

# 1. Governance

## Recommendations:

- Note the information contained in this report

## 1.1 Apologies for Absence

## 1.2 Declaration of Interest

## 1.3 Minutes of the Meeting held 8 February 2022

Member	10.06.20	20.10.20	7.12.20	10.2.21	22.6.21	9.11.21	8.2.22
Mrs Rosemary J Webster (Chair)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Mr John Richard Fawbert	√	A	√	√	√	A	√
Mr Graham W Martinson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mrs Rita Brough (Vice Chair)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Mr Mally Boatman	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Mr Keith Moore	√	√	√	√	√	Resigned	
ERYC							
Mr Brent Huntington	√	√	√	√	A	√	√
Cllr Liz Sargeantson	√	√	-	√	A	-	A
Cllr Nick Coultish	√	-	-	A	√	A	-
Cllr David Jeffreys	√	Unable to access	-	A	A	√	√
Cllr Barbara Jeffreys	√	Unable to access	-	A	Resigned		
Cllr Anne Handley	√	-	A	A	A	√	A

### In attendance on behalf of JBA Consulting, Clerk and Engineer:

Craig Benson (Clerk)  
Roger Smith (Engineer)  
David Blake (Finance Officer)  
Janette Parker (Ratings Officer)

Clerk  
Eng.  
FO  
RO

## GOVERNANCE

**2022.1** Apologies for Absence were received from L Sargeantson and A. Handley.

**2022.2** Declaration of Interest – None.

**2022.3** Minutes of Meeting 9 November 2021 – Minutes considered and proposed as true record by BH, seconded by DJ.

**2022.4** Matters Arising – DJ referred to Item 2021.54 and the Hook PS compound stating that a skip was still not in place and that litter was all over again. Eng advised that the original skip had been removed as it had rotted away, and that debris had been removed a few weeks ago. He added that several skip companies had been approached but they were unwilling to deal with the Board as hire was usually only for a week to ten days. Had looked to purchase a skip but this not viable either so finer screen being put on fencing to try and hold within the

compound area. Chair asked how often debris cleared. Eng responded that still to engage someone to carry out but when in place should be every quarter.

- 2022.5** DJ then referred to Carr Lane PS and said that youths had broken the wire meshing. Eng confirmed that this had been reported to the relevant riparian owner.

#### CLERK'S REPORT

- 2022.6** Appointment of Vice Chair – RF nominated RB, BH seconded, all Members in agreement.

- 2022.7** Re-constitution of Board – Clerk advised he had received an email today from the EA advising that this was currently with DEFRA and was being progressed. A further update will be given at the June meeting and following formal approval the Board will be able to re-constitute.

- 2022.8** Finance Bill – Clerk advised that further information had been received regarding the red diesel issue which looked promising but that further clarification was being sought by ADA.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

- 2022.9** Rate Report – FO advised balance now £33.81 with 99.37% collected to date. Chair requested name of debtor which was confirmed after the meeting.

- 2022.10** List of Payments – BH queried the payment to Oriel Systems. FO confirmed it was the annual fee for all pump stations. Eng. confirmed that Oriel had presented a new contract prior to the last meeting which was not satisfactory so a 12-month extension to the previous contract had been granted at the last meeting and Oriel were due to re-present a further contract later this year. MB advised there was an issue with the telemetry at Orchard Cottage. Eng advised Oriel had attended last Friday and this was now resolved. **Approval of payments proposed DJ, seconded RF.**

- 2022.11** Audit – Information noted.

- 2022.12** Risk Register – FO took members through the report and mentioned the possibility of rising costs for electricity when the current contract expired in September. Vice Chair queried if solar panels could be installed at the stations. Clerk concurred it was a great suggestion and that it would aid when applying for grants for the station refurbishments as they would look favourably on carbon capture proposals. MB then queried how susceptible they would be to vandalism as the stations were remote. Clerk confirmed they would be very susceptible but that security cameras could be considered. BH then asked how Officers felt about Woldmarsh. FO confirmed Officers happy with them and the low costs obtained. Clerk confirmed the market was tested but any mention of Woldmarsh and individual suppliers could not meet their prices. DJ queried the rate currently paid. FO confirmed the day rate at 8p and night rate at 5.4p and that could always consider night-time pumping to further reduce costs. Eng. advised that now the model had been produced a better understanding of the implications could be obtained and it gave the Board opportunities to consider. **Approval of Register proposed by DJ and seconded BH.**

