

LINDSEY MARSH DRAINAGE BOARD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Board held via Microsoft Teams and Teleconference on Wednesday, 23rd June 2021 at 9.00a.m.

* 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. Fender (Operations Manager)
* C. Harris (Internal Auditor)
* Mesdames N. Hind (Finance Manager)
* C.B. Davies (Corporate Services Manager)

* *In attendance*

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A.J. Howard, D. Edgington, W. Cooper, P.W. Pridgeon, R.A.D. Unsworth

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

4. BOARD MINUTES (Pages 1582 to 1587)

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 24th March 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and the resolutions be adopted by the Board.

5. MATTERS ARISING

5:1 Minute 5:2 Page 1583 - Matters Arising - Minute 14:2 Page 1572 - PSCA EA/LMDB Recovery Works - Embankment Repairs on the Great Eau, Long Eau, Greyfleet Drain and River Steeping (LM20902)

The Engineer reported that the sill levels at Saltfleet Haven were -1.1 AOD and at the Black Gowt Outfall they were -1.5 AOD meaning the Saltfleet outfall was lower than the Greyfleet outfall.

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6. CONSORTIUM COMMITTEE MEETING

The Chief Executive presented the attached Consortium Committee minutes for approval and adoption by the Board. In response to Cllr E. Mossop, he confirmed that each of the Boards' were required to consider the recommendations from the committee and formally adopt them.

The revised business plan had been circulated to members for review prior to the meeting. There was a large amount of work planned over six years with several pumping Stations requiring refurbishment. The schemes attracted GiA funding and were required to be completed as planned to avoid losing the funding. A review would be undertaken looking at options to deliver the work including additional staff and use of contractors. Mr G.A. Crust commented that the workload was a huge increase on previous years. The Chief Executive stated that this equated to around £600,000 per year of man hours over the next six years. Mr Crust suggested that the additional staff capacity could enable the Board to take on additional work from other Agencies.

Mr T.H. Heys queried that the minutes reported difficulties recruiting staff to the Manby office asking if it would still be required into the future considering it had recently been refurbished. The Chief Executive confirmed that the refurbishment was the cheapest option for the Board at the time and that there were difficulties attracting certain skilled and specialised staff to the area, however, the Lead Board's offices would continue to be the focal point for the Consortium.

A suitable apprenticeship scheme had been identified for Land Drainage Operatives and the Corporate Services Manager stated that the estimated cost of the apprenticeship was wages of £8,500 plus £600 training costs. She further reported that the cost of a temporary post for scanning files would be around £500.

Mr J. Mowbray joined the meeting.

The Chief Executive reported that the Committee had recommended withdrawing from the Annual Pay Award. The current formula had resulted in a 4.1% increase for the current year. He further commented that other Lincolnshire Boards' had introduced their own terms and conditions. Should the Board decided to withdraw, notice must be given therefore a decision was needed prior to the 2022 rate being set.

Training sessions for members had been recommended by the Committee and would be arranged for later in the year and would include Governance, Board's powers and Health and Safety.

The Chief Executive reported that whilst the Boards' had an Equality and Diversity policy, following the Water Management Committee's recommendation, Officers would be preparing a separate Inclusion and Diversity policy as well as a Climate Change Policy. It was likely that funding would be linked to the impact a scheme had on the environment and carbon footprint.

RESOLVED

That the attached minutes of the Consortium Committee meeting held on 10th June 2021 be confirmed as a correct record and the resolutions be adopted by the Board

7. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Senior Operations Manager reported that Officers were regularly reviewing the situation regarding Covid-19 and the Board's Covid Risk Assessment was amended in line with government guidance. Lateral Flow Testing had been introduced with staff required to undertake this prior to face-to-face meetings and for those working from offices/depots.

There had been four incidents across the Consortium since the last meeting.

Officers continued to review Risk Assessments and Safe Systems of Work. The Field Work and Weedboat risk assessment had recently been updated with amendments discussed and approved by the Health and Safety Committee before issuing to all staff.

Several health and safety audits had been undertaken, focusing on Depots, Pumping Stations, Construction Sites, Contractors and Field Based Staff which would allow Officers to identify areas of risk.

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8. DRAINAGE RATES AND SPECIAL LEVIES

The total balance outstanding at the 31st March 2021 was £1,313.86. A total of £1,151,835.78 (28.3%) of the 2021/22 drainage rates and special levies had been collected as at the 31st May 2021.

9. FINANCE

9:1 Management Accounts and Variance Report for the year ending 31st March 2021

The Finance Manager presented the attached Income and Expenditure variance report for the year ending 31st March 2021, highlighting that there was a positive income variance of £1,286,945.96, this was mainly due to the Public Sector Cooperation Agreement (PSCA) income. Income had been received in advance of expenditure and the balance of the projects had been moved to the balance sheet to be matched to the forthcoming project expenditure in 2021/22. The balance transferred and thus deducted from income was £496,721. The income remaining within the Income and Expenditure report relating to those projects was £2,703,764. Absorbed income for use of plant was lower than expected by £622,000 and would be offset by lower expenditure.

