

LINDSEY MARSH DRAINAGE BOARD

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Board held via Microsoft Teams and Teleconference on Wednesday, 25th November 2020.

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|----------|---------------------------|---------|----------------|
| * 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)
* 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 D. Edgington and seconded by Cllr W. Parkinson 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 Cllr E. Mossop and seconded by Mr R.H. Needham 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, P.W. Pridgeon and Cllrs D. Andrews and P. Rickett.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr J. Swanson declared an interest in agenda item 26, Delegated Matters - Planning, Byelaws and Supervisory Role.

Cllr E. Mossop declared an interest in agenda item 17:3, Payments over £500 and item 18, Compensation Claims.

Mr R.H. Needham declared an interest in agenda item 18, Compensation Claims.

Cllr D. McNally declared an interest in agenda item 20:15, Possible Environment Agency support and funding through Local Choices.

6. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7. BOARD MINUTES (Pages 1524 to 1541)

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 23rd September 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and the resolutions be adopted by the Board.

8. MATTERS ARISING

None.

9. CONSORTIUM COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Chairman commented that there had been considerable discussion at the meeting to agree the recharge rates which had been recommended at the Consortium Committee

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Consortium Committee meeting held on 19th October 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and adopted by the Board.

10. STAFFING AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTES 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Staffing and Resources Committee meeting held on 30th September 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and the recommendations adopted by the Board.

11. STAFFING AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTES 4TH NOVEMBER 2020

The Chief Executive reported that Doncaster East IDB had voted to make a formal application to join the Water Management Consortium from the 1st April 2020. Officers highlighted that the Consortium recharge splits had been amended following the September Committee meeting and the October Consortium Committee meeting. With effect from 1st April 2021, these would be calculated using an average of the income received from drainage rates, special levies and income from partners in respect of the management of pumping stations, currently LMDB 49.5%, IOANNWLMB 16.5%, TVIDB 22.0% and DEIDB 12.0%.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Staffing and Resources Committee meeting held on 4th November 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and the recommendations adopted by the Board.

12. PLANT AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Plant and Compensation Committee meeting held on 4th November 2020 be confirmed as a correct record and the recommendations adopted by the Board.

Mr D.R. Tagg left the meeting.

13. MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES

The Corporate Services Manager reported that the challenges of remote meetings, and reduced member participation had led Officers to review the number of meetings and alternative methods of keeping members up to date. Officers noted that attendance at meetings generally fell during the June to September period.

The Board was required to hold three meetings a year, it was therefore proposed to reduce the number of Board meetings from five to four and that matters usually taken to Committees be taken to the Board further reducing the number of meetings. Should it be needed an extraordinary meeting would be called. Officers did not intend to remove any decision making from the Board and any matters requiring a decision would be taken to the full meetings. To keep members informed it was proposed to send out three newsletters over the year giving progress updates and Officers offered to hold local events to engage both Members and the public in specific schemes.

Officers proposed that this arrangement be trialed for 2021. Highlighting that a reduction in meetings would increase productivity by reducing the amount of preparation and participation time needed for meetings. The Chief Executive emphasised the value placed on Member's input and local knowledge encouraged them to engage with Officers on proposed schemes and projects.

Members expressed concerns about the changes and potential loss of decision making for the Board but were in favour of their increased communication and participation outside of the formal meetings. Mr J.M. Mowbray commented that the proposed dates in January, March, June and November left a long period from June to November without a meeting. He also highlighted that the June meeting was on one of the Lincolnshire Show dates. Cllr E. Mossop commented that the level of information recorded and produced for meetings was good but took time to prepare and also highlighted that there was a lot of duplication of reports at Committees and Board meetings.

The Corporate Services Manager reported that Mr D.R. Tagg had expressed concern about potentially removing responsibility from the Board but was in favour of dissolving the Committees and bringing those matters to the Board for decision.

The following meeting dates were proposed:

27th January	Board Meeting (standard agenda and Estimates/Rate Setting)
18th February	ADA Lincolnshire Branch meetings
24th March	Board Meeting and Site Visit (single agenda item Compensation and any byelaw/tender resolutions required))
7th/8th April	Floodex UK
14th April	Consortium Committee
20th May	ADA Lincolnshire Branch AGM
23rd June	Board Meeting (standard agenda and approval of Final Accounts)
20th October	Consortium Committee
21st October	ADA Lincolnshire Branch
10th November	ADA Conference
17th November	Board Meeting (standard agenda and Annual General Meeting) and Estimates and 'Virtual Tour' of proposed works for following year

RESOLVED

That the revised meeting schedule be trialed for 2021.

14. HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE

14:1 Coronavirus

The Senior Operations Manager reported that Officers had reviewed and reissued the Covid -19 Risk Assessment to staff.

14:2 Incidents and Accidents

There had been four incidents across the Consortium since the last meeting one of these was in the Lindsey Marsh area.

There had been an overhead powerline strike in the Isle of Axholme area and a full investigation had taken place and appropriate action had been taken including reminding all Direct Labour Organisation staff of the risks of working near or under overhead power lines.

An annual review of the Health and Safety policy was being undertaken.

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15. RISK REGISTER

An update on the current items affecting the Board was presented for Members' information. The key points of note were:

- (a) Health and Safety: The Corporate Services Manager had received three calls from the HSE regarding Covid-19 procedures to ensure the Boards were complying with guidance. Lone working monitoring/procedures were also being reviewed.

- (b) Data Protection Compliance: This was ongoing and required further action to ensure the Board was fully compliant.
- (c) Banking: Access to accounts and re-investment of funds were still to be concluded.

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16. DRAINAGE RATES AND SPECIAL LEVIES

A total of £724,442.74 had been collected in respect of drainage rates and £2,224,72.50 in respect of special levies up to the 31st October 2020 giving a combined collection total of 74.90%.

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17. FINANCE

17:1 Management Accounts for the Period Ending 30th September 2020

The Finance Manager presented the management accounts up to the 30th September 2020. The variance report showed a positive income variance of £1,928,575. However, this was predominantly due to the additional Public Sector Co-operation Agreement income which had been received in advance. By 31st March 2020 the remaining positive variance created by income over expenditure relating to PSCA work would be in the region of £200,000. Recharges for work on schemes and projects over the consortium were £61,400 lower than expected.

The report showed a Maintenance expenditure variance of £166,512.23 less than estimate. Pumping station electricity costs and contractor costs were £19,000 and £46,900, respectively, less than estimated. The Supportive Costs positive variance of £95,442.68, some of this was attributable to lower than estimated salary costs and training expenses which had been delayed by Covid-19.

The overall Income and Expenditure report showed a positive variance of 2,030,984.98. Officers were predicting that at the 31st March there would be a £138,818 surplus which would be added to the Board's reserves giving a 30.94% cash surplus for emergency use.

17:2 Cash Reserves and Investments as at 30th September 2020

The Board had £6,274,105.99 held in five bank accounts and no loans currently outstanding.

17:3 Payments over £500

The Finance Manager presented the attached schedule of payments over £500 totalling £945,807.80 made since the last meeting.

17:4 DRAFT Estimates 2020/21

The Finance Manager presented the DRAFT estimates for 2021/22. At the Staffing and Resources Committee meeting members indicated that a 3.5% increase was too

high therefore options for a 2.75% and 3% rate increase were presented for consideration.

The impact of holding a 2.75% increase for the next five years upon Board Reserves was explained and to add context, it was highlighted that responding to Wainfleet alone had cost the Board approximately £260,000 of unexpected expenditure. To allow a 2.75% increase in 2021/22 the Board would need to consider a 4.5% increase in 2022/23 and 3% the following three years to meet the current predicted costs. 2.75% equated to a rate of 16.11p/£, a total of £992,911 from agricultural rates and special levies of £3,048,863 from East Lindsey District Council and £9,563 from North East Lincolnshire Council.

An increase of 3% in 2021/22 would result in a rate of 16.15p/£, a total of £995,376 from agricultural rates and special levies of £3,056,433 from East Lindsey District Council and £9,677 from North East Lincolnshire Council. Officers predicted a further 3.5% increase would be needed in 2022/23 and 2023/24 followed by 3% for the following two years.

Cllr Mossop stated that at the Committee meeting he and Mr P.W. Pridgeon advocated holding the rate at 2.75% commenting on the effect on incomes over the next 9-10 months as a result of poor crops, the impact on households who may have lost income during the Covid-19 pandemic and the increased pressures on Local Councils. He further stated that an efficiency review, as suggested by the Chief Executive at the Staffing and Resources meeting, should be undertaken to reduce costs as it was not the right message to increase rates at this time.

Cllr T. Howard understood the uncertain times but cautioned against reducing to a point where the Board would not be able to react in an emergency.

Cllr D. Edgington agreed with Cllr Mossop that these were unprecedented times and the whole nation was likely to be impacted financially with jobs lost. The Board should therefore be prudent when setting the rate.

The Chief Executive stated that Consortium working provided the Board with enduring efficiencies but confirmed that officers would be starting an Efficiency review in January 2021 to identify areas where further efficiencies might be achieved. He expected it could take up to two years to see the full benefit of this.

