

Doncaster East Internal Drainage Board

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board held on Friday, 25th November 2022 at 10.00 a.m. at Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Doncaster.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| * Mr M. Brooke | * Mr C. Crowe |
| * Mr P.A.M. Cornish | * Mr L. Garrett |
| Mr I. Dixon | * Mr J. Hoare |
| * Mr R. Durdy | * Mr P. Horne (Vice-Chairman) |
| * Mr N.V. Williams | * Mr M. Houlbrook |
| Two vacancies | * Mr C. McGuinness (Chairman) |
| | Ms H. Norford |
| | * Mr M. Oldknow |

* *Present*

- * Mr A. McGill (Chief Executive)
- * Dr D. Hickman (Executive Officer)
- * Mr A. Malin (Senior Operations Manager)
- * Mr D. Braddy (Operations Manager)
- * Mrs N. Hind (Finance Manager)
- * Mrs C. Davies (Corporate Services Manager)

* *In attendance*

2022.85 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO TEM

Mr A. McGill was appointed Chairman pro-tem.

2022.86 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Mr M. Oldknow, seconded by Mr N. Williams that Mr C. McGuinness be elected Chairman of the Board.

RESOLVED unanimously

That Mr C. McGuinness be elected Chairman of the Board to hold office until the next annual general meeting.

Mr C. McGuinness took the chair.

2022.87 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Mr C. McGuinness and seconded by Mr N. Williams that Mr P. Horne be elected Vice-Chairman of the Board.

RESOLVED unanimously

That Mr P. Horne be elected Vice-Chairman of the Board to hold office until the next annual general meeting.

2022.88 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mr I. Dixon and Mrs H. Norford.

2022.89 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

2022.90 NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

2022.91 BOARD MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of a meeting of the Board held on the 7th October 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

2022.92 MATTERS ARISING

Regarding Minute 2022.64, Mr M. Brooke confirmed he had met with the Operations Manager after the last meeting and some issues had been sorted, however, there were still some outstanding matters. Mr Brooke stated that the lack of PSCA work would result in flooding of land - it was agreed to discuss this under item 18.

RECEIVED

2022.93 MEMBERSHIP OF THE BOARD

- (a) Land Drainage (Election of Drainage Boards) Regulations 1938 as Amended by the Land Drainage (Election of Internal Drainage Boards) (Amendment) Regulations 1977

The Corporate Services Manager stated that the election of members to represent the agricultural drainage ratepayers, to come into office on 1st November 2022, had been held in accordance with the statutory rules and the results were as follows:

<u>Electoral District</u>	<u>Members Elected</u>
Hatfield Chase	Mr M. Brooke
Hatfield and Stainforth	Mr I.A. Dixon
Finningley and River Idle	Mr P.A. Cornish
Hatfield Moor and Wroot	Mr R. Durdy
Thorne and Ealand	Vacancy
Tickhill and Rossington	Mr N.V. Williams
Armthorpe	Vacancy

The elected members would hold office until 31st October 2025. It was noted that there had been no applications for the seats in the Armthorpe or the Thorne and Ealand electoral districts and Messrs G. Parker and G. Platt no longer wished to stand.

RESOLVED

That the results of the recent election be noted.

(b) Vacancies

The Corporate Services Manager reported that the vacancies in the Armthorpe and the Thorne and Ealand electoral districts had been advertised on the Board's website. The names of two candidates living in the Wroot area had been put forward by Mr M. Brooke to fill the vacancies; Mr R. Wilson and Mr R. Hopkins, both lived and farmed low-lying land in the area, were familiar with the Board's work and keen to be involved in water level management.

RESOLVED

That Messrs R. Hopkins and R. Wilson be appointed to fill the two vacancies on the Board.