The Maintenance and Development Expenditure was higher than anticipated resulting in a negative variance of £1,944,103, this was mainly due to the additional PSCA expenditure. The Board's £250,000 contribution towards the Steeping scheme had been transferred.

Pumping Station electricity costs, whilst at the last meeting these had been underspent at the yearend were overspend by £3,500.

In response to Cllr E. Mossop the Finance Manager confirmed that most Electricity meters were now smart meters however some estimated bills were still being received. Monthly readings were taken to ensure the accuracy of billing from the smart meters.

There was an underspend on pumping stations external contractor/supplier costs of £79,000, £46,000 of which related to planned new doors at several stations which

would be ordered in the new financial year. The external costs relating to drains maintenance was £76,425, an underspend of £4,157.

The Supportive Expenditure was higher than anticipated resulting in a negative variance of £890,215.92. The majority of this related to depreciation costs of £566,912.74 and Pension Scheme costs of £338,000, which were a non-monetary accounting adjustment.

The expected surplus cash position within general reserves was estimated to be £358,486 at the October Estimates Meeting, the general surplus reserve was £440,079; this also incorporated an increase in the Plant reserve by a further £313,250 due to receipts/budgets for known plant expenditure expected in 2020/21 but occurring in 2021/22. The Board's reserve policy was to hold 30% of net operating expenditure, and whilst the surplus cash position was some distance from the desired percentage, should the Board suffer a flooding event the funds held in engineering schemes would need to be used, giving reserve of 32.72%.

RESOLVED

That the attached Variance report for the year ending 31st March 2021 be approved by the Board.

9:2 Management Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2021

The Finance Manager presented the attached management Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2021 for the Board's approval.

RESOLVED

That the attached Management Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2021 be approved and the Chairman sign page 2 of the accounts.

9:3 Audit of Accounts for the Year Ending 31st March 2021

The Board's Internal Auditor presented the attached report for the year ending 31st March 2021 stating that he had given the Board a substantial assurance with no recommendations for improvement.

RESOLVED

That the attached audit report be noted and the actions approved by the Board.

9:4 Annual Governance Statement and Review of Internal Controls

The Finance Manager presented the Annual Governance Statement for consideration by members who agreed that the Board had a sound system of internal control.

Cllr E. Mossop queried if the level of work within the finance department was now manageable. Officers confirmed that there were still peaks (such as year end) however generally the team was in a stronger position.

RESOLVED

That the attached Annual Governance Statement for 2020/21 be approved and signed by the Chairman and Chief Executive.

9:5 Accounting Statements of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return

The Finance Manager presented the accounting statements for 2020/21 for consideration by the Board.

RESOLVED

That the attached Accounting Statements for 2020/21 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

9:6 Cash Reserves and Investments as at 31st March 2021

The Finance Manager reported that the Board had £5,077,060.29 held across five accounts.

RECEIVED

9:7 Payments over £500

A schedule of payments made over £500 totaling £1,762,856.77 made since the previous Board meeting were presented for approval.

Mr R. Crust queried if there had been a duplicate payment made for the PSCA work as there had been one payment of £297,965.93 in March and another for £297,965.94 in May. The Finance Manger confirmed the contract was paid in staged payments.

Cllr E. Mossop queried the £12,077.40 payment for rock armour on Louth Canal stating that whilst it was good publicity the costs were more than he had understood and asked for a detailed breakdown to the expenses to allow him to raise profile of the Board's contribution to work on an EA watercourse at parish council meetings. The Finance Manager agreed to supply this stating that the Board had contributed £50,000, East Lindsey DC £15,000 Landowners £2,500 and the Navigation Trust £6,000 she confirmed that the Board's contribution had been funded from the partnership working scheme fund.

Mr S.W. Eyre stated that the work had been an opportunity to show that the Board was active and useful member of the community. Cllr Mossop agreed but stated that it had taken more than a couple of days and the parish councils should be aware of this.

The Corporate Services Manager reported that Mr P.W. Pridgeon had queried the expenditure of around £12,000 on toilet hire, the Operations Manager and Senior Operations Manager would review this and would report back to the Board.

RESOLVED

That the attached schedule of payments over £500 be approved.

10. OPERATIONS REPORT

The Operations Manager reported that tree and busing works had been completed on Skirbeck Drain and Branches, Mardyke Drain, Highgate and Highgate Connection Drain, Sutton Ings Drain and Branches and Crabtree Lane Drain and Branches. Operatives had completed slip repair work caused by heavy rainfall, installed and renewed access culverts and gates as well as reforming on 10.9km of watercourses. Further reforming work was ongoing with 6.1km of 11.3km completed. Work on Orby Drain, Sutton Ings Drain and

Branches and Crabtree Drain and Branches would be rolled forward to the 2021/22 programme.

