

MINUTES OF SELBY AREA IDB MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 19th JUNE 2025
AT 12 PARK STREET, SELBY

- 208 **Present** Mr J Dennis (Chairman), Mr C Clark, Mr C Fenteman, Mrs G Ivey,
Mr A McCloy, Mr C Pearson, Mr C Richardson, Mr J Thirsk
- In attendance Mr N Everard (Clerk of the Board),
Mr P Jones (Consulting Engineer)
Mr I Chapman (Operations Manager)
- 209 **Apologies** Mr M Bramley, Mr J Cattenach, Mr M Jordan, Mr J Mackman,
Mr R Shepherd, Mr C Tindall, Mr T Wood.
- 210 **Declaration of Interest** Mr C Clark regarding Great Clough/Holmes Dyke and Mr C Pearson
in respect of Town Dyke.
- 211 **Minutes** The Minutes of the Meeting held on 30th January 2025 were approved
and signed and there were no matters arising.
- 212 **Operations Manager's Report** The Operations Manager reported on the progress with regard to Town
Dyke regrading works and scheduled completion by 4th July 2025.
- The workforce are currently updating training to include badgers/water
Vole and otter refresher training for environmental awareness and
compliance, banksman/slinger course with a further course for water
safety rescue to undertake.
- The Atlas excavator is currently out of service awaiting repairs to the
dipper power slide and correction of tracking issues which are expected
to be completed prior to the maintenance season.
- Maintenance is scheduled to commence in July 2025 with confirmation
from the Environment Agency in respect of booking sector corporation
works awaited.
- 213 **Health & Safety Report** The Clerk reported that the Finance Committee had approved the
updated Health & Safety policy document which had been subsequently
signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman and was then being signed
off by the Direct Labour force. The Finance Committee are looking at
measures to monitor health and safety and the Clerk will keep us in
discussion with the Advisor although there are no incident reports since
the previous meeting.
- 214 **Environment Agency/DEFRA** All Tranche 1 and 2a works are complete and delivered within approved
National EA funding budgets.
- We have also been successful in Tranche 2b (April 2025-March 2026)
obtaining National EA funding for a 6" mobile pump, fuel tank, 100m
hoses/pipework, and 8" 100m hoses/pipework for an existing IDB pump
set.

This is in addition to the Local EA Grant in Aid success funding **Little Airmyn PS Intrusive Investigation, Telemetry Replacement, and Weedscreen Cleaners** for Temple Hirst and Cawood Marshes Pumping Stations.

The EA confirmed that the Tranche 2b Asset Improvement Fund to modernise and improve IDB assets was heavily oversubscribed with 102 applications totalling £64 million against a Fund of £19 million which resulted in Cawood High Level Gravity and Fleet Drain Gravity Sluice Doors being unsuccessful although both projects met the eligibility criteria. Both projects have now been submitted to the EA Grant in Aid forward plan awaiting confirmation of allocations.

Overall, we have been successful in obtaining **c.£2.4 million** for the Board (as set out below and overleaf) as well as allocations of up to £630k modelling for Brayton and the Drainage District.

External Funding Summary (Grant in Aid, Local Levy & New IDB Fund)				
Project / Works	EA Ref	Funding Source	Applied for	Awarded
Storm Recovery: Energy Costs	AT1-098	New Fund IDB	£129,875	£129,875
Storm Recovery: M&E Inspection, Repair & Overhaul	AT1-071	New Fund IDB	£128,620	£128,620
Storm Recovery: Asset Stabilisation & Repair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coates Marsh - Carr Dyke - Fleet Drain top slab - Baffam Gardens - Lendall PS impeller, flapvalve and outfall 	AT1-070	New Fund IDB	£326,398	£326,398
Asset Improvement (Tranche 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Holmes Dyke - Birkin Penstocks - Pump Chains 	AT2-0094	New Fund IDB	£1,466,595	£1,466,595
Asset Improvement (Tranche 2B) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cawood High Level Gravity - Fleet Drain Gravity Doors 	AT2B-038	New Fund IDB	£1,670,665	£0
Telemetry Replacement	IDB-0622	Local Levy	£94,000	£94,000
Little Airmyn Intrusive Inspections	IDB-0621	Grant in Aid	£50,000	£50,000
Temple Hirst & Cawood Weedscreen Cleaners	IDB-0447	Grant in Aid Variation	£188,000	£188,000
TOTAL			£3,960,247	£2,383,488

