

# 1. Governance

**Recommendation:**

- Note the information contained in this report

## 1.1 Apologies for Absence

## 1.2 Declaration of Interest

In accordance with the Members Code of Conduct, Part 2 Members Interests, Members must remove themselves from the discussion or determination of matters in which they have a financial interest.

In matters where Members have a non-financial interest, they should not participate in the discussion or determination of a matter where the interest might suggest a danger of bias.

## 1.3 Public Forum

## 1.4 Minutes of the Meeting held 11 November 2024

MEMBER	6.2. 2023	25.4. 2023	12.6. 2023	6.11. 2023	5.2. 2024	3.6. 2024	11.11. 2024
David Barratt DB	A	A	√	A	A	√	Resigned
Adrian Black AB	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Chris Black CB	√	√	A	√	√	√	√
John Davison JD							New √
Tony Ellerby TE	√	-	A	√	√	A	A
Ian Fleetwood IF	√	√	-	√	√	√	√
David Forington DF	√	A	√	√	√	√	√
Will Forington WF				New √	√	A	√
Trevor Foster TF	√	√	√	√	A	-	√
Samuel Godfrey SG	√	A	√	√	-	√	√
Benjamin Jackson BJ	A	A	√	√	A	√	A
Robert Kissaglis RK	√	√	A	√	A	-	√
Janet Longcake JL	√	A	A	√	-	√	√
Paul Metheringham PM	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Lesley Rollings LR	√	A	√	√	√	-	√
Ralph Ogg - Vice Chair	A	A	√	√	√	√	A
Neil Poole - Chair	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Helen Rowson HR	A	√	A	A	√	√	-
George Strawson GS				New √	√	√	√
Gwylim G Williams GW	A	-	A	√	√	-	-

**In attendance on behalf of JBA Consulting, Clerk, Engineer and Environmental Officer:**

Craig Benson (Clerk)  
David Blake (Finance Officer)  
Paul Jones (Engineer)  
Janette Parker (Rating Officer)

Clerk  
FO  
Eng  
RTO

### Election of Chairman

**2024.57** Clerk welcomed all to the meeting and advised that following the recent Election the Board needed to appoint a Chairman. **LR proposed NP, seconded by JD and all Members in agreement.** NP said he had enjoyed the job over the last three years and thanked all for the great support he had received and acknowledged the knowledge and expertise held by all at the meeting.





#### Election of Vice Chairman

**2024.58** Chair advised members that RO was prepared to stand again and proposed he be re-elected to the position. TF seconded and all in agreement.

#### Apologies for Absence

**2024.59** Apologies were received from Mr T Ellerby, Mr R Ogg and members were advised that Mr D Barratt had resigned his position so there was now a vacancy on the Board. PM advised that Mr P Marris was keen to be a member of the Board. Clerk advised that he could be invited to the next meeting and members could then co-opt him to the Board for the current three-year term. **All Members agreed to proposals.** LR queried if a letter had been sent to DB. Clerk confirmed he had done so thanking him for his time on the Board.

#### Declarations of Interest

**2024.60** DF and WF with regards Ravensfleet Pumping Station.

#### Public Forum

**2024.61** No Members of the Public in attendance.

#### Minutes of the Meeting held 3 June 2024

**2024.62** All Members agreed that they were a true and accurate record.

#### Matters Arising

**2024.63** None.

#### Complaints/FOI Requests

**2024.64** None received.

#### CLERKS REPORT

**2024.65** Storm Recovery Costs – Clerk confirmed that £870,000 had been obtained from Tranche 1 which covered the costs incurred by the Board and would also enable the repair of assets and pump inspections for those stations which experienced excessive pumping during the storm events. He added that DEFRA had requested evidence once the works were completed. With regards Tranche 2 funding the Clerk advised this additional funding was currently being reviewed following the change of Government and that, following a recent meeting he had with Innes Thompson from the EA, the decision was unlikely to be made before March 2025. This decision was most likely to be delayed until July/August 2025. SG asked if the works relating to the second tranche could be postponed until funding was received. Clerk confirmed that no work had been started on the items requested under Tranche 2 and they would not be undertaken unless funding was received.

