

LINDSEY MARSH DRAINAGE BOARD

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Wellington House, Manby, on Wednesday, 29th November 2017.

* Messrs	P.W. Pridgeon (Chairman)	Cllrs	T. Aldridge
*	G. Crust (Vice-Chairman)	*	D. Andrews
*	W. Cooper	*	S. Dennis
*	S. Eyre	*	A.J. Howard
*	T.H. Heys	*	T.J. Knowles
*	J.M. Mowbray		D. McNally
*	R.H. Needham	*	R.J. Palmer
*	D.R. Tagg	*	W. Parkinson
*	R.A.D. Unsworth	*	J. Swanson
	O. Shooter	*	Mrs P.F. Watson
			Mrs W. Bowkett

* *Present*

* Messrs	A. McGill (Chief Executive)
*	D.J. Sisson (Engineer)
*	A. Dale (Operations Manager)
* Mrs	J.D. Watson (Operations Director)
* Ms	D. Proctor (Finance Officer)

* *In attendance*

Mr P.W. Pridgeon announced that he would not be standing for Chairman as he had only agreed to hold the appointment in 2015 for an interim period. Mr P. W. Pridgeon reflected on some of the key aspects and challenges over his time as Chairman such as the refurbishment of Wellington House, tours of inspection, the more recent manpower challenges and the introduction of Doncaster East I.D.B. into the group of Boards managed by LMDB before offering guidance and points for the new Chairman to reflect upon during his term of office. He thanked the Board for its support over the last two years.

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN PRO TEM

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

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Mr P.W. Pridgeon proposed that Mr G. Crust be appointed Chairman for the ensuing year, he felt that Mr G. Crust's knowledge would make him a good chairman for the Board. This was seconded by Mr D.R. Tagg who stated that Mr G. Crust's enthusiasm would make him an excellent chairman. Following a vote it was agreed that Mr G. Crust be appointed as Chairman for the ensuing year (13 in favour 3 abstentions). No further nominations were made.

RESOLVED

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

Mr G. Crust thanked Mr P.W. Pridgeon for his time as Chairman and stated his aim for the following year would be to increase the profile of the Board.

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Mr R.H. Needham expressed his thanks to Mr P.W. Pridgeon and proposed that Mr S. Eyre be elected Vice-Chairman of the Board for the ensuing year. This was seconded by Mr R.A.D. Unsworth. There were no further nominations.

RESOLVED (unanimously)

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

Mr S. Eyre expressed his thanks for his appointment as Vice-Chairman.

4. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mr O. Shooter, Cllrs T. Aldridge, D. McNally and Mrs W. Bowkett.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr J.M. Mowbray - agenda item 16.
Cllr J. Swanson - agenda item 22.

6. NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chief Executive raised the provision of services to Doncaster East IDB.

7. BOARD MINUTES (Pages 1306 to 1318)

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 27th September 2017 be confirmed as a correct record.

8. MATTERS ARISING

8:1 Minute 9, Page 1309 - Finance

Mr R.A.D. Unsworth queried the progress of discussions with the financial brokers St James Place and Forrester Boyd. The Chief Executive confirmed that there has been no progress yet but Officers would be looking into this matter.

RECEIVED

8:2 Minute 15, Page 1314 - Environmental Report

Mr G. Crust asked for an update on Glyphosate, the Engineer confirmed that an update would be presented under item 21.

RECEIVED

9. PLANT AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 8th November 2017 were not available for distribution. These would be circulated to members and brought to the next Board meeting

for approval. The Operations Director presented details of the recommendations made by the Committee showing a net spend on plant for 2017/18 of £273,149 as detailed below.

Purchase		Dispose	
Tractor and Front Loader	£77,691	New Holland 6070 Tractor and Loader (FX08 NKS)	-£20,000
4x4 Pick-up Truck	£17,038	Ford Ranger Pick-up Truck (FY07 WRK)	-£4,000
4x4 Pick-up Truck	£17,500	Ford Ranger Pick-up Truck (FY57 YJB)	-£2,530
24T Tracked Excavator and steel wrist	£165,950	Liebherr R906C Excavator (FX10 JVK)	-£24,000
Planning Officer Vehicle	£7,500	Ford Fiesta Van (FY07 TNO)	-£2,000
Welfare Cabin (to replace hired cabin)	£20,000		
Weedbasket	£10,000		
Betsy Pump Piping (12" and 6")	£10,000		
	Sub Totals		-£52,530
	Net Spend		

She reported that one 4x4 pick-up, welfare cabin, weedbasket and the pipes for the Betsy pumps were still to be purchased and that one Ford Ranger pick-up and the Ford Fiesta Van were still to be sold. Mr P.W. Pridgeon queried the budgeted cost of the welfare cabin and stated that they are available for around £10,000 and asked what was included. The Operations Director stated the cabin being looked at would provide all that the staff needed inside and also allow storage of small tools. She further stated that the Board currently rent a welfare cabin for around £8,000 per year. The Chief Executive stated that purchase and refurbishment of a second hand cabin would cost in the region of £15,000.