Members expressed understanding that for all rate and levy payers 2021/22 was likely to be financially challenging, however, they also considered that there would be future pressures on finance following Brexit and a 4.5% increase in 2022/23 would be too high.

It was proposed by Cllr E. Mossop and seconded by Cllr D. Edgington that the Board increase the rate by 2.75% in 2021/22.

An amendment was proposed by Mr S.W. Eyre and seconded by Cllr T. Aldridge that the Board increase the rate by 3% for 2021/22.

Following a vote it was agreed that an increase of 3% be included in the estimates to be brought for approval at the January Board Meeting.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the Management Accounts for the period ending 30th September 2020 be approved.
- (b) That the Board's cash balances and borrowings be noted.
- (c) That the attached schedule of payments over £500 be approved.
- (d) That the DRAFT estimates for 2021/22 based on a 3% increase be prepared for final consideration and for approval at the January 2021 Board Meeting.

18. COMPENSATION CLAIMS

A schedule of compensation payments totalling £16,891.97 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 £16,891.97 be approved.

19. OPERATIONS REPORT

19:1 Summer Works Programme

The summer maintenance programme was 99% complete, with some roadside work and outlying watercourses still to be completed. Slips had been identified on Land Dyke West, Saltfleet Relief Sewer, Bull Bank Drain, Railway Drain and Middle Furlong.

19:2 Proposed Winter Works Programmes

The reforming programme for 2020/21 covered 22 watercourses with a combined length of 28,467m at an estimated cost of £661,399. Any remaining watercourses would be moved into the 2021/22 programme which included 19 watercourses with a total length of 21,979m. An environmental consultant was engaged to undertake water vole surveys and provide reports on water vole presence on Crabtree Lane Branch No. 1, Crabtree Lane Branch No. 2, Highgate Connection Drain, Skirbeck Drain Branch No. 2, Skirbeck Drain Branch No. 3, Skirbeck Sewer No. 1, North End Lane Drain and Holme Fen Drain at a cost of £10,520.50 as part of the preparation for winter works to be undertaken.

The Operations team had also compiled a programme of works covering access improvements and tree and bushing on twelve watercourses at an estimated cost of £42,930 to be completed between mid-November 2020 and 15th February 2021.

19:3 Rechargeable Works

Operatives had undertaken 20m of weedcutting at Hogsthorpe and 250m of hedge cutting at Orby.

19:4 Plant and Equipment

(a) Update

Work to address priming issues on the Betsy pump was ongoing and due to be complete by the end of November. Officers were looking at contingency plans in the event that the repair was not successful. The remaining three mobile pumps were all operational.

Options for a suitable heavy-duty slope mower had been investigated and a tender specification prepared. Tenders would be sought and presented to the January Board meeting for consideration.

Since the last meeting Officers had made the following authorised purchases; a compressor, portable welding machine, hydraulic press and portable welding fume extractor.

(b) Purchase of Welfare Cabin

Quotations for the supply of a new welfare cabin, with and without a battery, had been sought. After review Officers recommended that the Board consider models with a battery supplied as this would reduce the reliance on a generator providing lighting and hot water.

Prices ranged from £19,472 to £20,300. Officers recommended that the cheapest quotation which was for an Eco Smart Air 12 welfare cabin which fully met all requirements.

RESOLVED

That the board purchase an Eco Smart Air 12 Welfare Cabin at a cost of £19,472.

(c) Replacement of the Volvo Excavators

Tenders to supply two tracked excavators had been sought and five returns had been received. Warwick Ward Machinery had not included the extendable dipper arm but had submitted a quote for this element shortly after the tender deadline and asked that this be included in the tenders considered. The Senior Operations Manager considered that no competitive advantage had been gained from this as the price was in line with that given by other firms and that it was in the Board's interest to make an exception on this occasion. A full analysis of all tenders had been completed.

Officers recommended the purchase of the Case CX245D 5SR from Warwick Ward Machinery to Replace the Volvo ECR235DL (EF14 PBO). When including the five-year warranty, at a cost of £10,597.95, this was the cheapest option tendered. Having trialled several machines, the operator's preference was the Case. Trade in for the old machine was £47,500 which was the highest offered by any manufacturer.

In response to Cllr McNally, the Operations Manager confirmed the servicing did not include parts and these would, if not covered by warranty, be an additional cost.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the Board purchase the Case CX245D 5SR, with four headstocks, steel wrist ditching bucket, extendable dipper arm, and five-year warranty at a cost of £207,204.
- (b) That the five year servicing contract be taken at a cost of £10,597.95 to be funded from the annual machine running costs.

