

LINDSEY MARSH DRAINAGE BOARD

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Board held at Kenwick Park Hotel and via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday, 17th November 2021.

* Messrs	G.A. Crust (Chairman)	* Cllrs	T. Aldridge
*	S.W. Eyre (Vice-Chairman)	*	D. Andrews
*	W. Cooper	*	S. Dennis
	R. Crust		D. Edgington
*	T.H. Heys	*	A.J. Howard
*	J.M. Mowbray	*	D. McNally
*	R.H. Needham	*	E. Mossop
*	P.W. Pridgeon	*	W. Parkinson
	D.R. Tagg		P. Rickett
	R.A.D. Unsworth	*	J. Swanson
		*	Mrs W. Bowkett

* *Present*

* Messrs	A. McGill (Chief Executive)
*	N. Kemble (Engineer)
*	A. Malin (Senior Operations Manager)
*	S. Stones (Foreman)
* Mesdames	N. Hind (Finance Manager)
*	C.B. Davies (Corporate Services Manager)

* *In attendance*

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO TEM

It was agreed that the Chief Executive be appointed Chairman pro tem.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Cllr T. Aldridge and seconded by Cllr D. McNally that Mr G.A. Crust be elected Chairman of the Board for the ensuing year.

RESOLVED unanimously

That Mr G.A. Crust be elected Chairman of the Board for the ensuing year.

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Mr P.W. Pridgeon and seconded by Mr J. Mowbray that Mr S.W. Eyre be re-elected as Vice-Chairman.

RESOLVED unanimously

That Mr S.W. Eyre be elected Vice-Chairman of the Board for the ensuing year.

4. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs R.A.D. Unsworth, Mr D.R. Tagg and Cllrs P. Rickett and D. Edgington.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

6. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7. BOARD MINUTES (Pages 1588 to 1606)

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 23rd June 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and the resolutions be adopted by the Board.

Cllr W. Parkinson arrived.

8. EXTRAORDINARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES (Pages 1607 to 1612)

It was noted that Mr P.W. Pridgeon should have been included in the apologies for the meeting.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Board held on 8th September 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and the resolutions be adopted by the Board subject to the above amendment.

9. MATTERS ARISING

None.

10. CONSORTIUM COMMITTEE MINUTES

Minutes of Consortium Committee Meetings held on the 12th August and 28th October 2021 were presented for member information approval and adoption by the Board.

It was noted that the Committee's recommendation from the August meeting regarding staffing was considered and approved by the Board at the extraordinary Board meeting in September.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the attached minutes of the Consortium Committee meetings held on 12th August 2021 and 28th October 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and adopted by the Board.
- (b) That the Chief Executive liaise with the Union and the staff regarding setting up a Consortium Pay and Conditions Committee and prepare DRAFT terms of reference for consideration and adoption by the boards.

11. MEETINGS DATES

The following meeting dates were proposed:

26th January	Board Meeting
23rd March	Board Meeting
26th May	Consortium Committee
15th June	Board Meeting

28th September	Board Meeting
27th October	Consortium Committee
23rd November	Board Meeting (Annual General Meeting)

The Chief Executive also proposed the Staffing and Resources and Plant and Compensation Committees be scheduled to meet at the start of November to consider the DRAFT estimates. The Board would be asked to consider membership of the Committees at the January Board Meeting, however, the Chief Executive asked that members consider candidates noting that representation should be split evenly between Elected and Appointed members.

Following a brief discussion on timings for the meetings it was agreed that meetings would start at 9.30 a.m.

RESOLVED

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

12. ESTIMATES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2022/23

The Finance Manager presented the attached report for members to consider the DRAFT estimates ahead of approval at the January Board meeting.

Total Expenditure was estimated at £10,764,025 which included:

- (a) £580,530 pumping stations costs and included an increase of 30% on electricity costs.
- (b) £559,571 for Drain Maintenance works.
- (c) £4,784,700 for engineering projects, most of which would be offset by grant funding and contributions leaving £847,700 to be funded by the Board through rates and £75,000 from the Pumping Station reserve fund.
- (d) £3,928,776 supportive expenditure such as plant repairs and renewals, salaries and wages (including a 2.5% increase), National Insurance (including the 1.25% increase), Pension, Training, Insurances and Office/depot costs.
- (e) £36,362 loan costs.