Cllr Mrs P.F. Watson queried the estimated £4,000 sale value of the Ford Ranger pick-up as only £2,530 had been received for the other similar vehicle. The Operations Director confirmed that this machine was in better condition and she expected a higher price for this vehicle.

RESOLVED

That the above plant purchases for 2017/18 be approved.

She asked that the Board approve the following proposed plant purchases for 2018/19:

Purchase		Dispose	
Tractor and Flail	£190,000	John Deere 6930 tractor (FX10GGE)	-£25,000
4x4 Pick-up	£20,000	Ford ranger Pick-up (FR12 UUG)	-£4,000
Tracked Mid-reach Excavator (with steel wrist)	£185,000	JCB JS220 (YN12 HCE)	-£20,000
Two Car Trailers (for transporting signs and small tools)	£4,000	Blue line trailer (1995)	-£100
Weedbaskets	£10,000		
Small Tools Replacement	£4,000		
	Sub Totals		-£49,100
	Net Spend		

She reported that the replacement budget for 2018/19 originally included an additional 4x4, however, due to the large budget needed for replacement of other items of plant this item had been delayed until 2019/20; Mr T.H. Heys supported this decision. Mr W. Cooper queried why a flail had not been included as a part exchange, the Operations Director confirmed that the Board would be looking to sell the flail but have no price at the moment so this has not been included.

RESOLVED

That the above plant purchases for 2018/19 be approved.

10. STAFFING AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MINUTES

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 8th November 2017 were not available for distribution and would be presented to the Board for approval at a later date. The Chief Executive explained that draft estimates had been prepared and presented to the Committee. The committee had considered that a 1-2% increase in rates would be required for 2018/19 but stated a full set of estimates would be presented to the January Board meeting.

11. MEETING DATES 2018

The Chief Executive proposed Board and Committee meeting dates for 2018 as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Meeting</i>
24th January 2018	9.00 a.m.	Board (approval of estimates and rate setting)
28th March 2018	9.00 a.m.	Board
2nd May 2018	2.00 p.m.	Consortium Committee
30th May 2018	9.00 a.m.	Board (approval of final accounts)
30th May 2018	12 noon	Standards Committee
25th July 2018	9.00 a.m.	Board
26th September 2018	9.00 a.m.	Board
3rd October 2018	2.00 p.m.	Consortium Committee
7th November 2018	9.30 a.m.	Plant and Compensation Committee
7th November 2018	11.00 a.m.	Staffing and Resources Committee
28th November 2018	9.00 a.m.	Board (Annual General Meeting)

The following additional dates were noted:

ADA Lincolnshire Branch - 20th February 2018
EA Flood and Coast Conference - 20th to 22nd March 2018
ADA Lincolnshire Branch - 26th April 2018
Lincolnshire Show - 20th and 21st June 2018
ADA Annual Conference - mid November 2018

There followed a discussion regarding the most appropriate day of the week on which to hold the Board meetings. Mr R.A.D. Unsworth felt that holding meetings on a Wednesday could be an issue to Board when recruiting members as it clashes with Newark Livestock Market. Cllr Mrs P.F. Watson stated that days on which local livestock markets were held should be avoided, Cllr R.J. Palmer agreed.

Mr T. H. Heys stated that previously two meetings of the Plant and Compensation Committee had been held each year. The Chief Executive said that one meeting had been set to approve plant purchases and a tour would be arranged for members prior to the weedcutting

season and that the Staffing and Resources Committee meetings had been reduced as much of what it covered was also taken to Board meetings. He further stated that ad hoc Committee meetings would be called if needed. The Chief Executive stated that across the Consortium there will be 30 formal meetings held each year plus tours. Mr G. Crust requested that Officers look at alternative meeting dates for 2019 and report back to the Board with the best options being a Monday or Friday. Mr S. Eyre stated that the tours provided a useful link between the Board and the DLO and to show them that Members have an interest in the work they are completing. Mr D.R. Tagg felt that the tour which was held for Plant and Compensation committee should be open to all members.