The DLO had assisted with engineering projects including; Rotten Row culverting, Boygriff Pumping Station Works, Theddlethorpe Pumping Station Works and the River Steeping desilting project.

Due to recent weather conditions, weed growth had increased in all watercourses therefore early cuts were being undertaken on the Board's strategic watercourses as well as on grass access strips. With the summer maintenance programme due to start on the 15th July 2021.

The Environment Agency had approached the Board to undertake maintenance on the following watercourses:

- (a) Wold Grift Drain.
- (b) Willoughby High Drain.
- (c) Wold Drain.
- (d) River Steeping (Weed Boat Cut only).
- (e) Orby Drain (Weed Boat Cut only).

The DLO had also undertake private works installing 6m of culverting and headwall at South Somercotes and a further 6m and headwall at Saltfleet. Two weeks weedboat work in the Isle of Axholme area had also been undertaken which would be recharged.

The Board's Officers presented an update on plant purchases for 2021/22. The following items had been ordered;

- (a) Volvo Excavator - Delivery July/ August 2021.
- (b) Case Telescopic Long Reach - Delivery November 21.
- (c) Welfare Cabin - Delivery July 2021.
- (d) Tracked Skid Steer - Delivery June 21.

Officers highlighted that prices for plant and machinery were increasing month on month and some were expected to rise by £1,000 to £1,500 by the start of July and asked that the Board consider the purchase of the following items:

- (a) Herder MR370 3.7m Weedcutting Basket

There was only one UK supplier of this brand of equipment, however, the equipment had proven to be high quality. It was recommended that the Board approve the purchase of a MR370 Herder Weedbasket with end extensions and S60 Stockhead at a cost of £8,665 plus VAT which was under the budget of £11,000.

RESOLVED

That the Board approve the purchase of a 3.7m herder weedbasket at a cost of £8,665.

(b) Bulk tipping trailer

Quotes were sought through the Woldmarsh group for the supply of a bulk tipping trailer and presented at the meeting.

The Operations Manager recommended purchase of the Larrington 23 tonne Trailer at a cost of £23,950 stating that the make had proven reliability, the supplier was local giving access to technical and service support and the trailer had the largest cubic capacity and was a like for like swap.

Mr T.H. Heys queried if the tractor would be able to tow a 20 tonne trailer and if, given the capacity of the trailer, it would be road legal. The Operations Manager stated that the tractors were able to tow 18.25 tonnes on the road and 20 tonnes off road. Cllr S. Dennis queried how staff determined the weight of the trailer to ensure within legal limits. The Operations Manager stated that when towing from the depot a local weigh bridge was used. However, it was noted that there was currently no method to ensure they were not overweight when loading on site. Cllr Dennis suggested installation of a weigher to ensure compliance.

Members queried why quotes had been sought through Woldmarsh rather than going direct to the local suppliers particularly for the supply of the Bailey Trailer. The Chief Executive stated that previously we have approached suppliers directly and although not wrong to seek quotes through Woldmarsh, it was a change from the usual process. Mr S.W. Eyre stated that the quote for the Bailey trailer was £4,000 cheaper than the Larrington and suggested that the Board consider purchasing this instead stating that the 20 tonne trailer was likely to be overweight. Mr R.H. Needham and Mr R. Crust agreed, provided that the Bailey trailer met the specification.

Officers asked that the Board award delegated authority and would seek a further quote for the Bailey trailer directly from the local supplier prior to a decision.

RESOLVED

That delegated Authority be given to the Chairman, Vice-chairman, Mr T.H. Heys, Cllr A.J. Howard and the Chief Executive to approve the purchase of a Bulk Trailer.

(c) Mulching Head

Quotations had been sought for the supply of a mulching head. Details of the four quotations received were presented at the meeting and costs ranged from £13,430 to £24,080. Officers recommended the purchase of the Herder STMK110B which was the cheapest price received and met the required specification.

RESOLVED

That the Board approve the purchase of a Herder STMK110B mulching head at a cost of £13,430.

(d) Hook loader trailer and attachments

An allowance of £30,000 had been made in the estimates to purchase a hook loader trailer. The trailer would reduce manual handling and had considerable

scope with multiple different accessories available. Quotes had been sought and details of the three received were presented at the meeting, costs ranged from £37,500 to £44,770.

Officers were also seeking quotes for the supply of one flatbed carrier rack and one drop side body skip to use with the trailer. These had not been included in the 2021/22 estimates and Officers asked that members delegate authority for the purchase up to a value of £10,000 which would be taken from the plant reserve.

In response to Mr S.W. Eyre the Chief Executive confirmed that the trailer with accessories was £17,500 over budget.