2022.94 MEETING DATES

Board and Committee Meetings

RESOLVED that Board and Committee meetings be held on the following dates:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Meeting</i>
27th January 2023	10.00 a.m.	Board (estimates and rate setting)
31st March 2023	10.00 a.m.	Board
25th May 2023	12.30 p.m.	Consortium Committee
23rd June 2023	10.00 a.m.	Board (Approval of final accounts)
25th July 2023	2.00 p.m.	Joint Negotiating Committee
22nd September 2023	10.00 a.m.	Board
3rd October 2023	10.30 a.m.	Consortium Committee
3rd October 2023	2.00 p.m.	Joint Negotiating Committee
24th November 2023	10.00 a.m.	Board (Annual General meeting)

Other Dates

The following were reported for information:

ADA Trent Branch AGM - 14th June 2023

Lincolnshire Show - 21st and 22nd June 2023

Flood and Water Live (Carrington, Lincolnshire) – 5th and 6th July 2023

ADA Annual Conference - November 2023 (Date to be confirmed)

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2022.95 HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE

The Senior Operations Manager gave an update on guidance in respect of Covid-19; there was no longer a requirement for a specific risk assessment to be completed.

An update was given on five incidents reported across the Consortium since the last meeting, none of which were in the Doncaster East area.

A review of COSHH assessments was in progress.

RECEIVED

2022.96 OPERATIONS REPORT

(a) Summer Maintenance

The Operations Manager reported that summer maintenance work was nearing completion with 87.19% flailing and 80.54% of weedcutting complete; remaining work would be completed early December. Officers highlighted that there were access issues on 7,171m of watercourse.

RECEIVED

(b) Winter Maintenance

Officers updated on the winter maintenance programme which was usually undertaken between November and July; this had now been split into two parts as it ran over two financial years. Work would commence shortly on Common Drain, Pissy Beds Drain, Top Boating Dike, Thorne Golf Course and Brosley Drain to be completed in 2022/23. Work on Westmoor Drain, Kingswood Golf Course Drain, North Idle Drain, Low Bank Drain, South Soke Drain, South Soke Drain West and Boating Dike Drain would be undertaken in the 2023/24 financial year. Any money not spent in year would be returned to balances.

Mr M. Brooke emphasised that some of this work had to be undertaken in the summer as the land was heavy clay. The Operations Manager was aware and confirmed that these sections would be tied in with the summer maintenance.

The Chief Executive asked Officers to seek quotations for the whole of the winter maintenance programme (2022/23 and 2023/24) for consideration at the next meeting.

RESOLVED

That quotations be sought for the 2022/23 and 2023/24 winter maintenance work and submitted to the January Board meeting for consideration.

(c) Plant and Equipment

The Senior Operations Manager reported that the 2019 Mitsubishi pick-up was scheduled for replacement in 2025/26 and the 2019 Ford Ranger in 2026/27. In response to the Vice-Chairman who queried whether this was necessary, he confirmed that the condition and mileage would be assessed before replacement, but it was prudent to include them in the forward plan. The Operations Manager

reported that there had been an issue with the diesel partition filter on the Mitsubishi; this apparently was not uncommon.

RECEIVED

(d) Pump Run Hours

These would be circulated separately to members for information.

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2022.97 COMPENSATION CLAIM

The Senior Operations Manager reported that a complaint had been raised by Mr M. Brooke (Board member) on behalf of a local landowner, regarding damage caused to 0.4 acres of sugar beet by the Board's contractors when flailing the M180 South Soak Dyke West. The Operations Manager had visited the site, assessed the damage and spoken to the landowner who had requested the sum of £50 to reimburse his costs. The Senior Operations Manager stated that this was a reasonable amount for the damage caused. He confirmed that a Maintenance Policy which would include payment of compensation was being prepared and would be brought back for the Board's consideration early next year.

RESOLVED

That the sum of £50 be paid to the landowner in full and final settlement in respect of crop damage caused during flailing on the M180 South Soke Drain West.

2022.98 ASSET RENEWAL AND REFURBISHMENT PROJECTS

(a) Balby Carr Pumping Station Pump Refurbishment (DE19304)

Pump Number 2 had been removed, repaired and reinstalled. Officers recommended that the project be closed and the remaining balance of £3,633.30 be returned to balances.

RESOLVED

That the project be closed and the remaining balance of £3,633.30 be returned to balances.

