

1. Governance

1.1 Declaration of Interest

Board Members are advised to declare a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest on any item in the Agenda.

1.2 Apologies for Absence

1.3 Minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2022

Members Present:

Mr J Akrell	JAK
Mr J Anyan	JAn
Mr R Borrill	Chair
Mr C Day	CD
Mr I Dowson	ID
Mr A Godfrey	AG
Mrs J Jackson	JJ1
Mr J James	JJ
Mrs H Rowson	HR
Mr M Storey	MS
Mr W Strawson	WS
Mr J Summers	JS

In attendance on behalf of JBA Consulting

Officer:

Mr C Benson	Clerk
Mr P Jones	Engineer
Mr D Blake	Finance Officer
Miss J Parker	Rating Officer

Declaration of Interest

2022.53 None.

Apologies for Absence

2022.54 Apologies were received from Mr. S. Buckley, Mr. R. Herring, Mr. J. Jackson, Mr. C. Sherwood, Mr. N. Sherwood, Mr T. Sutton-Nelthorpe and Mr H. Williams.

Minutes of the Meeting 25 May 2022

2022.55 Minutes of the meeting held were considered and **approved by all members as a true and correct record.**

Matters arising not discussed elsewhere on Agenda

2022.56 None.

Complaints/FOI requests

2022.57 None received.

CLERK REPORT

2022.58 Policy – RO advised Members that the changes to the GDPR and Data Sharing Policies were only minor. Both had been produced before the law came into effect so the clause referring to this had now been updated. **Approval proposed by AG, seconded JAn, all Members in agreement.**

2022.59 Legislation – Information noted with the Clerk advising that when approved this would allow the Board, if it chose to do so, to revalue all the land within its district and also extend the district to the full catchment.

2022.60 Humber Flood Risk Management Strategy – Information noted.

2022.61 Association of Drainage Authorities – Information noted.

FINANCE REPORT

2022.62 Rating Report – FO advised North Lincolnshire Council had now paid the second instalment of the Special Levy reducing the outstanding balance to £89,735.

2022.63 Internal Audit – Information noted.

2022.64 Audit Review Meeting – FO confirmed this would be a virtual meeting and that CD was usually in attendance on behalf of the Board but if any other Members wished to attend then to advise and he would send them the link. Chair thanked CD for attending on the Board's behalf.

2022.65 Budget Comparison for the Year Ending 31 March 2022 – FO took Members through advising the Board position was where expected to be at this time. He then referred to Pump Station Electricity Costs advising that the Board were still using Woldmarsh for its supply. He confirmed that Woldmarsh had advised that the new day rate, with Government assistance, would be between 34 to 38p/kwh which would mean a 170% increase on what the Board had been paying previously, adding that if the Board had a particularly wet winter, with similar electricity usage as 2019/20 then this would lead to costs of £300,000 by comparison. FO stated that the MEICA Engineer had moved all the pump stations that consumed the most energy onto night-time pumping and would only pump during the day when necessary. The other pumping stations would be moved across in the future. This would mean a reduction from the day rate, but that rate was still to be confirmed.

2022.66 Five Year Budget Estimate & Capital Account – FO took Members through the report. He advised of an increase in income against budget of £43,000 from the Foreign Water contribution. He noted that whilst Maintenance and Electricity costs had increased, the costs would be offset by the additional income received. A reduction in the deficit would provisionally result in a Balance Carried Forward for the year of £226,000. This would mean a Reserve Balance of 26.72% which was within the Board parameters. CD referred to the increase in rate of 1.5p projected for the following year, asking if this would just be to keep the Reserve Levels within the “Amber” section. FO confirmed it would be if the Board wished to continue with its current operations. JAn asked if shorter contracts with Woldmarsh could be considered. FO confirmed that variable one month contracts were currently being offered due to the volatility of the market and that Woldmarsh were checking every day and they suspected the market would stabilise at the 38p/kwh rate into next year. He then added that increases of between 200 to 400% were not uncommon in the industry so this Board were benefiting from being a member of Woldmarsh. Clerk referred to an article in the ADA Gazette that



discussed the cost escalation worries of ADA members. Responding to a question, the Clerk confirmed that under the Land Drainage Act, Board's could raise income during the financial year.