Mr T.H. Heys commented that the trailer was expensive but would be beneficial to the DLO and the Board. Cllr Dennis agreed stating that the trailer was very adaptable and could reduce the need for contractors in the long run.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the Board approve the purchase of a BIG AB 20-24 Hook Loader Trailer at a cost of £37,500
- (b) That the Board approve an additional expenditure of up to £10,000 for Ancillaries, with purchases to be approved by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive.
- (c) That the £17,500 overspend was to be taken from the Plant Reserve Fund.

(e) Fleet vehicles

The Board had fourteen vehicles due to be replaced this financial year and Officers were investigating purchase options, however, costs had risen significantly since the estimates were set and the current budget might not be sufficient to procure all fourteen vehicles. For example, the cost of a van had increased from the £11,500 estimate to £15-16,000 with delivery not expected until April 2022. Options such as breaking the order down into smaller numbers were being considered

Following discussion it was agreed that delegated authority be given to spend up to the budgeted amount.

RESOLVED

- (a) That delegated authority be given to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Mr T.H. Heys, Cllr A.J. Howard and the Chief Executive to review and approve purchase of up to fourteen vehicles within the approved budget.
- (b) That a further report be made at the next meeting.

(f) Electrical Fitters Vehicle

Quotations had been sought for the supply of a large van for use by the new Mechanical and Electrical Field Engineer. Four had been received, one of which (Toyota Pro-Ace) did not meet the required specification. The three remaining quotes ranged from £20,645 to £21,977 and Officers proposed that the Board purchase the Vauxhall Movano L3H3 at a cost of £20,645.

The vehicle would also need to be fitted out internally. Prices had been obtained for this and ranged from £6,728 to £7,976, however, Officers expected a slight increase on the lower price as it had been based on a smaller vehicle. They therefore asked that the Board approve an expenditure of up to £7,200 to install a nonslip poly lining, racking and shelving, toilet cassette, handwash basin, 1000w inverter and internal LED lights.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the Board approve the purchase of a Vauxhall Movano at a cost of £20,645
- (b) That the Board approve the purchase of racking and welfare facilities at a cost of up to £7,200.

Cllr S. Dennis left the meeting.

11. COMPENSATION

A schedule of compensation payments totalling £991.58 was circulated for approval; these had been paid in accordance with the Board's policy.

RESOLVED

That the compensation payments made since the last meeting totalling £991.58 be approved.

Mr S.W. Eyre left the meeting.

12. 3D SCANNER

Cllr D. McNally left the meeting.

Officers had been investigating options for the purchase of the 3D scanner which had been included in the 2021/22 estimates. Three quotations had been received as detailed below:

Make and Model	Amount
Trimble X7 Laser Scanner	£35,995
Trimble X7 Laser Scanner	£35,150
Focus 3D S 70 HDR Laser Scanner	£27,601

Following review it was felt that the Focus scanner was significantly more complex to operate when compared with the Trimble X7. There was also an annual maintenance licence fee for software of £350.

The Engineer asked that the Board approve the purchase of a Trimble X7 at a cost of £35,995 from PQS Surveys. Although this quote was £845 higher than the other for the same machine the level of service and support received from PQS was excellent which he considered justified spending the additional amount. The Engineer undertook to negotiate the inclusion of additional extras such as a tripod and column extension.

RESOLVED

That the Board purchase a Trimble X7 Laser Scanner from PQS surveys at a cost of up to £35,995 with the Engineer to negotiate for inclusion of optional extras.

13. ASSET RENEWAL AND REFURBISHMENT PROJECTS

13:1 Replacement Security Doors at Pumping Stations

The security doors at Austen Fen East and West, Beirgate East and West, Covenham, Crown Farm, Fulstow East and West, Gibraltar Point, Saltfleet, Theddlethorpe, Trusthorpe, Anderby and Fulbeck Pumping Stations were in poor condition, two stations in the Isle of Axholme had doors in a similar condition. To achieve economies of scale, a package for replacement doors at all 16 pumping stations had been put together and quotes sought from five companies.

The new doors at Covenham, Saltfleet, Theddlethorpe, Trusthorpe and Anderby would be funded from their respective refurbishment scheme budgets and the remainder would be funded from the pumping station operational and maintenance budget which contained a £46,000 allowance for this work. The aggregated costs for doors not funded directly by live engineering projects was £39,739.20 using the prices presented by the preferred tenderer. This included transferring a £7,000 allowance from Covenham to Fulbeck which was presently unfunded.

The Engineer recommend awarding the contract to Lincoln Security, although they were £36.50 more expensive than the cheapest tender for LMDB sites, for the overall contract across the Consortium they were the cheapest tender.

RESOLVED

That the tender for the supply of 14 security doors be awarded to Lincoln Security at a cost of £75,543.69.

Cllrs E. Mossop and Mrs W. Bowkett left the meeting.

