

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Board held via Microsoft Teams and at West Butterwick Village Hall on Tuesday, 16th November 2021, at 10.00 a.m.

<u>Elected Members</u>		<u>Nominated by North Lincolnshire Council</u>	
*	Messrs J. Coggon	*	Cllr R. Allcock
*	P. Cornish	*	Mr I. Bint
*	R. Adam	*	Cllr J. Briggs
	H. Barton		Mr A. Catherall
	Vacancy		Mr T. Mitchell
	J.H.T. Bramhill	*	Mr M.D. Pilkington
*	T. Dickinson	*	Cllr Mrs J. Reed
*	J. Fretwell	*	Cllr D. Robinson
*	M.A. Harris	*	Cllr D.J. Rose
*	R. Mason		Two Vacancies
*	M. Wagstaff		
*	M.T. Smith		
		<u>Nominated by Bassetlaw District Council</u>	
			Cllr Mrs H. Brand
		*	Cllr Mrs J.M. Sanger
*	<i>Present</i>		
*	Messrs	A. McGill (Chief Executive)	
*		N. Kemble (Engineer)	
*		A. Malin (Senior Operations Manager)	
*		D. Braddy (Operations Manager)	
*	Mesdames	N. Hind (Finance Manager)	
*		C.B. Davies (Corporate Services Manager)	
*	<i>In attendance</i>		

1. ELECTION 2022

The election of members to represent the agricultural ratepayers on the Board had been held in accordance with the statutory rules and the following members were elected to the Board with effect from 1st November 2021 and would hold office until 31st October 2024.

<u>Electoral District</u>	<u>Members Elected</u>
Adlingfleet and Whitgift	Mr J. P. Bramhill
Althorpe	Mr M. T. Smith
Crowle	Mr R. C. Mason
Everton	Mr P. A. M. Cornish
	Mr H. Barton
Garthorpe	Vacancy
Rivers Idle and Ryton	Mr M. T. Wagstaff
	Vacancy
South Axholme	Mr M. A. Harris
West Axholme	Mr J. W. Fretwell
West Butterwick	Mr J. Coggon

Mr T. Dickinson had submitted a nomination paper but as it had not been filled in correctly, it was deemed invalid. Mr Dickinson did qualify for election as a landowner

in both the Everton and Rivers Idle and Ryton district and members were asked to approve his appointment to fill the vacancy in the Rivers Idle and Ryton district.

Mr P. Bradwell had decided not to stand for re-election leaving a vacancy in the Garthorpe area. This vacancy would be advertised on the Board's website and members were asked to speak to anyone who might be interested. A deadline of 14th January 2022 was given to provide sufficient consideration before the January Board meeting.

RESOLVED unanimously

- (a) That Mr T. Dickinson be elected to the Board to fill the vacancy in the Rivers Idle and Ryton district.
- (b) That the vacancy in the Garthorpe area be advertised.

2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO TEM

The Chief Executive was appointed Chairman pro tem to conduct the election of the Chairman for the ensuing year.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Mr R. Mason and seconded by Mr M. T. Smith that Mr J. Coggon be elected as Chairman of the Board for the ensuing year.

RESOLVED unanimously

That Mr J. Coggon be elected Chairman of the Board for the ensuing year.

4. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Mr R. Adam and seconded by Cllr J. Briggs that Mr P. Cornish be elected Vice-Chairman of the Board for the ensuing year.

RESOLVED unanimously

That Mr P. Cornish be elected Vice-Chairman of the Board for the ensuing year.

5. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs A. Catherall, T. Mitchell and Mrs H. Brand. Mr D. Robinson made officers aware that he would be leaving the meeting at 11:30 a.m., Cllr Mrs J. Reed had advised that she would join the meeting later.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

7. NOTIFICATIONS OF ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

8. BOARD MINUTES

RESOLVED

- (a) That the minutes of the meeting of the Board held 22nd June 2021 (Pages 554 to 569) be confirmed as a correct record.
- (b) That the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of the Board held 7th September 2021 (Pages 570 to 574) be confirmed as a correct record.