RESOLVED

That meeting dates for 2018 be set as detailed above.

12. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES

Following considerable discussions it was agreed that the following appointments to committees be made:

12:1 Standards Committee

RESOLVED

That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board, Messrs R.H. Needham, P.W. Pridgeon, Cllrs D. Andrews, R.J. Palmer and Mrs P.F. Watson be appointed to the Standards Committee (the Chairman would not attend hearings to enable him to hear an appeal if necessary).

12:2 Plant and Compensation Committee

RESOLVED

That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Messrs T.H. Heys, J.M. Mowbray, R.H. Needham, P.W. Pridgeon, Cllrs D. Andrews, S. Dennis, R.J. Palmer and J. Swanson be appointed to the Plant and Compensation Committee.

12:3 Staffing and Resources Committee

RESOLVED

That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Messrs P.W. Pridgeon, D.R. Tagg, O. Shooter, Cllrs T.J. Knowles, R.J. Palmer and Mrs P.F. Watson be appointed to the Staffing and Resources Committee.

12:4 Consortium Committee

RESOLVED

That the Chairman and Vice-Chairman represent the Board on the Consortium Committee with Mr P.W. Pridgeon as alternate.

13. DRAINAGE RATES AND SPECIAL LEVIES

A total of £857,820.32 remained outstanding in respect of drainage rates and special levies at 15th November 2017. The collection rate for the year to date was 76.50% which was slightly ahead of last year.

Reminders for second instalment payments were posted on the 16th October 2017

RECEIVED

14. FINANCE

The Chief Executive introduced the Finance Officer to members, who presented the attached report for consideration. It showed a net surplus for the first seven months of the year but indicated that this might change when the forecast for the full year was produced; Officers were aiming to bring expenditure for the year within budget. She was looking at different methods of reporting to the Board which would allow members a greater understanding of any variances which might occur during the year.

The Chief Executive stated that the drain maintenance budget covered the work completed under the Summer maintenance programme, including staff time, materials and equipment. The asset renewals schemes covered work completed outside of the summer maintenance period. The Finance Officer stated that costs would be monitored monthly to ensure expenditure remained within budget.

Mr R.H. Needham enquired if there were any financial repercussions from the previous Director of Finance leaving. The Chief Executive stated that the Board had incurred expenses from using temporary staff to cover. Mr W. Cooper welcomed the thoroughness of the accounting and didn't want the Board to limit the work due to the budget.

RESOLVED

- (a) That the Board's financial position be noted.
- (b) That the attached schedule of payments over £500 be approved.

Cllr S. Dennis left the meeting

15. OPERATIONS REPORT

The Operations Director presented details of the Board's asset status which showed a breakdown on the weedscreen cleaner at Boygriff Pumping Station. The control cabinet for pump one at Burgh Sluice Pumping Station had been damaged due to a sump level monitor fault, but a solution was implemented and replacement panel ordered. The other two pumps were in working order. One of the six inch Betsy pumps had experienced a breakdown following its service in November and the cause was being investigated.

15:1 Winter Maintenance Works

The Operations Director reported that planned winter maintenance work was due to commence on Cowbank Drain, Orby South Drain, Little Lane Drain and Marsh Drain at the start of December.

15:2 Summer Maintenance Work

The Summer maintenance programme was largely complete.

15:3 Construction Works

Work had commenced to replace a culvert, fill in the void within the sump on the gravity outfall and repair bank slips at Porters Sluice Pumping Station. The Operations Director further reported that a bank slip had been repaired on the Mardyke as the road was at risk of slipping. The Engineer stated that there were two other areas along the Mardyke which were being monitored and were believed to be caused by leaks in the water main. Mr W. Cooper queried if the Board worked with Lincolnshire County Council to have the roads repaired, Officers confirmed issues were reported.

15:4 Environment Agency Works

The Operations Director reported that work had been undertaken on the River Steeping, Louth Canal, Woldgriff Drain, Willoughby High Drain and Orby Drain on behalf of the Environment Agency.

The Engineer presented an update on works undertaken on the Steeping River.

15:5 Private Works

No private works had been undertaken since the last meeting.

15:6 Plant and Equipment

The Operations Director reported that the new Volvo excavator had been delivered.