(b) Closure of Engineering Projects

Officers had reviewed the engineering projects and, as no additional work was planned during the current financial year, it was recommended that the following budget lines be closed and the remaining balances transferred to the Pumping Station Reserve Account to be put towards other necessary work:

DE19502 Mother Drain Desilting - £15,000

DE19302 Health and Safety Inspections - £5,000

DE19303 Health and Safety Compliance £25,000

RESOLVED

That the above budget lines be closed and the balance of £45,000 moved to the Pumping Station Reserve Account.

(c) Automatic Weedscreen Cleaners

Balby Carr Pumping Station - The Senior Engineer reported that an inspection of the Heron automatic weedscreen cleaner by AIM Electrical had revealed a number of issues which required attention. An order had, therefore, been placed for repairs in the sum of £2,706.58

High Levels South Pumping Station - Refurbishment of the automatic weedscreen cleaner was being undertaken by AIM Electrical at a cost of £12,717.03 and the refurbished carriage and grab were due to be reinstalled by the end of the month.

Elmhirst Pumping Station - Following the recent breakdown of the automatic weedscreen cleaner, AIM Electrical had highlighted that the remote electrical junction box was at risk of flooding. During previous events, the weed deck and junction box had been under water making the weedscreen cleaner inoperable while water levels remained high. A quotation had been received from the contractor to move and raise the junction box had been received in the sum of £5,866.08.

RESOLVED

That the repairs and refurbishment at Balby Carr and High Levels South be noted and that an order be placed with AIM Electrical to move and raise the junction box at Elmhirst Pumping Station at a cost of £5,866.08.

(d) Pump Repairs

Low Ellers - Pump Number 3 had been reinstalled following repair by Industrial Pumps Ltd, however, the Senior Engineer reported that during the commissioning process the pump had failed to operate as expected and had to be returned to the contractor's workshop for further investigation. Their report was awaited.

Idle Stop - The Senior Engineer reported that one of the Sulzer pumps had been refurbished by Industrial Pumps Ltd and reinstalled. Recabling work was ongoing and the second pump was due to be removed and refurbished once this was complete.

RECEIVED

(e) Future Works Programme Update

The Executive Officer presented the attached Project Status Update. This was a DRAFT document which would be presented at each meeting and members were asked whether there was any additional information they wished to be included. It was agreed to include risk, outturn and priority to the document.

Officers had outlined with Scape Consultancy the planned future projects that would form part of two large-scale packaged outline business cases, one for the Lindsey Marsh area, and one for the Isle of Axholme, Trent Valley and Doncaster East areas. They reported that a clear narrative was emerging for both areas, emphasising connectivity between catchments, the potential for large-scale

movement and retention of water in periods of low and high flows, and the environmental benefits arising from this approach. Feedback nationally and locally was favourable to a packaged approach and which was considered a better way of guaranteeing effective use of funds allocated by Government for flood and water management.

The Executive Officer expected Scape to be in a position to provide an initial scoping report setting out the key elements of each outline business case (OBC) during December 2022, leading to detailed feasibility work in early 2023 and production of the completed OBCs during summer 2023.

In response to Mr L. Garrett, officers confirmed that the arrangement with Scape was very flexible and they would provide as little or as much support as the boards required. The Senior Engineer reported that their services were being used for different elements of various projects to get a feel for how this new arrangement would work. Officers also confirmed that there would be a guaranteed construction price for any work which would include a risk element. Mr L. Garrett advised caution as this could prove to be expensive and suggested also looking for prices from smaller firms as they often proved better value for money. The Senior Engineer confirmed that prices would be sought from elsewhere to see what the uplift would be. Mr C. McGuinness highlighted the necessity to go out to contractors due to the difficulty appointing in-house staff and the time required for new staff to get up to speed. Mr L. Garrett stated that this was a common problem throughout the public sector.

The Chief Executive stated that packaging schemes together would make savings, e.g., it would attract more benefits and speed up delivery and save time in the application process.

In response to the Vice-Chairman, Officers confirmed that consultants'/contractors' fees would be included in the grant-in-aid application. Also, by packaging the schemes, it should be possible to attract grant-in-aid for works which would not normally be eligible. Mr L. Garrett reported that this approach was being mirrored by Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council. He agreed to meet with the Chief Executive and Senior Engineer to discuss this further.