- 2022.13** Estimates & Rates for Year Ending 31 March 2023 – FO took members through the report advising there was a forecasted positive variance of around £11k against budget which will see a surplus of £86,206. Due to an increase of £3,500 Highways England contribution. Expenditure was down due to reduced admin and pump station costs with no increase in the EA precept. All of which resulted in a brought forward balance of £285,096 with a reserve level at 142% well exceeding the target of 50% meaning the Board were in a very healthy position. FO then referred to the Five-Year Budget and proposed that the Board looked to start moving the excess funds to the Capital Reserve Account so there was no need to borrow money for pump station refurbishments. He added that transferring £200,000 in the next financial year would reduce the reserves to 75% and this would steadily decrease with further transfers in successive years. FO confirmed the budget incorporated inflation costs and a buffer for red diesel and electricity costs and as could be seen believed there was no need for a rate increase. MB queried if the larger amount of capital would be detrimental to gaining grant funding. Eng advised that if the Board could demonstrate they had a healthy contribution on application, then it would work in their favour. FO returned to the estimates

advising with the budget similar to the current year that next year would provide a carry forward figure of £158,000 with a 75% reserve. BH queried if there was a legal stipulation on the reserve level. Clerk confirmed not and FO pointed out that the Board had a reserve policy for 50%. Chair queried Board Loans and how long remained. FO confirmed 8 years remained until 2030. Chair then suggested it would be prudent to pay these back if on high interest rate. Clerk advised that could be done but that the PWLB would calculate a repayable amount which would ensure they didn't lose out. **RF proposed rate remain at 4.9p, BH seconded with all members in agreement.**

**2022.14** Electricity Consumption Analysis – FO took members through the report he provided at the meeting. BH asked where the rainfall data had been obtained. FO stated from a station near Hull. BH then suggested the data from ERYC Offices in Goole be obtained for comparison as they had a gauge there and suggested contacting Paul Blotty to request the information.

## ENGINEERS REPORT

**2022.15** Information noted with the following additions.

**2022.16** Hydraulic Model – BH referred to the presentation given and his reference to mole hills and asked if this was an issue in other areas. MB advised that road verges were covered and Clerk confirmed they were apparent in other Board areas. Eng. advised that the EA had been in contact in December as interested in the Board's model and results and indicated they wanted a better understanding of the district and wanted to work with the Board to look at other opportunities with regard the pump stations.

**2022.17** Eng handed out information sheet provided by EA on what proposing in and around the Goole area. Clerk stated it showed the EA were accepting an element of risk as well as highlighting the importance of flood defences and ongoing maintenance of assets. BH queried if the pump station refurbishments could be brought forward. Eng. advised that it was not a quick process and they had to ensure they would last for a 20 plus year period. FO confirmed that £150,000 had been budgeted next year to start the process with inspections.

## ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

**2022.18** Clerk advised of partnership meeting tomorrow with the Parish Council but that Alison Briggs, the EO, had requested clarification on what they wished to raise with the Board, as earlier correspondence had indicated issues with the River Bank. The EO would not attend to discuss items already answered. It was noted at the time of this meeting that the Parish Council had not responded to this request.

## HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

**2022.19** Information noted.

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**2022.20** Clerk advised that due to the pandemic site visits had not been undertaken and suggested a tour maybe something the Board wished to consider for the future.

**2022.21** BH referred to the drain at the side of Guardian Glass insisting that last year no maintenance had been undertaken despite the Engineers assurance it had. He added that on a recent visit it had been completed but then provided photos of a slippage restricting flow. Engineer advising starting to bow out but not restricting flow at current time.

**2022.22** BH then commented on litter situation at New Potter PS and that debris was being maliciously taken from the skip and put in the watercourse. Clerk confirmed this was not the Board's land or watercourse, so responsibility fell with the riparian owner. Chair requested letter be sent to landowner requesting they sort. Eng to action.

## DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

**2022.23** 21 June 2022 and 8 November 2022, both 3.00pm at The Courtyard, Goole.