Defra has launched its Investment Reform consultation announced by Minister Hardy at Flood & Coast on 3rd June which proposes major updates to DEFRA's Partnership Funding Policy and seeks views on a simplified approach to funding set out as:

- Contribution-Free Allowance: First £3 million of all FCERM projects eligible for full GiA funding;
 - Flat Rate of Funding: 90% GiA funding eligibility for all FCERM project costs above £3 million;
 - FCERM asset refurbishment projects are eligible to be fully GiA funded
- The consultation closes on 29th July and we will review and respond on behalf of the Board.

	Expected outcomes of our proposed approach	Expected outcomes under the current Partnership Funding approach
Residential properties benefitting	105,000	70,000
Non-residential properties benefitting	15,500	11,500
Benefit cost ratio	7.0	6.5
Spend in the 20% most deprived communities	£200 million	£160 million
External (non-government) contributions needed (%)	4%	20%
Natural flood management schemes that would struggle to secure necessary external contributions (%)	0%	91%
Capital maintenance projects that would struggle to secure necessary external contributions (%)	5%	37%
Agricultural land benefitting (hectares)	46,000	17,000

We would recommend support for the new Funding Policy as well as highlighting improvements to be considered in relation to business case, timescales for approval and a move to a similar process to that of the New IDB Fund.

- 215 **Holmes Dyke** All temporary hoses and equipment are stored at the EA Depot and the EA are now preparing an on-site pump trial, weather dependent, including the IDB in preparations and tests.
- 216 **Telemetry** A site visit is to be organised across 5 initial sites with the telemetry supplier as well as a presentation/overview of existing operational systems.
- 217 **Asset Management System** We have liaised with two potential supplier's and a proof-in-concept is being developed by at least one supplier to provide improved examples for the Boards' and to help improve the scope for competitive pricing.
- 218 **Town Dyke Diversion** Works are progressing well by the IDB Workforce with no issues arising in relation to ecology or North Yorkshire Historic Environment.

A potential delay to completion of works related to a new road culvert / crossing is anticipated as we await a Section 50 Streetworks License from North Yorkshire Council, however, NYC Streetworks have now processed the application which was originally submitted in December.

- 219 **Temple Hirst/
Cawood Marshes** The Refurbishment of the pumps & panels at Temple Hirst, Cawood (Wistow Clough), and Coates Marsh have been completed and supported, predominantly, by Grant in Aid funding as well as a Network Rail contribution and IDB funding.
- A Variation for £188,000 was applied for from the EA which has now been approved 100% Grant in Aid and we recommended to the Board an allocation through this years' Capital Works budget that a further £30,000 per weedscreen maybe required.
- The revised approved Budget has therefore been presented and accepted by the Finance Committee at £ allowing £ for Telemetry and £ for Weedscreen Cleaners.
- Two Weedscreen Cleaner Suppliers were invited to confirm their costs based upon previous quotation submissions and a Review was presented to the Finance Committee who agreed with the recommendation to award both Weedscreen Cleaner Contracts to OVIVO (formerly Bracket Green) including screen replacement.
- An allowance would be required for some further minor civils, design, concrete dump slab and cabling works.
- A 3% discount has also been offered for the award of both contracts.
- Based upon the Finance Committee approval of updated Costs we have accepted the Quotes and discount from OVIVO totalling £ with site visits being arranged and lead civils contractor to be confirmed.
- 220 **Planning
Applications** Planning applications have been reviewed on a weekly basis and 28 have received comment on between January and May 2025 on behalf of the Board.
- Applications may not result in a need for IDB consent, but should an applicant wish to discharge to a watercourse or work within 7 metres of a watercourse they are informed of the Boards Consent requirements.
- 221 **Land Drainage
Act 1991** Section 23 and 66 Consent - Nine consents have been issued on behalf of the Board between January and May 2025.
- 222 **Remedial Mining
Authority** The Consulting Engineer understood that the RMA have submitted a formal complaint to Northern Power Grid with regards to issues in in progressing supply to the pumping station in connection with proposed refurbishments works with the possibility of a complaint be submitted to the Ombudsman. The Board is liable to 9% of the costs for the pumping station refurbishment scheme. On completion they will then be progressing works to Bond Ings Pumping Station.
- 223 **Cawood Village
Pumping Station** The Consulting Engineer confirmed that the pump upgrade had been completed and that the Station is now being operated by the Environment Agency. The Board have requested a formal update and a site visit to understand the maintenance and operation regime.

