

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 3 February 2026

| Member | 18.6.24 | 12.11.24 | 4.2.25 | 12.3.25 | 26.6.25 | 11.11.25 | 3.2.26 |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|--------|---------|---------|----------|--------|
| Mrs Rosemary J Webster (Chair) | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ |
| Mr John Richard Fawbert | - | √ | √ | A | √ | √ | √ |
| Mr Graham W Martinson | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Mrs Rita Brough (Vice Chair) | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | A | A |
| Mr Mally Boatman | √ | √ | √ | √ | A | √ | √ |
| | | | | | | | |
| EYRC | | | | | | | |
| Mr Brent Huntington | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ |
| Cllr Liz Sargeantson | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cllr Nick Coultish | - | - | - | √ | - | - | √ |
| Cllr David Jeffreys | A | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ |
| Cllr Anne Handley | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

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

| | |
|--|-------|
| Craig Benson (Clerk) | Clerk |
| David Blake (Finance Officer) | FO |
| Roger Smith (Engineer) | Eng |
| Janette Parker (Rating Officer) | RO |
| Catherine Porter (Environmental Officer) | EO |

Members of the Public:

Mr R Kilcoyne - Friends of Oakhill Trustee
Mr J Palmer - Friends of Oakhill Trustee

GOVERNANCE

2026.1 Apologies for Absence – Mrs R Brough. MB asked if something could be sent from the Board. Chair confirmed flowers had been sent.

2026.2 Declaration of Interest – None.

2026.3 Minutes of Meeting held 11 November 2025 – **Minutes considered and proposed as true record by BH and seconded by RF.**

2026.4 Matters Arising – BH asked in relation to Item 2025.68 if the meeting with the Council Planning Officers had taken place. Clerk confirmed it had not and that DJ had agreed to assist in facilitating this at the last meeting. DJ advised he had spoken to Keith Thompson at the Council and had forwarded an email response to the Clerk regarding the matter being discussed in Westminster and that the IDB were not a statutory body. Discussions were held with the consensus that a meeting still needed to be held between the Board and the Council to discuss the implications

of excluding the Boards comments from any decisions. NC pointed out that the same Item should have referred to Emma Hardy as Minister for Flood and Water. Chair acknowledged.

2026.5 FO advised Members that in relation to Item 2025.82 the Chair had agreed a new two-year Electricity contract from October 2026.

2026.6 FOI/Complaints – None.

CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk advised his report was for note with the following update

2026.7 Legislation – Noted.

2026.8 Re-Constitution of Board – Noted.

2026.9 Policy – **Clerk advised on the minor changes to the GDPR policies with approval proposed by MB and seconded by DJ.** BH suggested it should mention that the Board have a nominated Data Controller. RO advised it was stated under section 5.1.3

2026.10 ADA Annual Subscription – Clerk recommended that the Board consider rejoining ADA as they had benefitted via Officers recently on several issues as well as the ongoing review on Standing Charges. **Discussions took place with MB proposing the Board rejoined, BH seconded and All in Favour.**

2026.11 Electricity Standing Charges - Information noted.

2026.12 Downes Ground Pump Station Access – Eng gave an overview regarding the access issues confirming that the EA were upgrading the track along the Main River. The Eng advised that the EA suggested the Board could purchase the track after they had completed reinstatement works for a nominal fee. Chair asked if the offer was in writing. Eng advised not. **Discussions took place with the conclusion that the EA offer be made in writing for the Board to formally consider the options at the June meeting.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

2026.13 Audit – Information noted.

2026.14 Risk Register – **FO took Members through with approval proposed by RF and seconded by MB.**

2026.15 Schedule of Payments –DJ queried the PWLB stating that the payment doesn't appear to have dropped despite interest rates having fallen and was that the only means of borrowing available. Clerk advised that the rates are set at the time the loan is taken out and the Boards Capital Reserve balance would mean the need to borrow in future will be reduced. **Schedule approved by DJ and seconded by BH.**

2026.16 Rates and Special Levies for Year Ending 31 March 2027 –.FO took Members through advising that overall there would be a £2,000 positive variance to the budget for the current year generating a healthy surplus and a carry forward balance of £320,428. He then advised that at the current rate, the new budget would generate a surplus of £79,397 which would be a reserve level of 109% with the balance at £299,874, so recommended there was no need for a rate increase. Discussions took place with NC asking what impact a reduction to the rate to 4.9p would have. FO confirmed that a penny on the rate raised £53,732, a surplus would still be achieved but the Board did choose to transfer monies to the Capital Account for the replacement program. **NC then proposed a rate reduction to 4.9p based on the challenging times and the fact that the Board could afford to and still be sustainable. MB referred to the Capital Reserve Account advising that would be reluctant to take money from that so proposed to leave the rate at 5.9p based on the FO recommendation. BH seconded MB proposal and a vote was held with 5 Members in favour and 1 against. NC proposal was considered but no Member seconded so the decision moved was to leave the rate at 5.9p.**

Expenditure Budget Comparison for the year Ending 31 March 2027

The Board considered an Estimate of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31st March 2027, copies of which had been previously circulated to members.