9. MATTERS ARISING

9:1 Minute 5, Page 554

The Chief Executive stated that a meeting was planned for the second week of February, to discuss the strategic direction of the Board as well as the climate change policy. It was added that attending the ADA Trent Branch meeting on Wednesday, 24th November 2021, would be an excellent precursor to this meeting as it would be discussing similar topics. Further details of the ADA Trent Branch meeting would be provided under Agenda item 24.

RECEIVED

9:2 Minute 12:6, Page 562 - Introduction of Beavers

Mr R. Adam was asked if he had been contacted by the Environmental Officer, replying that he had not been. The beavers were now in place and Mr R. Adam felt that whatever actions the Board could take to protect its assets remained unclear. The Chief Executive mentioned that the government consultation on this matter was closing on the following day. ADA had submitted a response which had taken into account the views of IDBs.

RECEIVED

9:3 Minute 13:6, Page 565 - Southfield Pumping Station Refurbishment

Mr R. Mason noted that he was pleased about the increased pump size at Southfield Pumping Station.

RECEIVED

10. CONSORTIUM COMMITTEE MINUTES

10:1 Meeting - 12th August 2021

RESOLVED

- (a) That the attached minutes of the Consortium Committee held 12th August 2021 be confirmed as a correct record.
- (b) That Board Members approach local councils to ask for support with issues surrounding the Environment Agency precept, to gain more clarity on the precept's designated use for Main River Maintenance and how maintenance concerns were not being met. Officers would pursue this with the DEFRA PAG meeting and the ADA Policy and Finance Committee.

10:2 Meeting - 28th October 2021

The Chief Executive presented the attached minutes and highlighted in particular the issues around the enforced change from red to white diesel which was

estimated to increase the Board's costs in 2022/23 by over £25,000 (equivalent to a 2% rate increase). ADA continued to challenge this with the Treasury. The Chairman asked members to bring this matter to the attention of their local MPs.

Officers also highlighted the expected increase in electricity costs of between 25% and 30% when existing contracts were renewed.

It was noted that notice had been given of the Boards' intention to withdraw from the ADA Lincolnshire Branch Pay and Conditions Committee and Officers would prepare DRAFT terms and conditions for an internal Consortium Pay Committee in the new year.

RESOLVED

That the attached minutes of the Consortium Committee meeting held on 28th October 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and the resolutions adopted by the Board.

11. MEETINGS DATES

The Corporate Services Manager presented the following meeting dates for approval.

Date	Time	Meeting
25th January 2022	10:00 a.m.	Board (approval of estimates and rate setting)
22nd March 2022	10:00 a.m.	Board
26th May 2022	12:30 p.m.	Consortium Committee
14th June 2022	10:00 a.m.	Board (approval of final accounts)
27th September 2022	10:00 a.m.	Board
27th October 2022	12:30 p.m.	Consortium Committee
22nd November 2022	10:00 a.m.	Board (Annual General meeting)

The following events were also noted for information:

ADA Trent Branch - 24th February 2022

ADA Trent Branch AGM -29th July 2022

Lincolnshire Show - 22nd and 23rd June 2022

ADA Annual Conference - November 2022 (date to be confirmed).

RESOLVED

That the above meeting dates for 2022 be approved and noted.

12. VIRTUAL TOUR

The Engineer presented a map of the Board's area, highlighting locations of pumping stations as well as planned schemes for the next 6-7 years and gave the following overview:

12:1 Cow Lane Pumping Station

Works at this station involved surge chamber covers and the refurbishment of pen stocks, with works to be completed by the end of the year.

12:2 Trentside Pumping Station - Study/Refurbishment

This was a newer scheme, with works commencing in the new year. Modelling was being undertaken to provide a clearer picture of what would be beneficial for this refurbishment.