15:7 Strubby Depot Refurbishment

A repair to a roof leak on the main building at Strubby had been completed by contractors and the replacement doors had been ordered. Work would commence in January 2018. The Board's Officers were liaising with the contractor to determine the duration of the works and any temporary security measures that may need implementing.

15:8 Rainfall

The Operations Director presented the attached rainfall figures and pump run hours for members information.

RECEIVED

16. COMPENSATION CLAIMS

Officers reported on 21 compensation claims totalling £12,172.53, which had been paid in accordance with the Board's approved rates since the last meeting.

RESOLVED

That the attached schedule be approved.

17. ASSET RENEWAL AND REFURBISHMENT PROJECTS

The Engineer gave the following update on projects:

17:1 Howdales Pumping Station Refurbishment (C16351)

Works completed to date included the installation of the new control panel, installation of new doors and roof on the control building and ducting work in preparation for installation of the new weedscreen cleaner. The pumps were due for delivery in December 2017 but would not be installed until early Spring. Expenditure to date was £124,907.71 against the approved budget for 2017/2018 of £205,521.00.

In response to Cllr Mrs P.F. Watson the Engineer confirmed he expected the scheme would remain within budget.

RECEIVED

17:2 Ludney Pumping Station - Automatic Weedscreen Cleaner (C17304)

The new automatic weedscreen cleaner was due to be installed early in 2018. The Direct Labour Organisation would be undertaking ducting work in preparation for the installation during November and December.

RESOLVED

17:3 Strategy 2025 Pumping Station Refurbishments (C16300)

New control panels and kiosks at Boothby and Nursery Pumping Stations had been installed. There was still some minor work to be undertaken by the Direct Labour Organisation to refurbish the compound areas. This work would be carried out in the next few months.

Replacement of the security fencing at Wainfleet Sea Lane Pumping Station was complete. The replacement doors for the control building were still to be installed.

RECEIVED

17:4 Boygriff Pumping Station Refurbishment (C17352)

Refurbishment works on all three pumps, motors and greasers had been completed. Security fencing has been installed, building works and roof repairs were underway and would be completed by the end of November. Cleaning and re-painting works to the piles around the intake together with the replacement of the existing power transformer would take place in early spring 2018. Discussions continued with Environment Agency officers regarding Eel Regulation Compliance measures and the issuing of a long term exemption.

RECEIVED

17:5 Ingoldmells Pumping Station - Building Repairs 2017 (C15306)

Works to repair the roof was complete with other remedial building work due to be completed by the end of November.

RECEIVED

17:6 Burgh Sluice Pumping Station - Emergency Repairs

Section 1 of the pump control panel had recently suffered a major breakdown and damage. The fault was identified as overloading of the automatic starter transformer which became very hot and a small fire ensued causing significant damage to the

whole starter section. An order had been placed under emergency procedures to rebuild and recommission the starter section. At present, the station was operating on two of the three pumps.

RECEIVED

17:7 Maltby Le Marsh Village Improvement Scheme (C15535)

The second phase of this partnership scheme involving the Board, East Lindsey District Council and Lincolnshire County Council to improve drainage and flood protection to properties in the southern part of the village of Maltby Le Marsh had commenced on the 6th November 2017.

The works involved removal of the existing old piped systems and replacing with larger diameter UPVC twin wall pipes together with reforming a 120 metre section of watercourse. A small section of the open watercourse would be culverted, headwalls and manholes would also be constructed.

Once completed the whole system which drains to the Board's culverted Causeway Bank Drain would be adopted by the Board.

The approved budget for the scheme was £110,000. A contribution of £15,000 had been received from East Lindsey District Council with a similar amount committed by Lincolnshire County Council. Expenditure to date was £26,435 and the phase 2 contract value was £55,760. Works were expected to be comfortably within budget.

RECEIVED

17:8 Porters Sluice Pumping Station – Repairs to deck slab and wing wall (C16304)

The concrete and steel refurbishment works were complete. The Board's Direct Labour Organisation were due to install the new weedscreen and replace rotted side culverts along with placing a lean concrete fill in the gravity tunnel that would otherwise fill with silt.

In response to Mr D.R. Tagg the Engineer confirmed officers were happy with work on site.

The Chief Executive stated that the Environment Agency were looking at lowering the outer sea bank (Porters Sluice) which may have an impact in the future. Cllr R.J. Palmer stated that discussions were also being held with the local community in regard to this matter.