Officers recommended purchase of the Volvo ECR235EL at a cost of £204,500 plus additional warranty at a cost of £4,500 to Replace of the Volvo EC140DL (EU14 AKJ). This machine included a dozer blade, had excellent ergonomics and the level of service received from Volvo was known to be very good. The operator had also been consulted and indicated this was their preferred option.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the Board purchase the Volvo ECR235EL plus extended warranty at a cost of £209,000.
- (b) That the 7,000 hour servicing be taken at a cost of £13,300 to be funded from the annual machine running costs.

19:5 Rainfall

Rainfall figures and pump run hours were circulated for members information. The rainfall figures were incomplete, readings had been missed due to Covid-19. Members were assured that these figures were for information only and were not used when planning refurbishments or schemes.

Cllr S. Dennis left the meeting.

20. ASSET RENEWAL AND REFURBISHMENT PROJECTS

20:1 Trusthorpe Main Drain Culverting Phase 4 (LM18504)

Inspections and assessments had been completed for Phase Four of Trusthorpe Main Drain Culverting, a length of up to 42 metres was planned to be culverted using twin pipes because of invert/soffit restrictions. This section of the watercourse near Seacroft Holiday Estate had restricted access, a mature tree and overhead power line crossings. The inspection showed that the adjacent A52 embankment was showing signs of distress and potential instability. Officers expected that a gabion basket wall would be required, this was considered the most cost effective and environmentally friendly solution. The budget for the scheme was £67,200 and the additional work involved in preparing for and installing gabion walls was around £100,000. Officers asked that the Board approve £100,000 to be transferred from underspent reforming budgets to fund the additional works. In response to Mr S.W. Eyre the Engineer confirmed that Highways would be approached for contributions.

RESOLVED

That the Board approve transfer of £100,000 from under spent reforming budgets to fund the additional works required on Trusthorpe Main Drain Culverting Phase 4.

20:2 Thorpe Culvert Catchment Investigations and Culvert Inspections (LM20802)

Officers had investigated options for the operation the disused culverts at Thorpe Culvert Pumping Station in a controlled manner. Witham 4th District Internal Drainage Board were agreeable to receiving water in an event provided that:

- (a) They know about and agree the intention.
- (b) Flows were limited to 2 m³/s.

There were three culverts at Thorpe culvert. The penstocks were locked shut and had not been opened since the 1980s. The culvert construction was shallow arch masonry with little vertical clearance to the bed of the River Steeping.

The scope of the work was:

- (a) Update the existing hydraulic model to inform the procedures for operating Thorpe Culvert Pumping Station during flood events (which might include passing up to 2 m³/s through the culverts instead of through the pumps and into the River Steeping).
- (b) Install temporary cofferdams at either end of the culverts and pumping out. Inspection of the culverts and sluices and Installation of dam board grooves and dam boards to the upstream basin that feeds the culverts to facilitate inspection and maintenance.
- (c) Reline/strengthen/fill culverts as appropriate leaving one, or maybe two, culverts in good operational and structural order with new telemetry controlled actuated penstocks upstream and downstream.

The estimated costs were £350,000, of which £170,000 was expected to be through a FDGiA application. Officers recommended that the Board approve the transfer £180,000 from underspends on catchment studies, asset renewals, partnership projects and residual River Steeping balances to fund the work.

In response to Members the Chief Executive noted that the land which could potentially be affected by this work was some of the lowest in the Witham 4th DIDB district.

RESOLVED

That the Board approve transfer of £180,000 from underspends on catchment studies, asset renewals, partnership projects and residual River Steeping balances to the Culvert Project.

20:3 Wyche Pumping Station Refurbishment (LM20304)

Two quotes had been received for refurbishment of both submersible vertical spindle mixed flow pumps, a third quote was awaited. The station needed to be dammed off for pump removal and reinstallation. To support this and any future requirements where the station would need to be dammed off, quotes were being sought for new stop logs and frames.

The budget for the scheme was £29,600. Officers requested approval to transfer £10,000 from the Pumping Station Resilience budget (LM20301) to cover the additional work.

RESOLVED

That the Board approve transfer of £10,000 from the Pumping Stations Resilience Budget to fund the installation of stop logs and frames.

20:4 Emergency Pump Repairs (LM19302)

(a) Gibraltar Point Pumping Station

Pump One was being refurbished and work was due to be complete by the 20th November 2020. Damming would be required to reinstall Pump One and for removal of Pump Two, the timing of this would be weather dependent.