**Update – It was announced on 13 November that the Minister had approved for the Tranche 2 Funding to be made available for certain projects. I am pleased to advise members that a further £1.5m has been secured for the Board. This relates to works improving the Gravity actuators at Burringham Reservoir and Laughton Highland Drain outfall, servicing the actuators at Flixborough PS, Surge chamber access at Flixborough PS, Inverters and Panel sensors at the pumping stations, Laughton Highland Drain spillway and connection to Jenny Hurn Pumping Station, and Lea Marsh watercourse improvements. All this has to be delivered by March 25. The contractors have been approached to establish what can be undertaken within the timescale.**

**2024.66** Election Year – Information noted.

**2024.67** Drainage Rate System (DRS) – RO advised that the current system expired on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 and a replacement was available but due to the format the Boards data was currently held in this would need upgrading at a one-off cost of £1,645. Discussions took place surrounding the system and alternatives with the outcome that



**all Members in agreement to upgrade the data and proceed with the alternative system.**

- 2024.68** Future Opportunities – The Clerk gave a presentation on the options available to the Board and the possible benefits and implications of either a merger with the nearby Ancholme IDB and/or extending to the full catchment area. Discussions were held and it was proposed by the Chair that he proceed to meet with the Chair of AIDB to discuss further. **All Members in agreement.**

#### FINANCE REPORT

- 2024.69** Rate Report – FO advised the revised balance of £21,899 and that all Special Levies had now been received.
- 2024.70** Rate Reduction Request – RO advised of the request relating to land within the Gainsborough district. **Discussions took place with Chair proposing a 50% reduction in drainage rates but only for the current year. All Members in agreement.**
- 2024.71** Audit Review Meeting – FO stated the meeting was to be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024. It was agreed that AB would attend again on behalf of the Board.
- 2024.72** External Audit – Information noted.
- 2024.73** Electricity Tender Review – Information noted.
- 2024.74** Budget Comparison for the Year Ending 31 March 2025 – FO took members through advising that Board were where would expect to be at this time. He then confirmed that £1.4 million was currently being invested and so far £9,144 interest had been received. An additional supplement was distributed which the FO then explained.
- 2024.75** Ten Year Budget Estimate – Information noted. LR queried the £45,000 allocated for Morton Warping Drain improvements. Eng advised it was part of the capital program and that possible options were to remove the pipe near Field Lane or deepen the watercourse but this could result in a potential hazard. He added that recent work undertaken in adjacent fields by landowners had seemed to have reduced the risk so the allocated funds may not be required.
- 2024.76** Schedule of Payments – **All members agreed approval of.**

#### ENGINEERS REPORT

Eng. confirmed report was for information with the following added:

- 2024.77** Ravensfleet Pumping Station – Eng confirmed that works had now begun on site with 98% of the funding from the EA. He advised that it would be a 12-month project and that a time lapse camera had been set up to record progress. Drone footage would also be available and referred members to the recent email sent with footage showing the piling works. He stated that an open day would be held on completion but extended an invitation to members to visit the site prior to that to see the works progressing.
- 2024.78** Telemetry – Eng confirmed that installations were now progressing more quickly with expected completion by March/April 2025. He advised that a presentation of the system would be given by the Contractors at the next meeting.
- 2024.79** Burringham Reservoir – Information noted.
- 2024.80** Water Level Management – Ordinary Watercourses – Eng reported that Sweetings had recently experienced resource issues but that another operator had been brought in. He added that the contract was now on an annual review. WF stated the contractors needed more scrutiny, the machines were in a poor state and a lot of work had not been carried out. AB said they came later and later each time and they were now flailing on freshly drilled crops. DF also added that they didn't liaise with farmers for access. NP requested an item be added to the Agenda for the next meeting to review and discuss options.
- 2024.81** River Eau, Scotter – Discussions took place regarding outstanding works with Eng confirming the EA were still considering works for next season but that needed





the support of those in the village to complete. Chair requested a meeting be arranged on site to meet the area officer so that works could be discussed.

JD and IF left the meeting.

**2024.82** River Eau Penstock – Information noted.

**2024.83** River Trent Outfall Laughton Highland Drain – Eng advised the Board had three options to consider following the request from the EA. **Discussions took place with Chair proposing Option 3 subject to no additional cost to the Board, all Members in agreement.** Eng to discuss further with EA.

**2024.84** Great Catchwater Wharton Road Sink Holes – Eng confirmed that the LLC Highways had attempted a patched repair but this had not solved the issue. He added that a proposal to undertake work had been submitted under Tranche 2 of the Storm Recovery Fund, however, if this not received then the Board would need to look at other options. Chair requested a letter be sent to LCC as the responsibility was theirs.

**2024.85** IDB Fund Storm Recovery and Asset Improvement – Information noted. WF queried when the new pump would be returned at Jenny Hurn. Eng advised there was no date as yet

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

**2024.86** Clerk advised members that Rebekah Beaumont would be taking over the role from Alison Briggs and she would be the Board's point of contact moving forwards.

#### **HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING REPORT**

**2024.87** Board Operations Accidents & Incidents – Information noted.

#### **REPRESENTATION**

**2024.88** Information noted.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

**2024.89** 3 February 2025, 2 June 2025

Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting.

  
3/2/2025