RESOLVED

- (i) That outturn, risk and priority be included in future Project Status updates.
- (ii) That a detailed report on packaged projects be presented to the January Board meeting.

(f) White Rose Way Safety Platform and Balby Carr Raking Grid (11/1/19 Minute 6:2 - 2019/20 Proposed Works)

To improve safety for operatives when raking the grid on Balby Drain, the Board had made provision of £10,000 in the 2019/20 estimates to install a raking platform and remove a tree from the upstream end of the channel. At the same time, the Board had also agreed to improve the weed raking platform on the grid at White Rose Way and construct a suitable area for dumping the weed, a further £10,000 had been allowed for this work.

Officers reported on three quotations which had been received to undertake this work, the cheapest of which totalled £21,545.77 (Balby Drain) and £11,640.15 (White Rose Way), both of which were in excess of the estimates.

Mr N. Williams queried the risk should the Board not proceed with the work. In response, the Senior Operations Manager stated that the Board had a duty of care to rectify this.

The Senior Operations Manager suggested that the additional cost could be met from the Pumping Station Reserve Account using some of the funds transferred under (b) above which would leave a balance in that account of £2,758.26.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the Board proceed with the above works at White Rose Way and Balby Drain.
- (b) That the quotations submitted by Althon (£7,200 and £14,450 for supply) and Eco-Power (£4,440.15 and £14,450 for installation) be accepted; total cost £11,640.15 and £21,565.77 respectively.
- (c) That the £17,462.07 shortfall in funding for the two schemes be met from the Pumping Station Reserve Account.

2022.99 FINANCE

(a) Management Accounts for the Period up to 30th September 2022

The Finance Manager presented the attached report which showed a positive variance for the period up to the end of September 2022 of £16,553.19. The predicted outturn at the end of the financial year was for a deficit budget of £116,921.70, largely due to the increase in electricity costs. Officers highlighted that this was based on an average winter and, should there be excessive rainfall, these costs would be likely to rise. It was noted that, despite the increased deficit at the year-end, general reserves would still be at 38.69% of net operating costs.

In response to Mr C. Crowe, the Senior Engineer reported that standing charges for electricity were in the region of £4k per annum and rates were between 45p and 60p per unit and had been as much as £1.17p.

Electricity costs for 2018/19 were £81k, 2019/20 £136k and 2021/22 £90k. The Chief Executive explained that it was not necessarily a one-off heavy rainfall event that was the issue but prolonged rainfall throughout the winter would increase costs considerably.

Mr C. Crowe understood that one IDB was running on diesel to reduce electricity costs. The Chief Executive understood that the new station at St Germans had been built with a diesel generator, however, unless this facility was built in, it was not efficient to run mobile diesels as these required constant attention. The Senior Engineer reported that the temporary over-pumping arrangement at Trusthorpe (three cumecs) would cost in the region of £8k per week to hire. Mr P. Cornish understood the new EA Keadby pumping station had a diesel generator backup.

RESOLVED

That the attached Management Accounts for the period ending 31st July 2022 be approved.

(b) Transfer of Budgets

The attached schedule of transfer between budgets was presented for information; these had been approved under minute 2022.98 (b).

RECEIVED

(c) Cash Reserves and Borrowing

The Finance Manager reported that £1,195,660.63 was invested in three accounts at zero interest (this included the sum of £62,872.51 in the Thorne Moors current account). Mr M. Oldknow emphasised that this was a lot of money to be invested and should be gaining some interest. The Finance Manager reported that she was looking into finding suitable institutions with which to invest. She stated that banks did not like to hold local authority money and there were also restrictions on the amount they would hold. The Chairman asked when this would be done as it had been mentioned several times. The Chief Executive had spoken to a contact at East Lindsey District Council and was awaiting information from them on the accounts they used.

Nine loans totalling £359,145.18 remained outstanding with the Public Works Loan Board.

RESOLVED

That the Board's cash balances and borrowings be noted.

(d) Payments over £500

The attached schedule of payments over £500 was presented for information.

RESOLVED

That the attached Schedule of Payments totalling £203,422.48 be approved.