Officers had identified some cost savings for the Board totalling £330,000 which meant that the existing 2021/22 scheme budgets were sufficient to cover the remaining expenditure for this year and some of the work planned for 2022/23. In response to Mr W. Cooper the Finance Manager confirmed this was potentially a one-off saving as reducing the budgets going forward could have a negative impact on the Board's reserves. The Chief Executive confirmed that the programme of works were not being reduced these were just a balancing of funds and use of old budgets.

Income was estimated at £6,615,343 which included £62,827 Highland Water Contribution, £50,000 from the plant reserve fund, £30,837 other income (consenting and investment interest), £37,000 PSCA, £288,175 Engineering recharges, £619,436 Consortium recharges

and £813,474 Absorbed income (non-monetary). This left £4,148,682 to be funded by drainage rates and special levy.

The results of the ongoing efficiency review would be included, where possible, when the final estimates were brought to the Board in January.

Options for a 1%, 2% and 3% increase in drainage rates and special levy were prepared and presented to members. A 1% rise would mean a £42,043 deficit and would have a detrimental affect on the Board's reserves going forward. A 3% increase would result in a £38,528 surplus.

Officers therefore proposed to prepare the estimates with a 2% rise giving a rate of £16.47 p/£. Based on current annual values that would increase income from drainage rates by £19,805 and special levy by £80,572. Overall this would result in a £1,758 deficit however the Board's reserves would remain within its 30% policy when both cash reserves and non-specific scheme funds were taken into account.

In response to the Chairman, the Finance Manager confirmed that costs may increase/decrease but she was hopeful that the electricity cost would peak and ease by the time the Board's contracts were due to renew in July 2022.

Mr W. Cooper queried why the Annual Value for agricultural and special levy remained the same over the 5 year plan. The Finance Manager confirmed that Officers were not able to predict the value of land which would be moved to special levy, these figures were taken at the point the rates were set at the end of January each year so the DRAFT estimates and the five year plan were based on current values. However, since 2018/19 the value of special levy land had increased from £18,574,730 to £18,989,328.

Cllr E. Mossop supported the 2% increase stating it was manageable and less than the 2021/22 increase so seemed palatable and acceptable, he queried the likely increases for following years. The Finance Manager stated that the Board may need to increase the rate by a higher percentage in the coming years, currently predicted to be 3.25%, however, this would be impacted by the cost saving review.

RECEIVED

13. HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE

The Senior Operations Manager reported that Officers continued to review Covid-19 guidance and updated the Consortium's Covid Risk Assessment to take into account any changes.

Across the Consortium there had been seven incidents since the June Board meeting, four of which were in the Lindsey Marsh area.

The 2021/22 Audit programme and the annual review of health and safety documents, such as risk assessments, safe systems of work and COSHH assessments, was ongoing.

RECEIVED

14. DRAINAGE RATES AND SPECIAL LEVIES

A total of £543,837.13 had been collected in respect of drainage rates and £1,533,388.50 in respect of special levies up to the 30th September 2021 giving a combined collection total of 51.7%.

RECEIVED

15. FINANCE

15:1 Management Accounts for the Period Ending 30th September 2021

The Finance Manager presented the attached management accounts up to the 30th September 2021. The variance report showed a positive income variance of £901,788.44 which was largely due to PSCA works however some of this was offset by the increased expenditure under the PSCA.

Maintenance and development expenditure had a negative variance of £306,054.18 which was largely due to the PSCA expenses which were £409,067.82 higher than expected. Drains maintenance had a positive variance of £136,683.60 mainly due to under absorbed plant costs.

The current expected outturn at the 30th September 2021 was a surplus of £17,305.26.

15:2 Cash Reserves and Investments as at 30th September 2021

Officers had reviewed the existing bank mandates and the Finance Manager requested members to approve the removal of Mr D. Sisson and addition of Mrs N. Hind and Mr N. Kemble.

The Board had £4,739,871.62 held in five bank accounts and no loans currently outstanding. The funds held in the Beverley Building Society needed to be reduced to keep the account in line with the Society's rules. The Finance Manager requested that the Board approve the transfer to another of its bank accounts. Officers were reviewing investment options which would be reported back to the Board once complete.