In accordance with Section 37 of the Land Drainage Act, the Board determined that aggregate annual value of chargeable properties in the district on the aggregate value of all other land in the district as at 31st December 2025 for the financial year beginning 1st April 2026 as follows:-

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|--|-------------|
| a) Aggregate annual value of chargeable properties | £ 5,263,535 |
| b) Aggregate value of all other land | £ 109,644 |

It was agreed that for the purpose of defraying costs, charges and expenses etc. incurred by the Board under the Land Drainage Act 1991 for the period 1st April 2026 to 31st March 2027, and in pursuance of the Internal Drainage Board (Finance) Regulations 1992, that the Board make a drainage rate for their district in respect of agricultural land and agricultural buildings and a Special Levy as follows:-

The amount of the Board's expenses to be met by drainage rates was £6,469 by way of an Occupier's rate of 5.9p in the £ on the basis of the annual value of agricultural land and agricultural buildings in the district.

The amount of the Board's expenses to be met by Special Levies was:-

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| East Riding of Yorkshire Council | £ 310,549 |
|----------------------------------|-----------|

The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to seal the rate and the Special Levy on the Local Authority in accordance with the Act and the Finance Regulations.

The Clerk, or their representatives, were authorised to negotiate and carry out proceedings for the recovery of any rates unpaid.

Members agreed that if additional expenditure is required above the agreed budget, it is taken from balances.

2026.17 Five Year Forecast Estimate – Information noted. MB pointed out an inconsistency with the Commuted Sum Balance which the FO confirmed would be updated.

ENGINEERS REPORT

Engineer advised the report was for note with the following added

2026.18 Water Level Monitoring – Eng confirmed that the contractor was on site and had completed two of the stations.

2026.19 Hydraulic Modelling – Eng advised the option testing should be completed towards the end of April / early May.

2026.20 Asset Management System - Eng gave Members a brief overview with Clerk adding that the Board were required by DEFRA to have an AMS and that costs were still being finalised with a full report due shortly which would be brought to the June Meeting. Discussions took place with Members agreeing in principle to the proposal.

2026.21 NC commented that whilst he did propose 4.9p he respected MB comments and the FO recommendation with regards the long-term sustainability and that the decision made was enabling them to invest in efficiencies as just proposed so confirmed he would vote in favour of the 5.9p.

2026.22 Tour of District – Clerk proposed moving the November meetings to October unless an election was being held and suggested the tour could take place then. **Discussions took place with Member agreement to move the meeting to October.** Tour details would be discussed at the next meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

2026.23 Legislation - Noted.

2026.24 Biodiversity Action Plan – Information noted with EO adding that this should now be on the website. She added that weather permitting Water Vole surveys had been programmed in to

be undertaken at the end of March. EO confirmed that Mink Traps had been purchased and that on-site training was to be carried out on how to set them up.

2026.25 Humber Conference – EO confirmed she had attended the Conference in November and gave a brief update.

2026.26 ADA Environment Day – EO confirmed she would be attending and would report back at the next meeting.

2026.27 NC queried if the NPPF, which was a Government proposal to get rid of mandatory surveys on planning applications, would have an effect on the IDB. EO was unsure. Clerk confirmed that Board surveys were part of the BAP targets that had to be met and with regards planning the only time surveys would be carried out would be in line with Environmental permitting regulations and where needed to do a HRA.

2026.28 MB stated that seen comments in the media lately regarding forever chemicals and queried if that would be picked up under MCerts. EO advised she would look into further.

HEALTH & SAFETY REPORT

2026.29 Information noted.

REPRESENTATION

2026.30 Information noted.

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

2026.31 Chair requested the proposed date on 9 June be amended. Clerk suggested 2 June 2026 which was agreed.

1.4 Matters arising not discussed elsewhere on Agenda

1.5 Public Forum

1.6 FOI/Complaints

The Board has received no complaints or FOI requests since the last meeting.