12:3 Wrays Drain Culvert - Crowle

A map of the potential relief drain was presented, which included details of an upgrade to surrounding riparian watercourses. North Lincolnshire Council and Severn Trent Water had been working in partnership with the Board to deliver this scheme.

12:4 South Street Pumping Station Refurbishment (additional works) and potential rationalisation with Three Bridges PS

See item 20:3.

12:5 Heckdyke Pumping Station Refurbishment/Replacement (joint project with Four Bridges PS and DEIDB Langholme PS)

Officers were moving into the design stage of this project and an update would be given under item 20:9.

12:6 Gringley Pumping Station Refurbishment

Construction would begin late November with a focus on increasing the station's capacity as this was currently insufficient. The Engineer thought that this would be a similar scheme to that at Wiseton Pumping Station.

12:7 Scaftworth Pumping Station

A study and modelling were currently underway and various options were being considered.

12:8 Wiseton Pumping Station Refurbishment

See item 20:10.

12:9 Carrydyke (Retford) - Modelling

As had been mentioned in previous meetings, a temporary throttle had been installed in the Carr Dyke and the bank height raised to alleviate overtopping caused by flood levels from the River Idle. Full comprehension of the watercourses in this region was required to assist in implementing a permanent solution.

In response to Mr R. Adam, the Engineer stated that the Environment Agency was not prepared to consider a highland water contribution but was supporting a local levy application. Mr Adam highlighted that as well as foreign water, a lot of water overflowed from the Chesterfield Canal into the Boards system which was then pumped into the River Idle. He suggested seeking a contribution from the Canal and Rivers Trust. The Engineer confirmed that the Canal and Rivers Trust was not prepared to contribute and pointed out that if the Canal wasn't there, the water would go straight into the Board's system anyway. The Chief Executive queried whether the Board had received highland water contributions in respect

of this system. The Engineer stated that nearly 1km of watercourse up to the pumping station had issues with deposited sand and gravel.

The Chairman asked the Finance Manager to provide a list of how much highland water contribution was being paid for each catchment.

12:10 Occupation Lane Drain Culvert

The EA had agreed to provide support to this scheme and Officers had also been in discussions with Severn Trent Water. A map of the culvert was shown, together with photographs of the CCTV survey which showed a minor 5% deformation in one section, corrosion and 2 bars puncturing the culvert.

12:11 Ordsall Culvert Repairs/Renewal

The Ordsall culvert which took water from Retford had been built in the 1980s and was suffering from severe restrictions and deformation. Mr Adam suggested that the installation of a syphon under the Idle would stop water backing up through the culvert from the Idle, stating that when the Idle was high, the culvert was effectively blocked. He also reported that runoff from the airfield runway into the Board's system also caused issues. He understood that the airfield was changing hands and suggested that this may be an opportunity to liaise with the new owners if an attenuation pond was required.

This scheme was planned for 2023/24 and would improve the flow of water through Retford.

12:12 Drain Head Pumping Station Refurbishment and Snow Sewer Improvements

The diesel pumps would be replaced with electric ones, potentially three pumps but this would depend on power supply to the station. This work was planned for 2023/24. Mr R. Mason supported switching the pumps across to electric, as this would allow greater control through connection to the telemetry system.

Cllr R. Alcock asked whether Doncaster East IDB Park Drain pumping station would be upgraded. Mr R. Mason noted high levels of water at this station. Officers replied that it would be with a planned increase to capacity to 4 m³/s.

Clarification was sought regarding the EA precept, following the Board adopting Snow Sewer. It was thought that the precept ought to have decreased with more watercourses taken on by the Board, however, no changes had been made.

The Operations Manager added that the section between Park Drain pumping station and Langholme Lane was planned for maintenance in the Winter Programme for 2022. Mr J. Fretwell asked whether a larger long reach machine would provide a more effective method of clearing Snow Sewer as reeds were left in the middle of the watercourse the last time the drain was cleared. The Engineer added that Snow Sewer would eventually become a controlled system but first, its capacity needed to be increased. However, potential future maintenance of Snow Sewer had potential to be funded as part of Drain Head and Park Drain refurbishment schemes.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the attached updates be noted.