Mr P.W. Pridgeon commented on the £2,589,805.87 held in the Barclays deposit account. The Finance Manager confirmed this would reduce once the additional PSCA expenses were paid. It was noted that the amount held in a single institution was contrary to the Board's Financial Regulations. This had previously been reported to members, however, they were requested to note this amount remained higher than the Board's policy. Mr Pridgeon commented that the Board's funds may be too high for the number of banks available.

In response to Mr J.M. Mowbray the Finance Manager confirmed that the closure of the local Barclays would have minimal impact on the Board.

15:3 Conclusion of Audit

The Finance Manager reported that the audit for the year ending 31st March 2021 had been concluded and that the Board received an unqualified audit with no matters for concern from the external auditor.

15:4 Payments over £500

The Finance Manager presented the attached schedule of payments over £500 totalling £2,632,224.54 made since the June Board meeting.

Mr P.W. Pridgeon asked that the papers be circulated earlier to allow members time to review the information prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the attached Management Accounts for the period ending 30th September 2021 be approved.
- (b) That the Board approve removal of Mr D. Sisson from the bank mandates and the addition of Mrs N. Hind and Mr N. Kemble.
- (c) That the Board approve movement of funds from the Beverley Building Society and note that the amounts held in a single institution were above those set in the Financial Regulations.
- (d) That the Board's cash balances and borrowings be noted.
- (e) That the Board note the conclusion of the audit for year ending 31st March 2021.
- (f) That the attached schedule of payments over £500 be approved.

16. OPERATIONS REPORT

The Senior Operations Manager reported that summer maintenance work was progressing well with 95% of Felling and 92% Weedcutting complete, he expected that the work would be complete within two weeks.

The Winter Maintenance programme was due to commence with 25,117m of reforming work planned for 2021/22. Mitigation mowing had been undertaken in preparation for the early winter works and mitigation for the later schemes would be undertaken on or after the 15th February 2022. A number of sites had also been identified for the installation of access culverts.

Officers planned to undertake 19,480m of reforming in 2022/23 however additional lengths to co-ordinate with certain engineering schemes might be added. Mr W. Cooper queried if the reduced length for 2022/23 would allow the outstanding work to be completed. The Senior Operations Manager confirmed that there were 12 schemes with small amounts of work still to be completed. The 2022/23 programme had not been fully populated to allow for last minute priority works and engineering schemes to be added as and when required.

In addition to the summer maintenance the following construction works had been completed: Culvert installation at Alvingham and Theddlethorpe, access improvements on Paradise and Treasure Lane Drains, remedial works at Boygriff Pumping Station and ongoing work on the lagoons at the River Steeping. Nine rechargeable jobs had also been undertaken.

The Senior Operations Manager updated members of plant purchases to date. The new Excavator, Hook Loader Trailer and Tipper Trailer were due to be delivered in November 2021 with the Electrical fitters van due in December 2021.

Tenders had been sought to replace the ten vans, three 4x4s and the construction vehicle. Insufficient tenders were received for the 4x4s and construction vehicle and Officers were reviewing options which would be reported to a future meeting. Tenders for the small van replacement had been reviewed and the purchase of ten Toyota Proace vans at a cost of £123,635.30 had been approved under delegated authority granted at the June Board meeting.

Mr R.H. Needham had received a report of an ongoing issue at Trusthorpe with rutting from Board machines which had not been resolved. The Senior Operations Manager undertook to look into this matter and ensure that it was resolved.

Options for work and funding on Willoughby High Drain were being reviewed. The Senior Operations Manager agreed to liaise with members regarding the work.

The Chief Executive reported that the vacant Operations Manager position had not been advertised and would be reviewed in the new year. A member of the DLO was assisting the Foreman and the new Depot Operative was assisting by running the depot and undertaking repairs in-house which had already provided cost savings.

Mr P.W. Pridgeon commented that the Board should look to upskill staff where possible and suggested that Board members be included in the selection process. The Chairman confirmed that he had been involved in the recruitment process for senior roles. The Chief Executive reminded members that the Board did recruit from within where possible, highlighting the recent Foreman appointment, however, it was not always possible and there had unfortunately been a high turnover of staff recently. The Foreman commented that he had twice benefitted from internal promotion, however, highlighted that staff might not always want promotion.

RESOLVED

That the above report and Officers actions be noted.

Mr A. McGill left the meeting.