(b) Wainfleet Sea Lane Pumping Station

Pump One had seized and an electrical check of the pump had been completed. No faults were found therefore quotes were being sought for removal and inspection of the pump. The pump was previously refurbished in December 2015 and had run 2,853 hours since refurbishment. The next planned refurbishment of the pump was not until 2026 with a major refurbishment/replacement scheme planned for 2036.

Once quotes were received, Officers would evaluate if it was more economical to repair or replace the pump and a report would be made to the Board.

(c) Emergency Pump Costs to date (2020/21)

Costs to date were £28,622 against the approved budget of £60,000.

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20:5 Pumping Station Resilience

(a) Thorpe Culvert Pumping Station

Works to install resilience measures were on track to be completed by the end of November 2020.

(b) Ingoldmells Pumping Station

Vibration monitoring equipment had been installed on Pump Two and would be incorporated into the new telemetry system.

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20:6 Theddlethorpe Pumping Station Replacement (LM18306)

The top bearing on Pump Two had been replaced and a ground stabilisation specialist company had been employed to foam grout the piles to stop the flow of water from the river back to the sump. This work was complete and would be monitored over the next few months.

Installation and commissioning of the automatic weedscreen grabs at both sumps had been completed. Outstanding works and costs to completion were as follows;

Pumping Station Works	
Pile Painting	£10,000.00
Safety, cosmetic and facilities improvements	£34,000.00
CCTV and telemetry	£15,000.00
Access bridge/ culvert	£33,000.00
Security/fencing	£20,000.00
Works to syphon breaker, gauge boards	£4,000.00
Refurbishment of Bleak House Door structure and installation of new automatic level control mechanism	£100,000.00
Eel ladder	£10,000.00
Engineering services	£25,000.00
Contingency	£20,000.00
	£271,000.00

Costs to date were £387,482 and the predicted out-turn cost was approximately £659,000 against the overall approved budget of £676,400. Works were due to be completed by the end of March 2021 and the refurbishment of Bleak House Doors and the installation of a new automatic level control mechanism would be undertaken during summer 2021.

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20:7 Boygriff Pumping Station Refurbishment (LM17352)

The electrical works associated with moving the syphon valves was complete with the new transformer installed at the station during October 2020. The Board's Direct

Labour Organisation would be concreting the access/compound area. Outstanding snags / works at the station were as follows;

- (a) Steel flooring - Due for installation week commencing 16th November 2020.
- (b) Pipework paint touch up - To be carried out week commencing 16th November 2020.
- (c) One valve actuator to be repaired (under warranty) - Estimated completion week commencing 30th November 2020.
- (d) Variable speed drives interfering with level sensors - This was an intermittent fault and further investigations were required when two pumps were running for a long period of time.
- (e) Pile painting - Shotblasting and painting would be undertaken during spring 2021.

Costs to date were £671,606 against the approved budget of £803,000.

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20:8 Gotts Pumping Station - Refurbishment of Archimedean screw pumps (LM18300)

Warranty work to repair an oil leak on the gearbox of Pump Two was due to commence 9th November 2020.

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20:9 Saltfleet Haven Outfall Consolidation Project (including Saltfleet Pumping Station Refurbishment) (LM19351)

The Outline Business Case (OBC) had been completed and submitted to the Environment Agency for approval. The initial response sought clarification on a number of matters. The viability of the proposed strategic approach was not queried, but sought data relating to the second phase of the work which was not available until after phase one was operational. The second phase of the project was therefore removed from the OBC to simplify the funding application. A further response from the Review Panel was awaited.

Officers expected that orders for the new pumping plant would be placed by the end of the current financial year. Construction works and plant installations were due to commence during the period April 2022 and end of September 2022.

20:10 Trusthorpe Pumping Station Refurbishment

It was expected that Trusthorpe, Ingoldmells and Anderby Pumping Stations would all require similar pumping capacity, therefore a contract was being prepared based on phased manufacture and delivery of identical pumps for each of the sites. A similar approach would be adopted for electrical control panel replacement at the stations.

20:11 Anderby Pumping Station Study (LM20306) and Ingoldmells Pumping Station Study (LM20305)

A full catchment study and model of both Anderby and Ingoldmells catchments was required. The survey work in both catchments would be procured externally with model build and assessment being undertaken in-house by the Board's modelling team.

20:12 Covenham Pumping Station Refurbishment

Three quotes for the replacement of the electrical control panel at the station were received as follows;

Quote 1	Quote 2	Quote 3
£18,678.41	£12,850.00	£15,912.56

Following review of the quotes Officers recommended that a contract be awarded to Inter-Lec Limited for the amount of £12,850.00.