- (b) That a hard copy of maps be available at meetings in future and emailed out to Board members beforehand.
- (c) That the Finance Manager present a breakdown of Environment Agency Highland Water contributions to the January Board meeting.

13. DRAFT ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2022/23

The Finance Manager presented the attached report detailing the DRAFT estimates of income and expenditure. These would be presented for consideration and approval at the January Board meeting.

The Chairman recommended drawing down any necessary loans whilst interest rates were low.

Although a rate increase of 2% next year would provide a small surplus, taking into account the future capital needs, this would necessitate increases in excess of 5% in the years immediately thereafter.

Officers reported on the review of cost savings and efficiencies that had been undertaken across the organisation. Those which were straightforward would be directly implemented and others requiring further investigation would be brought back to the Board later in the year.

RESOLVED

That any necessary loans to fund works be drawn whilst interest rates were low.

14. HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE

The Covid Risk Assessment had been reviewed and updated to allow the return of face-to-face Board meetings and the return of more staff to the Consortium headquarters at Manby. Measures to reduce the spread of the virus were still in place.

The Senior Operations Manager reported on two health and safety incidents in the Axholme area which had occurred since June, both of which had resulted in damage to equipment or property. There had been seven incidents across the Consortium in this period.

Risk Assessments, Safe Systems of Work and COSHH Assessments were being examined as part of the annual review. Six Risk Assessments and seven Safe Systems of Work documents had been circulated to members of the Health and Safety Committee for their review. The Health and Safety Policy had been updated and recirculated.

The Senior Operations Manager continued with the audit programme. All issues raised during the audit were recorded and remedial action taken as a matter of urgency. These had included areas such as waste storage/disposal, electrical safety/compliance and site security.

RECEIVED

15. DRAINAGE RATES AND SPECIAL LEVIES

The Finance Manager reported that at 2nd November 2021, £370,600.56 had been collected, with special levies paid in full. £132,521.37 remained outstanding at 2nd

November 2021. To date, 88.66% of drainage rates had been collected and £1,120 of arrears brought forward to 2020/21 had been paid.

RECEIVED

16. FINANCE

The Finance Manager presented the attached report for consideration. She expected a positive balance of £52,778.22 at the year-end which would result in balances of around 17% at the end of March 2022 (after the deduction of funding already earmarked for projects).

RESOLVED

- (a) That the Management Accounts for the period 1st April 2021 to 30th September 2021 be approved.
- (b) That the bank mandates be amended as follows: removal of Mr D.J. Sisson, addition of Mrs N. Hind and Mr N. Kemble.
- (c) That funds be transferred from the Beverley Building Society account into one of the Board's other accounts.
- (d) That the limit in any one account be increased above that stated in the Financial Regulations until such time as a suitable long-term investment had been identified.
- (e) That the cash balances and borrowings be noted.
- (f) That the schedule of payments over £500 be approved.
- (g) That the conclusion of the Audit giving an 'Unqualified' opinion be noted.

17. OPERATIONS REPORT

17:1 Summer Maintenance Works

The Operations Manager reported that maintenance works were nearing completion with flailing 97.37% complete and weedcutting 88.4% complete. Time had been lost due to staff self-isolating and some cases of Covid-19 amongst the workforce which had delayed progress.

