned to appear at Boston Magistrates Court on the 8th October 2018.

42/18/2 9m Byelaw Contravention: Pennygate Pump Drain – Planning Application H14-0156-14 – Larkfleet Homes, Pinchbeck – 169 Residential Dwellings

The Chief Executive advised that the Board commented on the above application at pre-planning and at planning application stage. At all times the 9 metre byelaw zone was communicated and accepted by developers. Larkfleet Homes are an established developer in the area and are fully aware of the 9 metre byelaw restriction.

Despite the Board's previous comments, in April 2018 Board employees noticed that residential dwellings were being built within the 9 metre byelaw zone. Larkfleet Homes (building as Allison Homes Ltd), being aware of the restriction, continued to build and sell a number of properties without disclosing this information to purchasers.

Board members discussed the matter at length.

The matter is now in the hands of the Board's solicitors, Mossop & Bowser.

It was RESOLVED that the Finance Report be adopted.

43/18 TO RECEIVE EXTERNAL AUDIT OPINION FOR 2017/18 ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The Chief Executive presented the External Audit Report from PKF Littlejohn, the Board's appointed External Auditor. The Audit Report received an unqualified opinion.

44/18 TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATIONS OF PAY & CONDITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26TH SEPTEMBER 2018

The Chairman presented the minutes of the recently held Pay & Conditions Committee meeting.

44/18/1 Terms & Conditions of Service

After consultation with the Board's workforce, the Terms and Conditions of Service document (previously based on the ADA Lincolnshire Branch's 'White Book') has been amended and updated to be more pertinent to the Welland & Deepings IDB. Proposed changes had been unanimously agreed by the Pay & Conditions Committee.

44/18/2 Release of 2% Pay Increase from 1st April 2018 as per 2018/18 Estimates (3% approved, 1% already paid)

Unanimous approval was given to release the 2% pay increase. Arrears from 1st April 2018 to 30th September 2018 would be paid with October's salary.

44/18/3 To Approve Revised Hours and Salary Band for Electrical Engineer and Plant Engineer

Unanimous approval was given to:

- increase the contracted hours from 38 hours per week to 40 hours per week.
- increase the spine point to SP25 for the Electrical Engineer.
- increase the spine point to SP23 for the Plant Engineer, further increasing to SP24 and SP25 effective from the 1st April 2019 and 1st April 2020 respectively.

44/18/4 To Approve Consolidating Bonus and Movement onto Spine Point 13 for Current Grade 1 and Grade 3 Employees

Eleven employees are currently paid a salary plus a percentage bonus on basic only. It was unanimously approved to consolidate the bonus into these employees' salaries which will in turn increase the hourly rate for overtime and to then align these employees onto SP13 of Grade 1.

Introduction of these arrangements would be within the current year's budgets.

44/18/5 To Approve Future Mechanism for Determining Future Annual Cost of Living Increases

The proposal to introduce a relevant mechanism for determining future annual cost of living increase by using the September Consumer Prices Index (CPI) was unanimously approved.

44/18/6 Increase of Annual Average Overtime Payment

It was agreed that the recommendation for the annual average overtime payment due to 11 employees in December to be paid at the new overtime rate of £16.29 be put forward to the Board.

It was RESOLVED to approve the recommendations of the Pay & Conditions Committee.

45/18 TO ARRANGE MEETING DATES FOR 2019

The dates for the Board's meetings in 2019 will be:

7 th February	Board Meeting
23 rd May	Board Meeting
6 th June	Conservation Liaison Meeting
3 rd October	Board Meeting
5 th December	Finance Meeting

After discussion, it was agreed that future Board meetings would start at 10:30 a.m. instead of 11:00 a.m.

46/18 ADA UPDATES

The ADA Conference this year is to take place on Wednesday, the 14th of November. An invitation to attend was extended to the Board's new member, Mr Bingham.

Next year's Floodex trade event is to take place on the 27th and 28th February.

47/18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman thanked Mr Caudwell for attending the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12:59 p.m.

Chairman