RECEIVED

17:9 Replacement Bridge Structure on Anderby Main Drain (C17008)

Close liaison had been carried out with the landowner to ensure the project would not have a detrimental effect to their business operations.

Three options to repair the bridge had been explored and costed at feasibility stage. Following desk top studies, a condition survey would be undertaken including accessing the underside of the bridge to establish the extent of the defects present. This would enable a further and accurate design to be compiled. Once the survey had

been completed, a full design and contract documents would be prepared. A Full report would be presented at a future Board meeting.

RECEIVED

17:10 Culverting and Subsequent Adoption of a Riparian Watercourse off Burgh Old Road Skegness

At the previous meeting the Board approved a £9,000 contribution towards this scheme. Work commenced on the 16th October 2017 and was completed on the 3rd November 2017. The new 600mm diameter culvert is connected to the Board's Brickpit Drain and would be added to the Board's system for maintenance purposes. The Engineer, Operations Director and Operations Manager were considering if any work was needed to the Board's section of this watercourse as it was showing some signs of slippage.

RECEIVED

17:11 Reforming Works

The attached table detailing the status of the 2017/18 reforming works was presented for information.

RECEIVED

18. BYELAW APPLICATION - TOWN LANE DRAIN BRANCH, MABLETHORPE

The Engineer presented the attached report regarding a planning application which had been granted by East Lindsey District Council but imposed an unacceptable structural risk to the Board's culverted Town Lane Drain East.

He further reported that the owners of the property were looking at alternative options should consent be refused.

Cllr Mrs P.F. Watson queried why this had not been picked up before planning permission was granted. The Engineer stated that Officers check the list of submitted planning applications and while most are picked up at the early stage this application had been missed. For this reason the list of granted planning applications was also checked and it was at this stage, before any work had commenced that the issue was identified.

Members agreed that the original byelaw application should be refused but an amended application outside of the Board's relaxation distance be approved. The Engineer stated that Officers would work closely with the owners to find an appropriate solution.

RESOLVED

That the original byelaw application be refused, but that Officers work with the owners to find a suitable alternative.

19. INTERIM BEACH MANAGEMENT ALONG LINCOLNSHIRE COAST 2018 - 2021

The Engineer presented the attached report and newsletter detailing the proposed plans for beach management between Saltfleet and Gibraltar Point. He stated that in January 2013 the flooding along this section of coast was minimal and this was a result of the work

undertaken by the Lincshire Project. The Engineer asked the Board to approve Officers support of this scheme.

Members considered and discussed the attached report in detail.

RESOLVED

That the Board supports the continuation of the current benefits apportionment for beach nourishment for the next three years and the continued participation in the development of a funding strategy for the S2GP Strategy.

20. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY MATTERS

The Engineer gave a verbal update on the recent drop-in session regarding work on the River Steeping and stated that there was a positive response from those who attended. The programme of enhanced maintenance on the watercourse was to continue. Officers were still looking at the possibility of dredging in the future but the weed which had been removed was the greatest impediment to flows. The PACM meetings would be looking at options for the future. In response to Mr D.R. Tagg he confirmed that the tree work completed by the Board had allowed access for maintenance of the watercourse.

RECEIVED

21. ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

21:1 The Eels (England and Wales) Regulations 2009

The Engineer reported that there had been significant improvement since the last Board meeting and a more pragmatic approach is now expected from the Environment Agency (EA). Strong representations had been made to the ADA National Team regarding the apparent lack of clarity, consistency and length of time Eel Regulation Compliance considerations for pumping station refurbishment took in determining FDGiA applications. The Board's Environmental Officer had also raised this issue at the ADA Technical and Environment Committee in June which resulted in the EA Teams in Midland and Anglian Northern contacting the Board to seek a resolution of the concerns. A meeting had been held in early November and the Board's Environmental Officer had been invited to join the National ADA/EA Eel Liaison Group. New guidance had been received and it was confirmed that the EA's Fisheries team had agreed providing all reasonable and practical measures were incorporated and long-term exemption would be granted.

He further reported that a technical and financial report on the various options for Eel Regulation Compliance at Boygriff Pumping Station had been commissioned which would detail the technical, financial and logistical issues of options to retrofit Eel Compliance screening (a UK legal requirement) to existing stations. This report had been shared with the EA Anglian Team and was being used as an evidence base to jointly consider feasible options for stations such as Boygriff.