17:2 Winter Maintenance Works

The Operations Manager presented the following Winter Maintenance Programme for 2021/22 and Officers confirmed that, where possible, reforming work would be incorporated into pumping station refurbishment/replacement schemes as a whole-catchment approach was essential to the effective operation of the stations:

Drain Name	Drain Number	Brief Description of works	Length (m)
Littlecarr Drain	AXD490300	600mm Culvert Installation	55
Toft Dyke Drain	AXD610200	1500mm diameter Culvert	12
Toft Dyke Drain	AXD610200	Board Approved Multi Agency Scheme Clayworth PC, NCC, BLDC & IOANN	180

ISLE OF AXHOLME AND NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE WATER LEVEL MANAGEMENT BOARD

Westmere Drain Branch	AXD041001	Reforming 600mm Access Culvert Tree and Bushing	800 12 150
Lound Hall Drain	AXD640200	1200mm Culvert Installation	6
Stealgoose/Folly Drain	AXD390200 AXD390100	Culvert Installations 3x1050mm 1x1200mm	27 12
Woodhouse Branch	AXD390203	Reforming Tree and Bushing	150 230
Axholme Game Farm Branch	AXD390201	Reforming Culvert Cleanse	106 42
Axholme Game Farm Branch	AXD390201	Reforming Culvert Cleanse	106 42
North Ferry Lane	AXD390601	450mm Culvert Installation	156
Smeath Lane Drain	AXD611100	Tree Removal Reforming	50
Adlingfleet Outfall Drain	AXD020100	Desilting Berm Reinstatement Culvert Cleanse	1,500 700
Wisteon Bridge Drain	AXD611700	Reforming and access improvements Tree and Bush Removal Syphon Culvert Replacement	1,330 650 15
Soil Bank Drain	AXD022000	Reforming and access improvements Access Culverts	2600
Snow Sewer/Warping Drain	AXD500100	Tree and Bushing Bank Levelling Spoil Levelling Enhanced Weed Removal	2,125 1,250 500 2,100

Details of the 2022/23 Winter Maintenance Programme were also provided:

Drain Name	Drain Number	Brief Description of works	Length (m)
Markham Moor Drain	AXD640300	Bush/Tree Removal	300
Mother Drain (West)	AXD580100	Reforming and access improvements Reforming and access improvements Bush/Tree Removal	1,800 700 290
Ordsall Drain	AXD542100	Reforming and access improvements Reforming and access improvements Bush/Tree Removal Bush/Tree Removal Culverting Gate	1,470 720 720 280 20
Black Skye Drain	AXD610300	Reforming and access improvements Reforming and access improvements Bush/Tree Removal	1,000 1,235 1,235

17:3 Construction Works

Construction works planned for 2021/22 were presented as follows:

Pump Station/Drain Name	PS/Drain Number	Brief Description of works	Length (m)
Kelfield Pump Station	AXPS4701	Boundary Fence Installation	65
South Street Pump Station	AXPS4901	Boundary Fence Installation	92
Southfield Pump Station	AXPS4601	Dam Installation and De silt Basin	10 x 20
Wrays Drain	AXD056200	New cut Drain and Drain widening (some of the scheme is being contracted)	831

17:4 Environment Agency (EA) Works

PSCA works for 2021/22 were still expected to be limited, as Environment Agency staff changes had delayed the planning and scheduling of works.

17:5 Plant and Equipment

As reported previously, tests were still being undertaken on the Volvo EWR 150E, the latest results of which showed aluminium still present in the engine oil, despite the oil and filters being changed. The Operations Manager continued to monitor this and liaise with the supplier of the machine and would ensure that any necessary repairs were rectified under warranty. The suppliers had confirmed that the amount of aluminium was just on the threshold of that acceptable and they could see no other signs to indicate a serious problem. They would continue to take samples every 500 hours or less if requested to do so.

A replacement for the FV15 BXK had been approved by the Chairman and Vice Chairman and Chief Executive and purchased at a cost of £4,990.

RESOLVED

That the Operations report be noted and the purchase of the replacement van be approved retrospectively.

18. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AND PARTNERSHIP MATTERS

The Chief Executive and Cllr Alcock had attended a meeting with the Chairman of the RFCC, the leader of North Lincolnshire Council and Paul Lockhart of the Environment Agency (EA) yesterday, concerning the River Torne and main river maintenance. It was concluded that a further meeting with DEFRA should take place before Christmas.