The pumps had been inspected and the following matters were identified;

- (a) Hiab required to lift the pumps out as there was no snatch link on the chains.
- (b) Guide rails were in good condition.
- (c) Chamber required jet washing to clear leaf debris.

Both pumps were running but would require some intervention in the future. The existing pumps had a combined capacity of 76 litres per second and were undersized. An assessment of the catchment indicates a total pump capacity of 110 litres per second would be more than adequate for the 1 in 10 year event. The cost of refurbishment was disproportionate to the cost of new pumps so Officers recommended that, subject to validation of sump size, capacity, power supply and discharge consent, two new pumps at 55 litres per second each be installed. The approved budget for the scheme was £50,000.00.

RESOLVED

That the contract for replacement of the electrical control panel be awarded to Inter-lec for £12,850.

20:13 Telemetry System Replacement (LM20303)

The telemetry provider was developing the functional design specification based on IDB requirements. The aim was to ensure that shortfalls in the current system were not perpetuated but current functionality and operability that was considered to be good was not lost; desirable functionality would also be considered.

The system design would be finalised and agreed by Christmas 2020 with installation of telemetry units at the trial sites commencing on the 18th January 2021. The units were planned to be fully tested, commissioned and operational by the end of February 2021, with the roll out to operational sites commencing early in March 2021.

20:14 Keddington Lock (LM19032)

It was now planned undertake the work in February 2021. Minor changes to the method of working and weir construction were under consideration which required a further Environment Agency consent. A full update would be presented to the January Board meeting.

20:15 Possible Environment Agency (EA) support funding through Local Choices

The EA had funding available through Local Choices which was designed to support projects that have flood relief benefit but would not be eligible for support through Grant in Aid. Two projects were submitted for partial support. They were improvements to the eastern drainage route at Willoughby, in advance of adoption by the Board and financial support for the ongoing telemetry project. Both projects would be evaluated at the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee meeting to be held on 1st December 2020.

21. SCHEDULE OF TRANSFER OF BUDGETS

Members were asked to review and approve the attached of budget transfers. There was no increase in cost for the Board, however, funds had been reallocated to cover overspends in some schemes and to release underspends back to reserves from the remainder.

RESOLVED

That the attached Board approve the schedule of Budget Transfers.

22. BYELAW APPLICATIONS

22:1 Blue Dolphin Caravan Park, Mablethorpe - Aqua Drive Drain

An application to install two caravan bases within nine metres but no closer than six metres and the construction of a turning point within nine metres but no closer than 2.5 metres from the bank top of the Board maintained Aqua Drive Drain was presented for consideration. Works had commenced but were not complete. The applicant had also applied for the erection of a 0.9 m high fence within one metre from the bank top of the watercourse. No vehicles would be permitted to park on the turning point, and the finished tarmac area would be level with the surrounding land with no raised kerbs and there would be no verandas to the rear of the caravans to cause obstructions.

The applicant would be required to enter into a legal agreement to indemnify the Board against any damage caused by the Board's plant in carrying out its statutory duties to maintain the watercourse with all legal costs to be paid by the applicant.

Cllr T. Aldridge asked that Officers ensure this was included in the deeds to protect the Board in the future.

RESOLVED

That the Board approve the relaxation of the Byelaws for works within nine metres of the Board maintained Aqua Drive Drain once officers had confirmed the required legal agreement specified had been entered into and all legal costs had been paid by the applicant.

22:2 Hill View Park, Hogsthorpe - Town Common Drain

An application had been received to install a 97 metre culvert into the Board maintained Town Common Drain between National Grid References 553918 - 371751 and 554000 - 371703 at Hill View Park, in the parish of Hogsthorpe. Planning had been granted for a caravan site extension which meant that caravans would be situated on both sides of the watercourse.

The culverting, if approved, would be undertaken over a 2-year phased period as only 50 metres of water vole displacement could be carried out every 12 months. The applicant/agent had made considerable effort to design a site with suitable replacement habitat for water voles with the creation of three ponds. The applicant proposed to connect the Board maintained watercourse to the ponds to mitigate against the loss of storage capacity within the channel.

Officers suggested the following conditions:

- (a) The engineering team agree manhole locations with the minimum opening at 600mm by 600mm and the manhole rings to be the correct size as per the Board's standard drawings.
- (b) the recommendations in CGC Ecology Water Vole Survey must be complied with.
- (c) hydraulic connectivity between the storage ponds and Town Common Drain to be no less than 450mm diameter and to be subject to a 10 yearly desilting maintenance cycle by the applicant, to be added as a covenant to the property deeds.
- (d) Any weirs to be included within ponds upstream of the outlets to be agreed by the Board's representative.
- (e) Clear storage of 500m³ to be available above normal water level or weir level in the ponds, whichever is higher.