13:2 Coastal Pumping Stations Refurbishment - Trusthorpe, Anderby, Ingoldmells and Saltfleet (LM19351, LM19304, LM20305 and LM20306). Combined total budget (including contingency) £6.5M

Tenders were invited from four companies for the supply, installation and extended warranty and maintenance of fish friendly pumping plant at Trusthorpe, Anderby, Ingoldmells and Saltfleet Pumping Stations. Tenders were due for return on 21st June 2021. This was a large contract that would introduce a degree of commonality and sought to provide the Board with a quality long term solution as well as economies through scale and consistency. The estimated costs were; Saltfleet £1million, Trusthorpe £500,000, Anderby £550,000 and Ingoldmells £650,000. Thorough examination of the tenders was not practical prior to the meeting and the Engineer recommended that the Board grant delegated authority to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Chief Executive and Engineer to award the contract following a detailed adjudication.

Specifications were being prepared for the control panel and electrical works contract. The total estimate for the four control panels and cabling was £600,000. Civils contracts would be finalised once a preferred pump supplier had been appointed and pump drawings and details approved. The estimated value of the civils, building and balance of plant contract was £2 million.

Planning for the upgrading and improvements works at Saltfleet and Trusthorpe Pumping Stations continued with site works due to commence in April 2022. Most of the survey data for the Ingoldmells catchment had been collected and was being utilised to prepare a base model. Further to this, the hydrological analysis had been undertaken in readiness for the modelling runs. Contracts for survey and for model build for Anderby catchment were planned to be sought externally as internal survey and modelling resources were fully committed.

Given the level of delegated authority already awarded at the meeting the Chief Executive proposed that a meeting be called for September 2021 to make a decision on this and the replacement fleet vehicles.

RESOLVED

That a Meeting of the Board be arranged for September 2021 to discuss and award the contract for fish friendly pumps at Theddlethorpe, Anderby, Ingoldmells and Saltfleet pumping stations.

13:3 Emergency Pump Repairs - (LM21302)

(a) Gotts Pumping Station - Repairs to Flap Valve

Investigations showed the gravity outfall flap valve hinge had become severely corroded to the point that one side had broken away and the other side was in poor condition. As a result, pumped water was able to circulate back through the flap only to be re-pumped. With assistance from North Lincs Engineering, the flap had been removed, repaired and reinstalled.

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(b) Thorpe Culvert Pumping Station

The motor on pump one had become detached from the pump and works to repair this in-situ were planned.

RECEIVED

(c) Gibraltar Point Pumping Station

Arrangements were being made to remove the second pump at the station in June 2021 which included damming off by the Board's operatives.

RECEIVED

(d) Wainfleet Sea Lane Pumping Station

The voids between the weedscreen and the concrete wingwalls had allowed debris to enter the sump and were considered to have caused one of the pumps to fail. Contractors were manufacturing metal plates to stop any wood or large objects bypassing the screen. A date for installation was being arranged.

RECEIVED

(e) Nursery Pumping Station

During March 2021, the sole pump at Nursery Pumping Station had suffered an electrical fault and subsequently failed. The pump had been removed for investigation and repair. A burnt out connection was found and the cable replaced with new connections. The cost for lifting, inspection, repair and re-install was £1,298 and was funded from the emergency repair budget.

RECEIVED

13:4 Pumping Station Resilience - Thorpe Culvert Pumping Station

Resilience works at Thorpe Culvert Pumping Station were nearly complete with the confined space work required to install lighting still to be undertaken. This had been delayed due to the contractor's workforce not being able to undertake confined space training during the Covid-19 pandemic.

RECEIVED

13:5 Theddlethorpe Pumping Station Replacement (LM18306)

Quotes had been received to repair the leaking roof which had caused damaged to the inside of the building. Orders had been placed both for new windows and for the repairs to the roof.

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13:6 Boygriff Pumping Station Refurbishment (LM17352)

Works to the pumping station were substantially complete. The compound area had been concreted and tarmacked, reinstatement of the gravity outfall and eel pass and completion of pile painting would be progressed during this financial year.

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13:7 Covenham Pumping Station Refurbishment

Replacement pump options were being evaluated, larger capacity pumps would be required at the station. Quotes for the necessary pipework modifications were being sought from suitable contractors. An order for the new electrical control panel would be placed at a cost of £12,850.

One of the existing pumps was noted to be underperforming during a drop test and it would be lifted to check for any obvious signs of debris in the sump.

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13:8 Telemetry System Replacement (LM20303)

Installation of the replacement telemetry system was progressing well with the Doncaster East and Isle of Axholme areas being prioritised, 23 outstations had been installed across the Consortium with the one trial site in the Board's area at Theddlethorpe providing some visibility on the new system. Works to develop and complete the pump control modules were progressing. It was envisaged that the replacement of the Controlstar system within the Consortium would be completed by 31st July 2021 following which, the replacement of the Oriel System would commence. Replacement of Oriel installations in the Trent Valley area would be completed prior to those in the Lindsey Marsh area to minimise disruption and allow time for a Grant in

Aid funding application worth around £63,000 to be completed and submitted.

