

DRAFT Minutes of 9 December 2016

Attendees:	Peter Horne (Chair)	PH
	Roni Chapman	RC
	Catherine Anderson	CA
	Neville Williams	NW
	Geoff Parker	GP
	Michael Brooke	MB
	Neville Williams	NW
Martin Oldknow	MO	
Other:	Chris McGuinness (Observer)	CMcG
Management	Craig Benson	FO
	Alison Briggs	EO
	Ian Benn	CEO

- 2016.33. Apologies – none received
- 2016.34. Declaration of Interest – none made
- 2016.35. Appointment of Chairman – MO proposed Peter Horne, seconded RC. No other nominations, all in agreement
- 2016.36. Minutes 14 October 2016 – Members agreed true record of the meeting proposed NW, seconded RC, all in agreement
- 2016.37. Matters arising – none. CA requested clarity on 2016.22 regarding decrease in agricultural rates and corresponding increase in special levy
- 2016.38. Finance-Audit-Internal – Completed 3rd annual audit and undertaken audit on Potteric Carr SSSI WLMP. CMcG noted overall assessments on both plans very good. Members agreed worthwhile distributing Thorne Moors audit to members and put both on website. **ACTION: FO to distribute and place on website.** Noted auditor commented cost of audits not included in Board budget
- 2016.39. Internal Audit Review meeting – Attendees advised of intention to make risk register specific for individual Boards rather than using generic register. PH noted discussions included reduction in LA finance and EA withdrawal and whether should be noted in risk register. IB advised should be termed third party contributions in risk register.
- 2016.40. Rating currently just over £3,056 outstanding, mainly associated with staged payments agreement. Rating officer requested write-off bad debt outstanding for over 6 years at £440.00, move annual value into different part of rating system so land is not lost and can be reintroduced when land owners were found. MO proposed following finance officer advice, all in agreement.
- 2016.41. Budget 2017/18 – Members reviewed income and expenditure and estimated outturn with inflationary increases. Anticipated cost of pumping stations to reduce, income will reduce correspondingly. Expenditure discussed new maintenance contract estimated figures and management contract estimated figures. When tenders received and in excess could cut into reserves. Management costs based on figures advised in EUOJ because an unknown quantity until Board receives tenders. PH noted prudent approach. MO queried confidence level of outturns. Confident with exception of pumping station costs because of weather dependency.
Capital Reserve Account – noted effect of proposed model costs. Original figures based on contract for base model, options testing and Reserves policy at 30%, 4.8p rate in this year incorporating possible administration cost increases etc., reserves remain close to required level. MO suggested slightly higher increase now to avoid larger increase in later years. CA asked where efficiencies could be pared down bearing in mind council budgets and had to have evidence that efficiencies looked for. FO confirmed main area was in drain maintenance however elected members confirm work done was basis of what was required particularly for DMBC council tax payers.

PH advised considerable savings made when new Board formed in banking, energy suppliers, insurances. IB advised Board operates under permissive powers as does EA so could do nothing however strategically need to carry out a review of what Board does do. Should board look after strategic watercourses individual landowners could maintain riparian drains. Rationalisation includes identifying where catchments can be combined, much work done in the past piecemeal. CMcG noted Board does drain specific small areas of land with one beneficiary but clearly sensitive area of discussion. PH suggested flattening out to 5.00p, CA thought still efficiencies to be made and not comfortable with increase until all efficiencies identified. Implications for DMBC discussed on a rate increase. MO reminded DMBC collected rates on behalf of Board, was not Council monies. PH proposed Board to decide on alternatives for rate, either 4.8p and 5p. MO seconded, all in agreement

2016.42. Capital Programme – Discussed major works in pipeline up to 2025. Meeting with Christian Foster DMBC procurement and LEP funding. Greater Lincolnshire LEP made indicative allocation of £9,000,000 for IoA Strategy and reason for asking Christian Foster into office to discuss. Committee being requested to agree comprehensive asset inspection now which may string out required works. Approximate cost £5,000 per station. IB advised planned preventative maintenance has pushed back original boundaries of 25-year refurbishment and 50-year replacement. **PH proposed 2 stations p/a and to allocate monies from capital reserve to cover, management to decide which stations to undertake for 2017/18. MO seconded, all in agreement.**

2016.43. PSCA – CMcG confirmed correspondence identified two pieces of work required and because Financial Regs Management could appoint under Board regulations to appoint Contractors. Concerned that third party regularly raising questions about procurement would not be satisfied with PSCA. Contractor for first piece of work has put in price for second work. Noted PSCA required because of saving to EA using IDB represents value for money. Contractor has submitted price to EA for its consideration.

2016.44. Maintenance Contract – will be issued before Christmas for re-tendering works.

2016.45. Website – should be accessible from today. Members viewed

2016.46. Thorne Moors – pump station being built. CMcG Project Managers left Moors on basis of no contract but went back on moor still with no contract. CMcG requested EA and NE approve contract however EA not returned documents yet. Noted requirement to ensure project finished. MO noted extra works would only be done on completion of existing works and would be tendered.

2016.47. Life+ project – Noted contribution in Euros from NE will wait until January when exchange rate increases to accept.

2016.48. LoC – noted Beal Lane not DE IDB station. FO checked, advised typographic error, should read Balby Carr. GP queried cost of vehicle, to which CA contributes 60% and whether Board require 4x4 at large cost and fuel use. Does Board require this vehicle or smaller 4 x 4 van? Committee will consider at appropriate time.

2016.49. Any other Business – none

2016.50. Date of next meeting – 19 May 2017

2016.51. Hydraulic Model – FO advised cost of re-advertising whole contract through North Lincs Council and quotation received to run EU compliant tender. Management staff left the meeting allowing discussion.

2016.52. The Committee discussed the letter of 18 November 2016 from JBA Consulting and decided that the hydraulic modelling project should be re-tendered in an EU compliant process. The quotation for the project from North Lincs Council was noted; enquiry is to be made of DMBC to ascertain if they wish to offer a price to run the tender.