Cllr T. Aldridge expressed concern about the responsibility for developments which included attenuation ponds and drainage systems and ensuring the future maintenance of the structures/systems.

Following considerable discussions in which members expressed concerns about the frequency of inspections and maintenance of the connection to the Board's system it was considered whether maintenance could be reduced to every five years with an annual inspection. It was further questioned if the watercourse upstream of the culvert could be reformed to provide additional capacity rather than connecting the ponds to the Board's system. Members agreed, in principle, with the proposal however it was agreed that Officers ask for a more developed proposal to be brought to the January meeting for consideration and approval.

RESOLVED

That the Board agree in principle to the application, with a detailed proposal to be brought to the January 2021 Board meeting for further consideration.

23. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY AND PARTNERSHIP MATTERS

23:1 River Steeping Catchment - Dredging Project

Dredging had been completed on 3.25 km of the scheduled 5.75 km. Dredging for this first phase was due to be completed in the run up to Christmas 2020. Phase 2, dredging of the centre section of the Wainfleet Relief Channel would be carried out during September / October 2021. Lagoon B was constructed by the Board's DLO near Thorpe Culvert in September and Lagoon A at Riverside Farm in Wainfleet All Saints was constructed and made ready for the second section of dredging work during October/ November. Dredging work started on the 26th September. This work included the Section of River Steeping from Vicarage Lane (Near Batemans Brewery) up to Thorpe Culvert Pumping Station and the upper end of the Wainfleet Relief Channel down as far as the western railway culvert crossing.

Silt volumes had, in general, been higher than estimated from the surveys carried out in summer 2019 but the design profile required to ensure that 1.5m of water all year round had been achieved.

The estimated costs of the two-phase project was £1,000,000 funded from contributions of £550,000 from the EA, £250,000 from the Board, £150,000 from Lincolnshire County Council and £50,000 from East Lindsey District Council.

Public interest in the project was high and the Board had commissioned aerial photograph and video footage of the operations and were submitting an article to the ADA Gazette.

23:2 PSCA EA/LMDB Recovery Works - Embankment Repairs on the Great Eau, Long Eau, Greyfleet Drain and River Steeping

Works were progressing well and were on schedule to be completed by the 31st March 2021. All artificial setts were in place with gating of badger entrances for exclusion underway.

Following vegetation clearance, additional works had been identified. The differences generally related to the location and extent of badger penetration exposed during vegetation clearance works in particular at sites on the Great Eau, Long Eau and Greyfleet Drain. A further bill of quantities was prepared, and a price sought from the contractor.

The Environment Agency instructed that 940 metres of permanent meshing be installed to a further section of the embankment along the River Steeping together with reprofiling of the bank. Reprofiling this additional section will enable the Environment Agency to better maintain the asset in the future.

The total amount of additional works at all sites was £320,787.25 which had been actioned by a compensation event under the contract. The Board would receive a further £48,118.09 for management and administration of the project.

Mr R. Crust commented that some of the badgers were not using the new sets and asked that Officers review follow up on the report that the displaced badgers were setting up new sites on the Great Eau. Officers undertook to look into this.

23:3 PSCA Maintenance Work

The Board's Operations team had undertaken main river maintenance on the Woldgrift Drain, Wold Drain, Willoughby High Drain, Cow Croft Drain, River Steeping and Wainfleet Relief channel on behalf of the EA. This would be recharged under the PSCA.

RECEIVED

24. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

The trials of the Venturi Pump at Anderby as part of the REDEEM Project were progressing well. To date all the eels that had passed through the pump were undamaged. To be effective, eels must readily enter the pump approach area for passage through the pump, if they take avoiding action and return upstream they were likely to be lost to the breeding population. This aspect of eel behaviour was being examined using a sonar camera; analysing this footage would take a considerable amount of time.

25. QUERIES AND COMPLAINTS

Officers reported that the Board had received fifty general queries since the last meeting but no formal complaints. The majority of the queries were in relation to maintenance, byelaw/consenting work, reports of blockages/slips and fly-tipping.

RECEIVED

26. DELEGATED MATTERS - PLANNING, BYELAWS AND SUPERVISORY ROLE

26:1 Byelaw Applications

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

LMDB/LDC/2018/134 A 18 linear metre extension to the existing Board maintained Catchwater Drain culvert, replacement platform and weedgrid at Springfield off Bishop Tozer Close at National Grid Reference 550337 - 365251 the parish of Burgh Le Marsh.