RECEIVED

13:9 Gayton Engine Pumping Station - Subsidence

Structural engineers were engaged to visit the station to provide a report giving advice on how best to deal with the subsidence issues. The report and recommendation had been received and a quote was awaited for carrying out ground stabilisation works using resin and for spiral ties to deal with the brick work.

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13:10 Thorpe Culvert Catchment Investigations and Culvert Inspections

The Environment Agency (EA) were confirming ownership of the culverts, however current indicators were that they rest with the EA. This changed the delivery mechanism and funding for the resilience scheme. Full funding of study work would be sought from the EA via the study route (FCERM 7 application). This study work would be completed this financial year. It was possible that the project would be taken over by the EA and funded through one of their capital investment projects. This was a change to the project funding plan and may result in less self funded cost for the Board.

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13:11 PAFs Refresh 2021

A complete review of upcoming projects and funding had been undertaken with the EA; plans remained much as 2020.

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14. SCHEDULE OF TRANSFER OF BUDGETS

Members were asked to review and approve the attached schedule of transfers.

RESOLVED

That the Board approve the attached schedule of transfers.

15. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AND PARTNERSHIP MATTERS

15:1 River Steeping Catchment – Dredging Project (LM20901)

Phase One of the project was completed in March 2021, 6.5Km of the River Steeping and 1.0Km of Wainfleet Relief Channel had been dredged to provide the minimum water depth requirement of 1.5m all year round. As previously reported the total length was 1.8Km longer than planned due to extra silt quantities being encountered.

Final silt volumes were much higher than the pre-project estimate throughout the system which was based on a 2019 Survey commissioned by the Environment Agency (EA) post the June 2019 flooding. In all, the amount of silt removed was 56,130 cubic metres, a 92% increase on the pre-project estimate. The dredging contract costs were not affected as the quantities were removed without reduction on the productivity of the dredger. The costs of dredging the additional length were fully funded by the Environment Agency. However, costs of reinstatement of land and dismantling of the

lagoons which held almost double the planned quantity of silt would be an increase on the agreed budget. The approved costs of the two-phase project were £1,075,000, funded from contributions of £625,000 from the EA, and fixed contributions of £250,000 from the Board, £150,000 from Lincolnshire County Council and £50,000 from East Lindsey District Council.

The revised cost estimate to complete the project had risen to £1,285,000 once the additional cost to reinstate the land at Lagoons A and B had been included. Officers asked that the Board consider making a further contribution of £50,000 to assist with the shortfall of £210,000 and to ensure the project was completed as planned. The remainder of the shortfall would be met by the EA through additional Grant in Aid and Local Levey funding.

The Board's Engineering and Operations Team were working with EA colleagues and landowners planning the works required to accommodate the first year reinstatement works and the second year dredging campaign which was due to be carried out in September 2021.

Construction of the final Silt Lagoon (Lagoon C) had commenced and was due to be completed by the end of June. Initial works to reinstate the sites at Lagoon A and Lagoon B would commence in July and August. With final reinstatement planned to take place during September and early October.

Public interest in the project remained high but public engagement had been hampered by Covid-19 limitations. The partnership had continued to publish regular newsletters and update the catchment plan. The dredging project had been warmly welcomed by the community, however, there had been some criticism of the EA works being undertaken as part of the toe revetment and recovery works / resilience program.

Mr R.H. Needham queried the additional £50,000 expenditure considering the time and effort that the Board and its Officers had put into pushing for work to be done over the years. The Chief Executive stated that some of the time recently spent on the current scheme by Officers would be recouped through the PSCA. He was keen to see the project to the end and keep the partnership approach going forward, however, would not be advising the Board to commit any further funds.

RESOLVED

That the Board make a further Partnership contribution of £50,000 to assist with the project shortfall arising from the additional lagoon reinstatement costs.

15:2 PSCA EA/LMDB Recovery Works - Embankment Repairs on the Great Eau, Long Eau, Greyfleet Drain and River Steeping (LM20902)

Works were substantially complete. Work had commenced on the additional 400 metres of permanent meshing on the River Steeping embankment which was expected to be completed by the end of June. There were some additional stock proof fencing requirements along the banks of the River Steeping as part of the original works undertaken in 2019 and quotes were being obtained for this work. The contractor would maintain the required embankments to March 2022 to ensure good grass coverage had been established.

Costs to date were £2,144,593.53, with the total value of the works contract £2,210,213.16.

Mr R.H. Needham stated that £2 million on badger work was excessive.