17. ASSET RENEWAL AND REFURBISHMENT PROJECTS

17:1 Coastal Pumping Stations Refurbishment - Trusthorpe, Anderby, Ingoldmells and Saltfleet (LM19351, LM19304, LM20305 and LM20306)

Following award of the pump contract to Bosman Watermanagement BV two compensation events had been issued in respect of;

- (a) price reductions for scaled down model testing instead of factory testing of all pumps and,
- (b) additions of steel frames to elevate the motors as part of flood resilience measures.

Which resulted in an overall increase in costs of £27,575 for Trusthorpe and £37,755 for Saltfleet.

A further compensation event had been approved for the provision of more reliable butterfly valves resulting in cost savings of £13,020 for Saltfleet and £11,670 for Trusthorpe. The agreement of the Environment Agency to the principle of the fish friendliness of butterfly valves was obtained.

A contractor had been engaged to prepare the structural design and drawing work required as part of modifications required to accommodate the new pumping plant and orders were placed for the following amounts: Ingoldmells £4,000, Anderby £5,850, Trusthorpe £4,500 and Saltfleet £8,250.

The new pumps were physically larger than the existing ones therefore structural assessment of larger openings in floor slabs were required. Stations had to remain structurally sound and Ingoldmells Pumping Station, in particular, presented some challenges.

The upgraded power supply for Saltfleet Pumping Station was with Northern Powergrid at a cost of £59,602 for the contestable and non-contestable works. A quote of £30,441.65 for the construction of the brick built kiosk base and GRP kiosk had been received. The contractor had undertaken work at another Consortium Board and their charge for a transformer base was less than half the price normally paid.

Watercourse surveys in the Anderby catchment had been carried out at a cost of £14,000 in preparation for hydraulic modelling. Watercourse surveys of the Ingoldmells catchment were completed and modelling showed that the existing pumping capacity was sufficient. Individual pump capacity would be the same for Trusthorpe, Ingoldmells and Anderby with one pump at Ingoldmells (existing 30" line) having a larger motor. The Outline Business Cases for Anderby and Ingoldmells were being prepared.

The coastal pumping stations were reviewed from a flood resilience perspective in light of climate change and rising sea levels and given an expected 60 year life within the existing structural configurations.

The following measures were being taken;

- (a) Pumps and control panels raised as far as possible within the structural limits imposed by the buildings / cranes,
- (b) External protection to about 1 metre above ground level (varies by station according to tidal breach / overtopping scenarios) including waterproofing lower walls and automatic flood gates controlled through telemetry,
- (c) All syphons removed (except Ingoldmells where the syphons would be raised) and,
- (d) Two physical defences against backflow where there was no syphon (flap valve and butterfly valve).

For Saltfleet and Trusthorpe, however, these measures were not included in the Outline Business Cases as the supporting information required was recently developed. These projects therefore required additional funding in the region of £300,000 per station, which would largely be met through a FDGiA increase (80 - 85% expected). The Outline Business Cases for Anderby and Ingoldmells would include these resilience measures.

Tenders were invited for the supply of new control panels and associated electrical works. Five of the six companies invited returned tenders which ranged in price from £482,047 to £1,563,334

It was recommended that the Board appoint Inter-Lec Limited as the preferred bidder for the contract for new control panels and associated electrical works at Saltfleet Pumping Station at a cost of £127,237 and Trusthorpe Pumping Station of £118,050. It was further recommended to provide a letter of intent to award contracts for Anderby and Ingoldmells Pumping Stations for £118,105 and £118,655 respectively.

Committed costs to date for each of the coastal stations were;

Pumping Station	Committed costs	Estimated scheme costs (Total)	Anticipated funding
Saltfleet (LM19351)	£1,318,445.38	£3,199,000.00	£2,573,000 FDGiA £626,000 IDB
Trusthorpe (LM19304)	£769,273.90	£1,353,000.00	£767,000 FDGiA £586,000 IDB
Ingoldmells (LM20305)	£25,616.46	£1,635,000.00	£1,210,000 FDGiA £425,000 IDB
Anderby (LM20306)	£26,911.62	£1,200,000.00	£910,000 FDGiA £290,000 IDB

In response to Mr P.W. Pridgeon the Engineer confirmed that the Board were able to provide cover if a power cut occurred, however, it was generally more efficient to hire in diesel generators. Flood resilience at stations was as high as possible to allow the stations to be utilised in flood events.