LMDB/LDC/2018/135 To increase the flow of discharge from a development with five outfalls from package treatment plants and surface water discharge into the Board maintained Catchwater Drain at Springfield, off Bishop Tozer Close at National Grid References, 550308 - 365340, 550346 - 365227, 550338 - 365244, 550339 - 365246 and 550349 - 365320 in the parish of Burgh Le Marsh.

LMDB/LDC/2018/136 The construction of a road within nine metres from the Board maintained Catchwater Drain with the road edge being no closer than six metres from the brink of the watercourse at Springfield, off Bishop Tozer Close between National Grid Reference 550337 - 365251.

- LMDB/LDC/2020/054 The installation of a 12 linear metre pipe to reinforce an existing brick arch bridge at Mill Hill Bridge off B1195 at National Grid Reference 547581 - 361903 in the parish of Thorpe St Peter.
- LMDB/LDC/2020/055 The increase in flows to the Board maintained Mardyke Drain culvert from the connection from a highway gully at land off B1200 Main Road at National Grid Reference 542360 - 388835 in the parish of Saltfleetby.
- LMDB/LDC/2020/059 Construction of a replacement 8 linear metre culvert with 0.9 metre high entrance screen brickwork in the Board maintained Catchwater Drain, at Springfileld off Bishop Tozer Close at National Grid Reference 550346 - 365285 in the parish of Burgh Le Marsh.
- LMDB/LDC/2020/060 Construction of a dwelling within nine metres but no closer than five metres of the Board maintained Catchwater Drain culvert at Springfileld off Bishop Tozer Close at National Grid Reference 550325 - 365229 in the parish of Burgh Le Marsh.
- LMDB/LDC/2020/062 The construction of a decked area to the rear of Sandown; the provision of an outfall for the surface water run-off from the roof and the construction of a terraced wall to prevent within nine metres of the Board maintained Mablethorpe Urban Cut in the parish of Mablethorpe.
- LMDB/LDC/2020/063 The installation of a 12 linear metre culvert into the Board maintained Bank Sewer at Manbydene, Jubilee Road at National Grid Reference 541686 - 396867 in the parish of South Somercotes.
- LMDB/LDC/2020/065 The erection of a stable block discharge within nine metres but no closer than 7.2 metres for the bank top of the Board maintained Lowgate Sewer at OS Field No 1542 at land off Lowgate at National Grid Reference 536169 - 398342 in the parish of Marshchapel.
- LMDB/LDC/2020/066 The increase in flows from an outfall from a sewage treatment plant and rainwater harvester into the Board maintained Wyche Drain from Habertoft Farm at National Grid Reference 550174 - 369226 in the parish of Willoughby with Sloothby.
- LMDB/LDC/2020/067 The extension and alterations to an existing dwelling within nine metres but no closer than 4.1 metres from the Board maintained Land Dyke East culvert at West End Farm at National Grid Reference 535625 - 398326 in the parish of Marshchapel.
- LMDB/LDC/2020/068 The increase in flows to the Board maintained Chapel Drain from an overflow from an attenuation system at a solar farm development at land at Manor Farm, Wainfleet Road at

National Grid Reference 546700 - 363398 in the parish of Irby in the Marsh.

LMDB/LDC/2020/069 To increase the flow of surface water to the Board maintained Seacroft Railway Drain from the Skegness Business Park, off Waintleet Road at National Grid Reference 555343 - 362503 in the parish of Skegness.

RECEIVED

26:2 Section 23 Applications

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

LMDB/LDC/2020/056 The installation of two 32 linear metre culverts in a riparian watercourse to create 2no. Passing places at land off Asserby Road at National Grid Reference 548017 - 377454 and 548085 -377474 in the parish of Bilsby.

LMDB/LDC/2020/061 The eradication of approximately 90 metres of a riparian watercourse at Springfield off Bishop Tozer Close between National Grid Reference 550266 - 365258 and 550307 - 365332 in the parish of Burgh Le Marsh.

LMDB/LDC/2020/070 The installation of a 17.18 linear metre culvert in a riparian watercourse at the Skegness Business Park, off Waintleet Road at National Grid Reference 555289 - 362734 in the parish of Skegness.

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

RECEIVED

26:3 Planning Applications

Officers had consulted on 36 planning applications since the last meeting, no objections had been made but appropriate comments relating to surface water drainage were provided.

RECEIVED

27. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

CHAIRMAN