2022.100 ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2023/24

The Finance Manager presented the attached reported together with DRAFT estimates which had been prepared based on a 26.8% increase to give a balanced budget.

Mr M. Brooke stated that drain maintenance costs may increase if the Board agreed to adopt additional sections of watercourse. The Operations Manager reported that ten drains had been identified by members as suitable for adoption, apparently these had been cleaned out by the previous contractors despite them not being identified as Board maintained on the system. The Chairman reported that Officers would be assessing those additional watercourses identified and bring a report back to the January Board meeting for consideration.

The Chairman emphasised that Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council had always supported the Board and been understanding of the need to increase the rate. He stated that the Board's reserves were good and everyone else was struggling, so politically the Board should consider setting a reasonable levy to get through this

difficult period. After three or four years of support from the council and bearing in mind the additional costs faced by everyone, to leave the Board's reserves untouched would not be right. Mr N. Williams agreed, stating that the additional costs should be shared and not all passed on to the ratepayers. Cllr M. Houlbrook reinforced this, stating that all authorities were in a similar position but stated that it was useful to see the options and the effects of the different increases.

In response to the Chairman, the Finance Manager reported that (based on the DRAFT estimates) a rate increase of 25% would give a deficit budget of £18,013 and 20% a deficit budget of £68,998 with reserves at 32.74% and 29.65% respectively.

The Finance Manager stated that should the Board set the rate lower than 25% this year it would need to set a higher rate next year, e.g. 18%. Mr N. Williams stated that current electricity and fuel charges were exceptional but hoped these would come down in the future. Mr L. Garrett stated that there would be uncomfortable discussions if the Board did not take some of the money from reserves and would support an increase around the 18-20%. He stated that DMBC had to find around £3M for the three IDBs in their area. The Chairman reported that once they had a steer from the Board as to the likely increase, Officers would meet with the council. The Chief Executive emphasised that the Coal Authority picked up a large proportion of the pumping station costs and, without this, the levies would be much higher. He thanked the Coal Authority for their support. Mr C. Crowe (Coal Authority representative) stated that their costs had risen dramatically, with electricity rising from 12p to 53p.

The Finance Manager stated that the Board must retain sufficient funds to cover a flood event. Mr M. Oldknow queried the cost of electricity as a percentage of the overall budget. The Finance Manager reported that this had risen from 10% to 29%.

The Chief Executive highlighted that the Board's maintenance costs had increased significantly last year. In response to Mr M. Brooke, officers reported that they had not yet received confirmation of the EA precept. The Chief Executive had also not heard anything from the EA as to how they were affected by the increase in electricity costs.

Cllr M. Houlbrook emphasised the importance of lobbying local MPs regarding the increased costs.

The Chairman stated that the Board must meet with the council to discuss the options and asked members whether they wished to consider setting the increase somewhere in the middle which would be at around the 20% mark. He stated that the Board must be mindful not to reduce the reserves too low as there needed to be sufficient funds to respond to a major flood event, however, he suggested that the Board also needed to show support to the councils who were also under immense financial pressure. The Chief Executive also emphasised the effect of the increase on the Board's ratepayers, many of whom were also experiencing higher costs.

Mr M. Houlbrook suggested it would be helpful for the Board to have a range of options when meeting the council so that they could clearly see the Board's financial position. He stated that flooding was happening every year in every ward and it was important that appointed members know how important it was for the community to keep the assets in good order. The Finance Manager reported that around 9% of the Board's income came from drainage rates.

Mr R. Durdy stated that there had been more flooding in the Tickhill area as water could not get away to the River Torne and was backing up and flooding the Board's system - it was completely backed up to the sewage works. Mr Durdy quoted from the

EA East Midlands area update regarding Keadby Pumping Station which stated 'The Keadby business case requires and enables us to ensure that the assets upstream continue to work in a way that enables the pumping station to draw water through the system efficiently and provide the overall standard of flood protection.' The Chief Executive highlighted that future development was planned in the area. He had met with the EA on site to show them where the issues were, written to them and would be following this up again. He stated that it was clear to see where EA maintenance on the river stopped up to Tickhill. Mr Durdy reported that the council had cleared out Mill Dam and Water Lane but the water just could not get into the River Torne.