Mr R.H. Needham queried how Saltfleet Pumping Station would take the water from the Highland system (South Drain and Greyfleet). The Engineer confirmed that flows limited to two litres per second would be allowed into the Board maintained Gents Canal leading to the pumping station. Desilting pump to be installed at Black Gowt outfall to pump through the manifold to jet the system and desilt the gravity doors.

In response to Mr R.H. Needham the Engineer stated that desilting the Greyfleet and South Drain was not included in the scheme and was in the Environment Agency's remit but Officers would raise the issue again. Mr Needham highlighted the large amount of development in Louth, the surface water from which eventually flowed into the South Drain and Greyfleet. The Engineer confirmed Stations had been modelled with additional developments and climate change taken into account and Officers were aware the catchment required work over three or four years following completion of Saltfleet Pumping Station.

Mr T.H. Heys queried what the timescale for completion was on the stations. The Engineer confirmed that Trusthorpe and Saltfleet would start in spring 2022 with completion in late summer Early Autumn and work would start at the end of 2022 on either Ingoldmells or Anderby with work at the remaining station starting in Spring 2023.

RESOLVED

That Inter-Lec Limited be appointed preferred bidder for the new control panels and associated electrical works at Saltfleet, Trusthorpe, Ingoldmells and Anderby Pumping Stations at a cost of £482,047.

17:2 Emergency Pump Repairs - (LM21302)

The total expenditure to date was £19,563 against the approved budget of £60,000.

(a) Gotts Pumping Station

The flap valve repairs including removal and re-install were complete at a cost of £4,310. Other minor repairs were undertaken to supply and fit extended grease nipples to the front bearing of both motors at a cost of £582.50. Both amounts were funded from the emergency repair budget.

(b) Thorpe Culvert Pumping Station

The motor that became detached from one of the pumps at Thorpe Culvert Pumping Station was repaired in-situ at a cost of £1,950, funded from the emergency repair budget.

Cllr D. Andrews left the meeting.

(c) Gibraltar Point Pumping Station

Following historic issues with both pumps tripping due to moisture ingress, the first pump was lifted and repaired in 2020 and the second pump was lifted and removed from site this year and repaired. Both pumps were now fully operational and the repair cost for the second pump of £9,321.44 was funded from the emergency repair budget.

The station was due for a full refurbishment during years 2023/2024 and would include new pumps.

(d) Wainfleet Sea Lane Pumping Station

Works to install metal plates in the voids between the weedscreen and station walls, to prevent wood or large objects bypassing the screen, were complete at a cost of £682.64; funded from the emergency repair budget.

RECEIVED

17:3 Theddlethorpe Pumping Station Replacement (LM18306)

The replacement windows were installed at a cost of £1,683.33 and works to waterproof the roof were completed at a cost of £4,656.00.

Various internal and external works remained to be undertaken.

The Theddlethorpe scheme included the refurbishment and automation of Bleak House Doors located near Mablethorpe. Quotes were being sought and the work was being planned.

Committed costs to date were £414,509.76 against the approved budget of £676,400.

RECEIVED

17:4 Replacement security doors at pumping stations

An order had been placed to the value of £75,543.34 to install security doors at the following stations, Austen Fen East and West, Beirgate East and West, Covenham, Crown Farm, Fulstow East and West, Gibraltar Point, Saltfleet, Theddlethorpe, Trusthorpe, Anderby and Fulbeck. Manufacture lead time was one to two months and a programme for installation was awaited.

RECEIVED

17:5 Boygriff Pumping Station Refurbishment (LM17352)

Work was largely complete, however, the gravity outfall still required reinstating and upgrading. Officers were reviewing the original FDGiA claim, with a view to obtaining additional funding. The plan was to automate the gravity outfall penstock and to reinforce the tidal defence by replacing the flap valve; a de-silting mechanism was being considered. Flood resilience of the station to achieve the same level of protection to that of each of the Coastal Pumping Stations was being discussed with the Environment Agency.

Costs to date were £690,936.36 against the approved budget of £803,000.

RECEIVED

17:6 Telemetry System Replacement (LM20303)

Installation was 80% complete, was operational and in use. Various snagging items were being addressed between the contractors and the Board.