RECEIVED**19. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY (EA) PRECEPT**

Meetings concerning the River Idle maintenance, flooding at Retford, general lack of main river maintenance and the ongoing lack of improvements, had prompted the Board to withhold the EA precept. Members discussed the option of paying the

precept, as long as expectations were met along the way and maintenance improved. It was noted that other IDBs had agreed the action taken by the Board and may follow suit and challenge payment of EA precepts due to the state of the rivers in their respective areas.

RESOLVED

That the Board pay the final instalment of the Environment Agency precept, with the understanding that improvements to the maintenance of main rivers would follow.

20. ASSET RENEWAL AND REFURBISHMENT PROJECTS

The Engineer presented the following updates:

20:1 Crowle Flood Alleviation - Wrays Drain Relief (AX21505)

Support for funding had been confirmed by the EA but securing this required an Outline Business Case to be written and this was in process. Final confirmation of funding was expected in January 2022. Cllr Alcock added that he hoped the Outline Business Case would be presented at the next RFCC meeting in January, for approval - he would confirm the date of the meeting to the Board's Engineer.

Public consultation outcomes had provided responses from adjoining landowners and residents.

A watercourse survey had been undertaken and the results of this would support proposals being put forward to create formal drawings. Board watercourses would be reformed as well as improvements to riparian watercourses.

20:2 Gringley Pumping Station (AX16014)

Final concreting works would be completed by the Board's Direct Labour Organisation following completion of summer weedcutting.

20:3 South Street Pumping Station (AX16014)

The new power supply to this station was now operational. The basin remained dammed off and the concreting works to the piles and pumping station continued, at a cost of £31,848.26. The new pump had been installed and would be commissioned and operational early next week.

An application had been made to the Environment Agency for an additional £398,000 flood defence grant in aid to cover the cost of repairs, improve the operability of the station, and undertake additional works to allow for the transfer of flows from Three Bridges Pumping Station. The application included an overspend of £39,500 associated with stabilising the basin.

Additional work would involve the installation of a syphon beneath Snow Sewer and the installation of an additional fish friendly pump to act as the primary low flow pump. Mr M.A. Harris reported that there had been a syphon under Snow Sewer in the past but this arrangement had not proved successful although it was also linked to Four Bridges Pumping Station. He agreed to meet with the Engineer after the meeting to discuss this further and pass on any local information.

The Engineer reported expenditure to date of £532,448 and a revised budget as follows:

	<i>FDGiA</i>	<i>Board</i>	<i>Total</i>
Original budget	£121,000	£278,000	£399,000
Power supply addition	£60,000	£34,000	£94,000
Revised plan	£398,000	£0	£398,000
Total	£579,000	£312,000	£891,000

20:4 Southfield Pumping Station Refurbishment (AX18001)

A fault with one of the new submersible pumps installed last year was being rectified under warranty. Painting of the piles, desilting of the basin and modification to the old diesel pipework for installation of an emergency pump remained outstanding. Costs to date were £257,060 against a budget of £392,000 and work would be completed within budget. A loan of £280,000 was authorised in 2018/19 but had not yet been drawn.

20:5 Common Carrs Pumping Station (AX20307)

An order for a new pump and panel had been placed with the supplier at a cost of £35,469 for delivery early in the new year. Costs to date were £48,170.30 against a budget of £68,269.

20:6 Telemetry System Replacement (AX20303)

The new telemetry system was now installed and fully operational. Minor issues were being identified and these were being addressed as they arose but it was expected to be another six months before all snagging issues were sorted. At the June 2020 meeting, expected costs were confirmed at £134,370 (£44,000 Board funded, £48,800 Local Levy and £41,570 transfer from unspent budgets). Southfield and Heckdyke Pumping Stations would carry their own costs using their refurbishment scheme budgets. To date, £116,362.04 had been spent, including Officers' time as well as any compensation events relating to install and supply contracts.