RECEIVED

16. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

16:1 Eel Regulations

The Environment Agency were still working on a project to simplify the approval process for IDB pumping stations with regard to, "Changes to the Eels Regulations Process (ChERP)". The delays were causing protracted delays in approvals for pumping station refurbishments together with additional costs of eel mitigation measures such as fish friendly pumps. The Association of Drainage Authorities (ADA) Technical and Environment Committee were preparing a paper to engage with Government Ministers. The Government was informed that the 20 year costs of the Statutory Instrument that implemented the Eel Regulations in 2009 would be £74.6 million. The true figure was believed to be many times that figure, when the water and power generating industries and other abstractors' costs were calculated. IDBs had been proactive in funding research into eel passage at pumping stations which was suggesting other mechanisms to provide passage while also showing that the combination of fish friendly pumps and trash screen were only offering a partial passage solution.

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16:2 IDB Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

ADA had placed the development of BAP metrics on hold to focus on the production on an Environmental Good Governance Guide. The delay would allow the new BAP guidance and metrics to fully include the requirement of the Environment Bill. The Environment Bill included legally binding targets for species abundance and ensured that 30 percent of terrestrial land was protected by 2030. Ultimately the updated BAP would need to demonstrate that the Board delivered these targets where applicable.

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17. BYELAW APPLICATION

An application had been received to erect a dwelling within nine metres but no closer than five metres of the Board maintained Wainfleet Common Drain at the rear of Mill House, Spilsby Road, Wainfleet. Watercourse maintenance was undertaken from the opposite bank via a dedicated, fenced and gated access strip and no objections had been raised in respect of any environmental constraints. It was advised that the foundations of the proposed dwelling should be one metre below the hard bed level of the watercourse to ensure that any movement or settlement of the property could not be claimed to be attributable to the Board with any new fencing proposed on the southern boundary to be of a demountable nature and the line agreed on site by the Board's officers prior to any construction taking place.

Members asked that the limitations regarding fencing and planting be entered onto the deeds and that the stipulation regarding the depth of the foundations be included as part of the planning application to the council.

RESOLVED

That the Board grant consent to the erection of a dwelling within 9 metres (but no closer than 5 metres) of the Board maintained Wainfleet Common Drain with the limitations regarding the depth of the foundations and with the limitations on fencing and planting to be entered on the property deeds.

18. PLANNING AND BYELAW POLICY UPDATE

The revised Planning and Byelaw Policy was being implemented with fees being charged in line with the Policy. The advice notes had been streamlined and a single application form for land drainage consent had been developed in line with the updated Planning and Byelaw Policy together with technical guidance notes for its completion.

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19. DELEGATED MATTERS - PLANNING, BYELAWS AND SUPERVISORY ROLE

19:1 Byelaw Applications

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

- LMDB/LDC/2021/002 The installation of two service crossings over the Board maintained Wedlands Drain at National Grid Reference 551178 - 364791 in the parish of Burgh le Marsh.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/003 The installation of one 35mm, one 155mm, one 200mm and nine 205mm land drainage outfalls into the right bank of the Board maintained Middle Fen Drain at OS Field No. 1966 between National Grid References 547344 - 385675 and 547199 - 385806 in the parish of Theddlethorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/004 The installation of six 220mm land drainage outfalls into the left bank of the Board maintained Sudales Drain at OS Field No. 1966 between National Grid References 547648 - 386398 and 547595 - 386303 in the parish of Theddlethorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/008 The increase in flows from surface water discharge from Huttoft Boat Café site into the Board maintained North Outmarsh Drain at National Grid Reference 554088 - 378619 in the parish of Huttoft.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/009 The planting of a hedge and the siting of static caravans within 9.0 metres but no closer than 3.5 metres from the Board maintained Town Common Drain at Hill View Park at National Grid Reference 553955 - 371738 in the parish of Hogsthorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/010 The temporary siting of a crane within 9.0 metres of the Board maintained Relief Channel Soak Dyke South culvert to facilitate partnership works to improve bank reliance and security with the Wainfleet Relief Channel at National Grid

Reference 549926 - 359952 in the parish of Wainfleet all Saints.