Committed costs to date were £172,782.73 with an expected out-turn cost of around £193,000.

A subsequent application for £202,000 FDGiA (including contingency) had been successful and the full £185,000 (after contingency deduction) claimed.

RECEIVED

17:7 Gayton Engine Pumping Station – Subsidence

A quote of £9,640 to stabilise the ground below the failing back wall of the station had been received.

An allowance of £9,000 had been made in this year's estimates to cover the work. Officers requested that the Board approve the work.

The Corporate Services Manager had liaised with the Gayton Engine Preservation Society about the work. The charity were grateful for the Board undertaking this work. The building was listed and an application to the council for approval would be made prior to any work being undertaken.

RESOLVED

That the Board approve work to stabilise the building at Gayton Engine upto a cost of £9,640 to be taken from the existing budget.

17:8 Trusthorpe Main Drain Culverting (Phase 4) (LM18504)

Discussions took place earlier in the year with Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) Highways regarding subsidence on the A52 Sutton Road at Trusthorpe which parallels a Board Watercourse. The Board previously approved installation of 25 metres of culverting and this work will be undertaken by the DLO as part of the winter works programme and funded jointly.

Officers had raised the possibility of further partnership work to culvert 40 metres of watercourse at the main A52 Sutton Road on the south bank of the Trusthorpe Main Drain. This would benefit the Board and LCC by removing the need to annually maintain the open watercourse with a slow-moving wheeled excavator on a tight road bend and stabilise the road.

A further report on progress will be presented to a future meeting of the Board.

RECEIVED

17:9 Thorpe Culvert Catchment Investigations and Culvert Inspections

An order for £14,000 had been placed with Witham Fourth District IDB to model their catchment south of the River Steeping where the culverts discharge. Contractors were being considered with a view to progressing the Board's element of the modelling work as soon as possible.

RECEIVED

18. BYELAW APPLICATIONS

The Board granted consent at its January meeting for installation of an low voltage data cable within nine metres but no closer than four metres from the bank top of North Drain at Addlethorpe. A further application was submitted to extend the cable south by 350 metres. Officers recommended that the Board grant consent provided the cable was laid to the same specification to that already consented.

RESOLVED

That the Board approve the application to install an additional 350 metres of cable no closer than four metres from the Board maintained North Drain to the same specification and conditions as previously consented under LMDB/LDC/2021/006.

19. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AND PARTNERSHIP MATTERS

19:1 River Steeping Catchment - Dredging Project (LM20901)

Work was progressing well with the project with good support from local landowners. Lagoon C was largely complete. Lagoons A and B were dismantled and the silt spread and graded. A plan to monitor areas not draining correctly over the winter and early

spring when is in place. Dredging was due to start again in the middle of January 2022 and be completed by the middle of March 2022.

Expenditure to date was £1,024,335 against the revised budget of £1,285,000.

RECEIVED

19:2 PSCA EA/LMDB Recovery Works - Embankment Repairs on the Great Eau, Long Eau, Greyleft Drain and River Steeping (LM20902)

Apart from the completion of 5Km of stock proof fencing and the installation of fencing around a badger sett in the copse area at the Barfen site (a condition of the licence issued by Natural England) all works were complete.

The Board had received funds from the Environment Agency totalling £2,647,894.54 which included fees in the amount of £342,977.55 for administering the contract (staff time and Ecologist services were being funded from that amount).

Mr T.H. Heys commented that on the Great Eau that although the artificial setts were being used, badgers were now building setts on riparian watercourses.

RECEIVED

19:3 Maintenance Works

During the summer period the Operations team undertook maintenance works on behalf of the Environment Agency on: Wold Grift Drain, Willoughby High Drain, Wold Drain, River Steeping (Weed Boat only), Orby Drain and Louth Navigation.

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20. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

The Environment Agency's "Changes to the Eels Regulations Process" project was complete. The main changes were:

- (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 to the process which we would apply, by exception, where the requisite cost beneficial eel measure was unachievable due to insurmountable site-specific legal, technical or economic reasons,
- (d) A Site Specific Eel Risk Assessment tool to determine, within the Exceptions process, whether an alternative eel measure would offer an acceptably low risk to eel.