RECEIVED

21:2 Fluvial Audit of the Great Eau Catchment

The Engineer reported that the Lincolnshire Chalk Streams Project was working with a small group of landowners along the Great Eau to access the Countryside Stewardship Facilitation Fund. The fund is designed to bring together farmers, foresters, and other

land managers to improve the local natural environment. Application is via a competitive process for a 3 year project that develops co-operation amongst land managers and agrees Countryside Stewardship priorities. The Environment Agency were supporting this initiative and had provided £30,000 which was being used to fund a Fluvial Audit of the Great Eau catchment to look at the processes by which sediments are moved and deposited within a catchment. Once received the results of this audit would be reported to the Board.

RECEIVED

21:3 Local Nature Reserve Declaration Consultation - Chapel Point to Sandilands

The Engineer reported that Lincolnshire County Council proposed to designate a strip of land along the sea dunes between Chapel Point to Sandilands as a Local Nature reserve.

RECEIVED

21:4 Glyphosate

The Engineer reported that re-licencing of Glyphosate had been recommended for a possible five years and should the recommendation be ratified he hoped the licence would apply to use on watercourses as well as crops.

RECEIVED

22. DELEGATED MATTERS - PLANNING, BYELAWS AND SUPERVISORY ROLE

22:1 Byelaw Applications

The engineer reported that the following byelaw applications had been dealt with under delegated authority.

The installation of an access culvert up to 18 metres in length on the Board maintained Low Barn Drain off Rotten Row at National Grid Reference TF 46015 - 85459 in the parish of Theddlethorpe.

Constuction of a single storey extension to the rear of Goyt Gables which is located within 8 metres of the Board's Sandilands Connection Drain culvert at National Grid Reference TF 52467 - 80517 in the parish of Sutton on Sea.

RECEIVED

22:2 Section 23 Applications

The Engineer reported that the following application had been dealt with on behalf of the Lead Local Flood Authority since the last Board Meeting:

The installation of gabion mattresses to line the bed of the outfall points within the riparian watercourse at National Grid Reference TF 38755 - 74516 and the upgrade of an existing culvert to 600mm diameter between National Grid References TF38733 - 74554 and TF 38743 - 74536 in the parish of South Thoresby.

RECEIVED

22:3 Planning Applications

The Engineer reported that Officers had objected to the following planning application which was subsequently withdrawn:-

S/184/01613/17 Erection of 14 no. holiday lodges at Grooby's Pit Caravan Park, Steeping Road, Thorpe St Peter.

Officers had consulted on 30 planning applications since the last Board meeting and appropriate comments relating to surface water drainage had been made.

RECEIVED

23. HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Operations Director reported on one health and safety incident recorded across the Consortium since the last meeting and two near misses; fortunately no injuries were sustained. Employees were encouraged to report any near misses as well as accidents so potential issues could be identified.

She further reported that the Board had recently changed insurance companies and the new insurers had completed a review of health and safety at IDB's they insure. They visited the Isle of Axholme Board and after reviewing the Consortium's systems and visiting a work site they considered that the Board's systems were good and they did not need to visit any of the other Consortium Board's.

RECEIVED

24. ASSOCIATION OF DRAINAGE AUTHORITIES

The Chief Executive presented a report of the annual ADA Conference which was held on the 16th November 2017. In her speech Ms T. Coffey had given support to handing over assets to IDB's and Sir James Bevan's speech had in his opinion shown a forward approach to the work undertaken by IDB's and the limitations faced when working around protected species.

Mr G. Crust stated that Ms T. Coffey had suggested Board's encourage representation from outside bodies. Mr P.W. Pridgeon suggested a representative from the Holiday industry should be considered given the number in the area.

Mr T.H. Heys stated he was impressed with the conference.

25. STAFFING

The Chief Executive gave an update on staffing stating that there were two vacant positions which were currently filled by Temporary staff, Admin Assistant and Director of Finance.

The Engineer would be taking flexible retirement from April 2018 reducing to three days a week and would be focusing on the IOA Strategy, Doncaster East IDB contract and advising the team as required. A new Engineer would be recruited in the new year.

26. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr R.A.D. Unsworth left the meeting.

The Chief Executive reported that discussions with Doncaster East IDB regarding staff were ongoing and would be completed within the next two weeks and confirmed that the Board had signed a three year contract for provision of services to Doncaster East IDB which would start on the 1st January 2018.

The Chief Executive and Engineer had met with JBA regarding transferring of Doncaster East IDB responsibilities.

In response to Mr D.R. Tagg the Chief Executive confirmed he expected the contract would go to plan.

CHAIRMAN