Mr M. Oldknow queried how the Doncaster East rate compared to other boards. The Chief Executive reported drainage rates across the Consortium for the current year which ranged from LM 16.36p, AX 15.81p to TV 11.045p.

The Vice-Chairman stated that he would support a 20% increase which would give a slight reduction in the reserves.

Officers reported that they would have more accurate electricity costs in January.

Mr L. Garrett asked Officers to prepare a brief for members on the key figures.

RESOLVED

That a meeting be arranged with Officers at Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council to discuss the potential rate rise of 20% for 2023/24.

2022.101 DRAINAGE RATES AND SPECIAL LEVIES

Drainage rates outstanding at 2nd November 2022 totalled £7,515.39; an overall rate collection to date of 99.25%. Final reminders would be sent out week commencing 21st November 2022 with court dates booked for 18th January 2023.

It was noted that of the £321.46 outstanding from 2021/22, £118.63 had been collected.

RECEIVED

2022.102 ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AND PARTNERSHIP MATTERS

Officers had attended a further meeting with the EA regarding PSCA contracts and had informed them that it was unlikely the Board would be able to undertake any PSCA this year due to the delay in the EA issuing the relevant paperwork. It was noted that any PSCA work that was issued would have to meet the existing EA rules and criteria.

Officers reported that the issues around PSCA work had been discussed with a view to simplifying the requirements, particularly around CDM but these would require significant changes to the Schedule 3 paperwork which the EA suggested would take considerable time to rectify.

The Chairman suggested that the Board stop pushing this now as a lot of Officers' time had been spent attending meetings etc. and nothing achieved. Mr C. Crowe reported that the EA operated and managed seven stations for which the Coal Authority was carrying three years accruals in operational costs and expressed his disappointment with the EA's asset performance team. The Operations Manager stated that the EA had now filled the operational role and he was hopeful that work would be forthcoming.

The new postholder was already looking at areas of particular concern and setting up new Schedule 3 agreements for these.

RECEIVED

2022.103 ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

Officers presented the following report:

(a) ADA Environmental Good Governance Guide

An accumulation of a two-year DEFRA funded project, managed and delivered by ADA, this Guide brought together a vast, complex and ever-changing array of environmental legislation, regulation and policy, relevant to IDBs' operational activities.

Copies available at <https://www.ada.org.uk/2022/09/ada-publishes-comprehensive-environmental-good-governance-guide-for-idbs>

RECEIVED

(b) Local Wildlife Sites

The Biodiversity Officer from Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council had supplied a geographical information system file of all 363 local wildlife sites within their district. Forty-six of these were along Board maintained watercourses but were mostly short sections of drain. The Board's Environmental Officer had reported that the flora and fauna in these drains had clearly flourished with the Board's current management regime and had confirmed that it was unlikely that any changes to this would be beneficial. Once further details of the species found were provided, he would discuss further with the Council.

RECEIVED

2022.104 Humber 2100+

The Chief Executive presented for information the attached timeline for the Humber 2100+ Project.

RECEIVED

2022.105 BYELAW APPLICATION - UNITY CONNECT AND LINK

It was agreed that this would be deferred until the next meeting when Officers would present a full report for consideration.

2022.106 DELEGATED MATTERS - PLANNING, BYELAWS AND SUPERVISORY ROLE

(a) Byelaw Applications

Officers reported on the following Byelaw consents that had been granted under delegated authority since the last Board meeting:

DEIDB/LDC/2022/015 Construction of buildings and infrastructure within nine metres but no closer than six metres of the Board Maintained

Huxterwell Drain at Doncaster Iport Development, Carr Bank, Wadworth, national grid reference 459995 399237 in the parish of Loversall.

DEIDB/LDC/2022/019 Replacement of footbridge over the Board maintained Rugged Carr Drain at the junction of Misson Footpath 13, Misson Bridleway 2 and Austerfield Footpath 4 at national grid reference 467089 395470 in the parish of Austerfield.