The main impact on the Board was that the Best Achievable Eel Protection was recognised as Fish Friendly pumps. This avoided costing the installation of 2mm screens as part of project development for a pumping station refurbishment. Such screens would be impractical in land drainage situations. Alongside this, the Environment Agency were developing a National Standard for fish friendly pumping stations based on similar work in the Netherlands.

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21. DELEGATED MATTERS - PLANNING, BYELAWS AND SUPERVISORY ROLE

21:1 Byelaw Applications

Officers reported that the following byelaw applications had been dealt with under delegated authority since the June Board meeting:

- LMDB/LDC/2021/035 Temporary works to erect scaffolding to facilitate repair works on the existing gas pipe over the Board maintained Mablethorpe Urban Cut at land off Quebec Road at National Grid Reference 550141 - 386255 in the parish of Mablethorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/036 Increase in flows from an outfall from a development into the left bank of the Board maintained Land Dyke West at National Grid Reference 534209 - 397959 in the parish of Fulstow.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/037 The HDD installation of a 11kv underground cable crossing under the Board maintained Cowcroft Soak Dyke at land off Burgh Road at National Grid Reference 549108 -363551 and the undergrounding of local overhead networks with the dismantle of overhead cables over Cowcroft Soak Dyke and Stock Drain in the parish of Bratoff.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/044 The installation of a 150mm diameter outfall into the Board maintained Barn Sewer to discharge overflow water from a proposed lake at National Grid Reference 549098 - 366865 at the rear of Summerfield House, Burgh Road in the parish of Orby.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/049 To increase the flow from a biotechnical unit into the Board maintained Cowcroft Soak Dyke at National Grid Reference 550103 - 362821, Virley House Tourer Park, High Lane in the parish of Croft.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/052 Installation of 11 land tile outfalls to the board maintained Relief Channel Soak Dyke North (LMD060800) in the parish of Thorpe St Peter. Approximate starting location of E - 549287 N – 360217.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/054 Installation of a HV power supply cable directionally drilled under the Board maintained Catchwater Drain and laid within nine metres of the bank top for a distance of approximately 85 metres and excavation of temporary launch and reception pits within 9 meters at Croft Bank Holiday Park, National Grid Reference 553742 - 362704 in the parish of Croft.

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21:2 Section 23 Applications

The following Section 23 applications had been dealt with since the June meeting:

- LMDB/LDC/2021/042 The raising of an existing water control structure (concrete dam with incorporated tilting weir) in the riparian watercourse at National Grid Reference 554996 - 375954 at Anderby Marsh in the parish of Anderby.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/043 Installation of a water control structure within a riparian watercourse at National Grid Reference 554994 - 375956 at Anderby Marsh in the parish of Anderby.

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No Section 23 applications had been dealt with on behalf of the Lead Local Flood Authority.

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21:3 Planning Applications

Since the last meeting Officers had objected to the following planning applications:

- (a) Application for an extension and alterations to provide a car port with a first floor bedroom and dressing room. The proposed extension, if permitted, would encroach over the Board maintained Winthorpe North Drain culvert and would have the potential to cause damage with the associated loading from the proposed building. The application was withdrawn and an amended proposal submitted.
- (b) Application to erect 14 houses and two dormer bungalows with garages and construction of a vehicular access on the site of an existing dwelling which was to be demolished. It was unclear from the information provided how the development interacted with the Board's Wainfleet Common Drain Branch No. 2 culvert particularly with regard to highway construction and the proximity of any buildings and associated private curtilages. Discussions were ongoing to seek a way forward whereby the Board's objection could be removed.
- (c) Application to erect a detached building with second floor apartment on the site of existing buildings which were to be demolished as well as provision of car parking, caravan sales area and construction of a pedestrian access. The Board objected to the application as the proposed building and associated canopy structure fell within close proximity of the Board maintained South Marsh Drain culvert. After discussions with the applicants, an amended site plan was submitted which indicated that all works were a distance of nine metres from the Board's culvert. The Board's objection had been withdrawn.

Officers had consulted on 29 other planning applications since the last meeting and appropriate comments relating to surface water drainage were provided.

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22. ADA LINCOLNSHIRE BRANCH

The Corporate Services Manager reported that the ADA Lincolnshire Branch meeting would be held on the 2nd December 2021.

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23. COMMITTEES

This was discussed under agenda item 11.

24. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

CHAIRMAN