- LMDB/LDC/2021/011 The increase in flows from a development off Highbridge Road into the Board maintained Westfield Drain at National Grid Reference 536334 - 391450 in the parish of Alvingham.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/012 The construction of a garage and store on the site of demolished outbuildings within 9.0 metres but no closer than 5.0 metres of the Board maintained Town Lane Drain West culvert at Meadow View at National Grid Reference 549140 - 383971 in the parish of Mablethorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/015 The increase in flows from a development at Eastview Caravan Park at two surface water discharge points at National Grid Reference 555298 - 371094 and 555260 - 371001 in the parish of Chapel St Leonards.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/021 The installation of a 11kv underground cable crossing the Board maintained Jockhedge Drain at land off Wainfleet Road at National Grid Reference 549543 - 364235 and the dismantle of an overhead cable over the Board maintained Jockhedge Drain at OS field Nos 4549 and 3042 at land off Wainfleet Road in the parish of Burgh le Marsh.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/025 Construction of a new detached dwelling and boundary fence within 9m of the Board maintained South Somercotes Relief Sewer on Land adjoining The Bungalow at National Grid Reference 541894 - 393735 in the parish of South Somercotes.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/026 The Installation of 40 linear metres of 600mm diameter pipe to connect roadside drain to Board maintained Winthorpe Drain including the construction of two headwalls and the infilling of riparian watercourse to the North and East of the site. Land off Warth Lane, at National Grid Reference 554745 - 363724 in the Parish of Skegness.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/028 Increase in flows from a surface water discharge into the left bank of the Board maintained Harps Drain West Branch number one from a retail development at land off Golf Road at National Grid Reference 549921 - 385362 in the parish of Mablethorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/033 The installation of an access culvert on the Board maintained Town Common Drain, off Skegness Road at National Grid Reference 553542 - 371729 and installation of an outfall into the Town Common Drain from a Hydro Brake Chamber at National Grid Reference.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/034 The installation of an underground gas pipeline (revised HDD route original consented 03/08/2020) under the Board maintained Mablethorpe Lower Cut at National Grid Reference 548245 - 387182 at Land off Mablethorpe Road in the parish of Theddlethorpe.

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19:2 Section 23 Applications

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

- LMDB/LDC/2020/099 The installation of a temporary dam to create a wetland area in a riparian watercourse at OS Field No 5575 land at Anderby Marsh at National Grid reference 555048 - 375835 in the parish of Anderby.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/005 The installation of up to 29 linear metres of culvert in a riparian watercourse to the south of North Road in Trusthorpe to facilitate the construction of a pedestrian path at National Grid Reference 551201 - 383404 in the parish of Mablethorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/013 The installation of a 60 linear metre culvert in a riparian watercourse at Tower Farm, Church Lane at National Grid Reference 531952 - 401064 in the parish of Tetney.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/014 The eradication of 156 linear metres of riparian watercourse between National Grid References 555092 - 371095 and 5550299 - 370967 and the diversion of the riparian watercourse with the installation of a new 100 linear metre culvert between National Grid References 555298 - 3710925 and 555261 - 371003 at Eastview Caravan Park in the parish of Chapel St Leonards.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/016 The installation of a 328 linear metre culvert in a riparian watercourse at Mermaid Caravan Park between National Grid References 549962 - 384185 and 550114 - 383901 in the parish of Mablethorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/017 The installation of a 40 linear metre culvert in a riparian watercourse at OS Field No 9546 land off Saltfleet Road at National Grid Reference 546882 - 390522 in the parish of Theddlethorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/018 The installation of a 254 linear metre culvert in a riparian watercourse at Mermaid Caravan Park between National Grid References 550101 - 384296 and 550248 - 384009 in the parish of Mablethorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/019 The installation of a 320 linear metre culvert in a riparian watercourse at Mermaid Caravan Park between National Grid References 550101 - 384296 and 550248 - 384009 in the parish of Mablethorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/022 The installation of a 19 linear metre culvert in a riparian watercourse at the Farm House, North End Lane at National Grid Reference 542585 - 389992 in the parish of Saltfleetby.
- LMDB/LDC/2021/031 The installation of a 320 linear metre culvert in a riparian watercourse at Mermaid Caravan Park between National Grid

References 550101 - 384296 and 550248 - 384009 in the parish of Mablethorpe.

LMDB/LDC/2021/032 The installation of a 254 linear metre culvert in a riparian watercourse at Mermaid Caravan Park between National Grid References 550047 - 383860 and 550852 - 384009 in the parish of Mablethorpe.

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The Following Section 23 applications had been dealt with on behalf of the Lead Local Flood Authority since the last meeting:

LMDB/LDC/2021/001 The extension of an existing culvert by 19 linear metres in a riparian watercourse at The Paddocks, Station Road at National Grid Reference 529843 - 398634 in the parish of North Thoresby.

LMDB/LDC/2021/023 The extension of 8 linear metres of culvert in a riparian watercourse at 18 Househams Lane at National Grid Reference 5365569 - 384464 in the parish of Legbourne.

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19:3 Planning Applications

Officers had consulted on 77 planning applications since the last meeting, no objections had been made but appropriate comments relating to surface water drainage were provided.

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20. ADA LINCOLNSHIRE BRANCH

The draft minutes from the branch meeting held on the 20th May 2021 had been prepared and would be circulated to members for their information.

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15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr R.H. Needham queried if the Board could hold meetings at the Strubby depot to allow face to face meetings whilst socially distancing. The Chief Executive confirmed that all options would be looked at when arranging meetings and face to face meetings would be arranged when it was safe and Covid-19 restrictions allowed.

CHAIRMAN