20:7 Kelfield Pumping Station Refurbishments (AX16019)

Some internal painting, improvements to the toilet facilities, external ground works and replacement fencing was still to be completed but all work should be completed by the end of March 2022.

An additional raking grid for the syphon was being sourced following concerns raised during flood flows. The final out-turn of costs would be presented at a future meeting.

20:8 Emergency Pump Repairs (AX21302)

Current costs stood at £14,569.59 for pump repairs at Derrythorpe (as detailed below) against a budget of £25,000.

Pump Number 2 had now been repaired and re-installed at a cost of £7,740. This was funded from the 2020/21 emergency repair budget.

Pump Number 1 had also failed and was lifted for investigation revealing a main thrust bearing in extremely bad condition, with the gland sleeve and bearing

bushes worn down. In addition, the shaft couplings were mis-shaped leaving the shaft loose when fitted, the main casting fixings had corroded away and the impellor showed signs of cavitation. An order to repair the pump was submitted with a cost of £12,077.10; return of the pump was expected within four weeks.

20:9 Heckdyke and Four Bridges Pumping Stations Rationalisation/Refurbishment (AX20305)

Three Bridges Pumping Station had been removed from the system, this catchment being incorporated into the catchment covered by South Street Pumping Station (above).

Hydraulic modelling was complete, and an Outline Business Case was being prepared by an external consultant.

Ground investigations had been undertaken by a contractor at a cost of £8,664 and their report was expected shortly. A consultant had also been hired at a cost of £4,500 to prepare general arrangement drawings and options for the project which would provide the basis of the engineering. Once this had been completed the public consultation with local landowners would be arranged.

Expenditure to date was £46,371.13 against the current budget of £64,991 (Board funded £34,991 and Local Levy £30,000).

20:10 Wiseton Pumping Station Refurbishment (AX19305)

Modelling was now complete and demonstrated that a six cubic metre per second station would be required if the first 800m of the delivery channel was reprofiled and one metre of silt removed. The Environment Agency was not able to include Highland Water Contributions in the bid for flood defence grant in aid but would be preparing a Local Levy application on behalf of the Board to support the £300,000 funding gap. The accommodation of Highland Water accounted for two thirds of Wiseton's capacity and increased required capital investment by 60%.

An external consultant was preparing an Outline Business Case which would be completed shortly. A consultant had also been appointed to prepare General Arrangement drawings at a cost of £3,600.

Expenditure to date was £64,716.75 against the approved budget of £354,000 (IDB £325,000 and EA £25,000). The total estimated cost was £1.3 M, £650,000 of which was FDGiA and £25,000 Local Levy.

20:11 Electricity Costs

Electricity supply contracts to roughly half of the Board's stations were due for renewal at the end of July 2021 and renewal costs were 20% higher than previous rates. Prices have been sought and the best deal accepted through Torse with SSE as the supplier. Energy costs continue to rise and further cost increases were expected as and when current deals expire.

RECEIVED

20:12 Isle of Axholme Strategy

The Isle of Axholme Strategy Group had been resurrected by the Environment Agency and Officers and members were taking part in the strategic discussions. This was welcomed by members. Cllr R. Allcock stated that the rationalisation should also help reduce the carbon footprint.

21. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

21:1 Eel Regulations

The Environment Agency's (EA) Changes to the Eel Regulation Process project was now complete, the main changes being:

- (a) Expanding the application of cost benefit analysis to all structures.
- (b) Introducing a package of technical solutions called Best Achievable Eel Protection.
- (c) A new Exceptions component which would be applied when the cost beneficial eel measure was unachievable due to site specific, legal, technical or economic reasons.
- (d) A Site Specific Eel Risk Assessment tool to measure whether or not an alternative eel measure would offer an equally low risk.

Fish Friendly pumps were accepted as the primary type of protection which could be afforded to eels passing through pumping stations. 2mm screens would not be needed in pumping stations refurbishments due to the increased risk of blinding.