2022.67 Schedule of Payments – CD requested clarification on the Van Hire costs. FO advised that two vehicles were currently being hired at a cost of £14,000 with a contribution being made by Scunthorpe & Gainsborough WMB. He stated that after discussions with the Chair and Vice Chair the Board would be looking to purchase one of the vehicles. **Approval proposed by JS, seconded by AG.**

ENGINEERS REPORT

2022.68 Hibaldstow Pumping Station – Eng. advised that the intrusive inspection had confirmed that the structure had a residual life of 25-35 years and was in relatively good condition. He advised that the MEICA Engineer would be reviewing the status of the pumps with an estimate of the overall scheme cost available at the next meeting. Eng. then confirmed the inspection had been fully funded by Grant in Aid and that as only £22,000 of the £50,000 received had been spent approval was sought from the Board to undertake a CCTV inspection of the inverted syphons beneath Hibaldstow and Scawby Catchwaters. He added that following discussions with the Environment Agency they were in agreement that these funds could be used for that purpose. Eng. added that approval was also sought from the Board for the rest of the recommendations set out in the papers. JS enquired if the intention was to carry out the proposed Bitumen coating of the piles. Eng. confirmed costs were still to be obtained for the Board to consider. **Approval to recommendations proposed by JS, seconded AG.**

2022.69 Hydraulic Model – Information noted. CD asked if overflows from main river which added additional water to the Board's systems were noted in the model outputs. Eng. advised these were within the EA model which would show how the IDB was impacted when overflows occurred.

2022.70 Telemetry – Members noted the information contained in the meeting papers and the Eng confirmed he had discussions with the EA who had advised that the Board could seek Grant in Aid or Local Levy funds of up to £150,000, but a Short Form Business Case would be required. He stated that Board approval was required to apply for this at a cost of £5,500. Chair asked if he was confident this would be granted. Eng said yes, other IDBs had applied for similar funding and received approval. **JS proposed approval, ID seconded.**

2022.71 Low Farm Outfall – Information noted.

2022.72 Thirty Foot Pumping Station – Information noted. Eng stated that moving forwards the most power-hungry stations would be looked at to see where Invertors could be installed with a plan brought back to the Board for approval. JS asked if this would include the savings identified from the invertor already installed. Eng confirmed it would be a best estimate as it had only been in situ for a short period. JAn queried the lifespan of Invertors. Eng advised that a standard control panel was 20 to 25 years but that this was dependent upon the type of panel. He stated that even if the invertor needed replacing two or three times over a 25-year period this would still result in savings over a typical control panel from either upfront costs, energy efficiencies or reduced maintenance on mechanical elements (flap valves, motors, pumps).

2022.73 Main River – Eng confirmed information in meeting papers. JS said that if the 20cm drop in water levels was just through weed cutting then it indicated maintenance was essential and queried what effect de-silting would have. Eng advised that following a survey the silt in West Drain was minimal. JAn enquired about overhanging trees. Eng confirmed this would only have an impact if they were interfering with water flow. WS enquired as to how far up West Drain works would be carried out. Eng advised if he was referring to Eller Beck this was



due to be undertaken on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th November. WS advised of an issued with properties flooding at Broughton Bridge and had received a letter from the EA. Eng agreed to discuss with him following the meeting. ID queried how far the initial maintenance had been carried out on West Drain. Eng advised from Scabcroft Weir to the Outfall and confirmed that the EA still had West Drain on their maintenance schedule. He then asked Members if anyone was aware if Anglian Water had recommenced ground water abstractions as yet. JJ1 advised not as yet at Winteringham due to issues with the pumps.

HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING

2022.74 Noted.

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISER REPORT

2022.75 Information noted with Clerk referring to decline in Water Vole population that had been identified. MS stated that there had been an increase in the Mink population. Clerk confirmed that traps had been put out at some of the pump stations.

Any Other Business

2022.76 None.

Date of Next Meeting

2022.77 Chair advised next meeting Wednesday 11 January 2023 and thanked all for attending.

1.4 Matters arising there from not elsewhere on Agenda

1.5 Complaints/FOI/EIR requests

None received.