DEIDB/LDC/2022/020 Replacement of footbridge over the Board maintained New Drain, Austerfield Footpath 4 at national grid reference 466807 395698 in the parish of Austerfield.

DEIDB/LDC/2022/021 Replacement of three existing poles within nine metres but no closer than 6.5 metres of the Board maintained Willoughby's Drain, Styrrup Hall Golf and Country Club at national grid reference 460309 391795 in the Parish of Styrrup.

DEIDB/LDC/2022/022 Installation of a directionally drilled HPPE water main under the Board maintained High Levels Bank Drain at Bank House Farm, A18 Scunthorpe Road at national grid reference 472649 410329, in the parish of Hatfield.

DEIDB/LDC/2022/022 Increase in flow of 2.3 l/s to the Board maintained Borstal Drain via existing outfall pipe and Her Majesty's Prison, Thorne Road (national grid reference 467785 410474) in the Parish of Hatfield.

DEIDB/LDC/2022/024 Installation of a 1,900mm diameter culvert within the Board maintained St Catherine's Well Stream associated with diversion works on land at the IPort development, national grid reference 458912 398230 in the parish of Doncaster.

DEIDB/LDC/2022/025 Increase in flow to the Board maintained Huxterwell Drain through a notch weir structure on land at the IPort development at national grid reference 459174 399195 in the Parish of Doncaster.

RECEIVED

(b) Section 23 Applications

No applications had been granted since the last meeting.

(c) Planning Applications

Officers had reviewed 22 planning applications since the last Board meeting and made comments relating to surface water drainage. Objections had been raised to the following:

22/01986/ADV Display of a variety of illuminated and non-illuminated exterior signs and nine metre internally illuminated totem pole.

22/02302/CPL Certificate of lawful use for the proposed installation of an energy efficient CHP plant and a CO2 recovery plant, hot water accumulators (tanks), an additional transformer, a control room, a switch gear cabinet and to move a fence north of the existing fence line.

RECEIVED

2022.107 ASSOCIATION OF DRAINAGE AUTHORITIES

The Chief Executive presented the attached DRAFT minutes of the ADA Trent Branch for information. It was noted that the next meeting would be held on 30th November 2022 and would be followed by the annual EA/IDB liaison which would be a good opportunity for members to raise their concerns directly with officers at the EA.

Following this, some of the IDB Chief Executive's had arranged to meet with representatives of DEFRA (Hazel Durrant, Carole Tidmarsh) and the EA to discuss the financial pressures facing the boards in respect of increased electricity costs. The Chief Executive and members continued to lobby local M.P.s for support.

Officers also updated on the recent ADA Conference.

Cllr M. Houlbrook suggested that Officers give a presentation to the councillors to raise awareness of the work of IDBs. Mr L. Garrett supported this, stating that a presentation had been given several years ago and proved very useful.

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2022.108 WMC JOINT NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE (JNC)

The attached notes of the meeting on 17th October 2022 were presented for information; these detailed discussions around a proposed cost-of-living increase and the pay award for 2023/24.

The Chairman reported that the Consortium Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen had met prior to the JNC and he gave an overview of the discussions and the meeting, stating that there had been very positive feedback from the staff. He referred to the cost-of-living payment, stating that various options had been considered by the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen and they agreed that a payment of £1,000 (pro rata) should be paid to all staff. The Chief Executive stated that he would not be receiving the payment.

It was proposed by the Vice-Chairman and seconded by Mr N. Williams that the Board approve the one-off payment of £1,000 (pro rata) and the increase of 5.5% for 2023/24.

The Chief Executive had highlighted the Boards' financial positions at the meeting and the staff had been understanding of the pressures faced by the Boards. Mr L. Garrett supported the cost-of-living payment.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the attached record of the meeting be noted.
- (b) That an unconsolidated payment of £1,000 be paid to all staff (pro rata) in December 2022 to help with the current cost-of-living crisis.
- (c) That a pay award of 5.5% be made to all staff with effect from 1st April 2023.

2022.84 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr R. Durdy suggested that a letter be sent to the two retiring members (Mr G. Platt and Mr G. Parker) to thank them for their service. Officers would write on behalf of the Board.

CHAIRMAN