A National Standard for fish friendly pumping stations was currently being developed by the EA.

21:2 River Idle Management Partnership

It was noted that the Engineer and Mr R. Adam were attending meetings for this partnership. Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust had received funding from the EA to commence work on Unit 1 of the Site of Special Scientific Interest near Bawtry. Hydrology of the site was being studied, which tied in with the nearby quarry restoration work. It had been found that 10-15 years ago, Unit 1 had been reported as being too dry. River levels had risen from 2.00m (pre 1997) to 2.35 which had been measured at Misson. In the 2019/2020 flood events, this level had risen to 4.50m. It was considered that silt management on Main Rivers would provide a solution to the problem, as soil levels at Unit 1 and 2 had dropped by 600-700mm between 1997 and 2009. The Vice Chairman voiced his concern at these figures and the importance of getting our voice heard by the EA. Officers would highlight this to their local contacts at the EA.

21:3 Keadby Warping Drain

A new tenant was being sought for the grazing land at Keadby.

21:4 Introduction of Beavers

It was reported that beavers had been released on the 5th November 2021 within a securely fenced area on the River Idle Nature Reserve. The Chief

Executive reiterated that responses to the DEFRA Beaver Consultation were closing tomorrow. ADA had responded on behalf of IDBs. Mr R. Adam remained concerned that the beavers would find a way out of the reserve and queried whether the Board would be able to remove a dam should a watercourse become blocked. He also expressed concern that the beavers were in place before the consultation process was complete.

RECEIVED

22. DELEGATED MATTERS - PLANNING, BYELAWS ROLE

22:1 Byelaw Applications

The following Byelaw applications had been dealt with under delegated authority since the last meeting:

IOANN/LDC/2021/008 Construction of an outfall from a biotechnical unit into Board maintained Skyers Drain, Turbary Road, Epworth at national grid reference 476317 403499.

IOANN/LDC/2021/009 Installation of a 16 meter long culvert into Board maintained Goosemoor Lane Drain at London Road, Retford at national grid reference 471205 379185.

IOANN/LDC/2021/012 Retention of earth bund within 9m but no closer than 6m of the bank top of Board maintained Railway Drain and the retention of a gate and boundary fence at Eastoft national grid reference 480703 418308.

IOANN/LDC/2021/013 Construction of concrete bag-headwalls to existing 900mm diameter concrete pipe and to retain ByWay track banking above pipe at Chainbridge Lane, Hayton. National grid reference 472079 385385.

RECEIVED

22:1 Section 23 Applications

There had been no Section 23 Applications since the last meeting.

22:3 Planning Applications

Officers had objected to planning application number 21/01801/PLF for the erection of a storage shed within eight metres of the Board maintained Soil Bank Drain. A site meeting was subsequently held with the applicants and it was agreed that the building would be moved back six metres from the watercourse to comply with the Board's policy and the objection was withdrawn.

Officers had also raised an objection to planning application number 21/00924/FUL on the grounds that the proposed dwelling would be erected on top of the Board maintained Common Lane East Drain culvert. Discussions were ongoing with the applicant.

Officers reported on 13 Planning Applications which had been dealt with since the last meeting. Appropriate comments relating to surface water drainage had been made.

21. COMMITTEES

It was agreed that this would be discussed at the January Board meeting.

22. ASSOCIATION OF DRAINAGE AUTHORITIES TRENT BRANCH MEETING AND ANNUAL IDB/EA LIASON MEETING

Members were informed that the ADA Trent Branch meeting would be taking place next week on Wednesday, 24th November 2021, following a site visit to the Environment Agency's Keadby Pumping Station. There would also be a presentation on "Keeping Our Rivers Flowing". The annual IDB/EA Liaison meeting would follow and include a brief on future plans for the Rivers Trent, Idle and Devon.

RECEIVED

23. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

CHAIRMAN