- 224 **Bio Diversity Action Plan** The Board's environmental advisor had submitted a proposal to the Finance Committee for review and update of the existing bio diversity action plan in the sum of £ which was approved. It was expected that the update will be available prior to considering the future year's budget.
- 225 **Risk Management Strategy & Policy** The Clerk reported that subject to the usual insurance and Health & Safety reviews there had been no amendments to the policy with the update to the DRS365 and Telemetry system within the programme. The Finance Committee had raised concern over succession planning which will be built into the further review.
- 226 **Direct Labour** The Clerk reported on the query raised by the Direct Labour force with regard to the impact of minimum wage increases and after taking advice from ADA will advise that they are not due a minimum wage increase plus the % and that the rates are in accordance with the minimum wage legislation.
- 227 **Board's Machinery** The Clerk reported that the replacement flail head and weed bucket had been obtained in advance of the maintenance season and were in accordance with the budget.
- 228 **Election** The Clerk reported that the Electoral Register would be placed on deposit and appropriately advertised for the forthcoming year in October. North Yorkshire Council had advised that rather than confirming appointed members on an annual basis that they would simply advise of any changes.
- 229 **Proposal to Acquire Yard/ Offices** The Clerk reported on the negotiations to date with regard to the Vivars property. The Finance Committee had authorised the Clerk to get an increased offer to £ to ensure that the property is secured. Currently solicitors are carrying out legal searches on receipt of Heads of Terms and contracts are awaited. The current offer is £ and the property is opted to tax for VAT purposes. The Board authorised the Clerk to sign the contract on behalf of the Board.
- 230 **Audit** The Internal Audit report for the financial year ending 31st March 2025 had two matters to be brought to the attention of the Board. Firstly, the level of rate arrears, the Clerk confirmed that rate arrears had increased and he was currently obtaining quotations for approval by the Finance Committee to seek recovery of the arrears. The other matter was regard to publication of information specifically with regard to lack of minutes on the Board's website. Although not a legal requirement, it was considered best practice and the Clerk will review the website which is operated by JBA Consulting Engineers. The Board approved the re-appointment of the Northern Internal Audit Services.

Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year 31st March 2025:-

- a) Effectiveness of the system in internal control – the Board approved the internal control review for the year ended 31st March 2025.

- b) Annual Governance Statement – the Board approved the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 of the AGAR) for the year ended 31st March 2025.
- c) Accounting Statements – the Board considered and approved the accounting statements (Section 2 of the AGAR) for the year ended 31st March 2025.

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| 231 | <u>Accounts for Payment</u> | The Board approved the Accounts for Payment schedule numbers 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 in the sums of £267,762.42, £214,958.67, £138,451.31, £252,542.45 and £264,442.76 respectively. |
| 232 | <u>Next Meeting</u> | The next meeting of the Board will be held on 27 th November 2025. |

Mr J Dennis.....Chairman

27th November 2025.....Date