MINUTES of Meeting held on Tuesday 21st October 2014, at the Village Club, Escrick, York

## **PRESENT**

Ouse e Dernont IDB

Mr R Britton

(In the Chair)

Mr K W Terry

Mr W A Jacques

Mr J R Bramley

Mr J Daniel

Mr B Smith

Mr R D Pearcy

Mr I Ellwood

Cllr B Marshall

Cllr J Deans

Cllr J Cattanach

Cllr R W Bramley

Cllr J Brooks

Mr S Wragg

<u>The Clerk</u> – Mr W Symons <u>Engineering Assistant</u> – Mr N Culpan

# APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Hopwood, Mr K Atkinson, Cllr Mrs K McSherry and Cllr K Ellis.

# DECLARATION OF INTEREST

<u>There were</u> no declarations of interest related to the items listed on the Agenda.

# MINUTES OF MEETING

It was proposed by Mr K W Terry, seconded by Mr J R Bramley and <u>UNANIMOUSLY AGREED</u> that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014, a copy of which had been sent to all Members, be taken as read and approved and that they be forthwith signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

<u>The Clerk</u> reported that no further matters were arising in the minutes which were not covered under an agenda item.

### FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES 7<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2014

The Chairman presented the Minutes of the Meeting of the Sub-Committee held on the 7<sup>th</sup> October 2014, a copy of which had been sent to all Members with the agenda.

The Chairman ran through and summarised the items included in the Minutes of the Meeting.

The Chairman suggested that the wording of 'voting arrangements' should be changed for 'delegated authority.'

The Chairman proposed acceptance and approval of the recommendations with the change above contained within the Finance Sub-Committee Minutes. The proposal was seconded by Cllr J Cattanach and <u>UNANIMOUSLY</u> <u>AGREED</u> by the Board.

#### 1st JULY 2014

The Chairman presented the Minutes of the Meeting of the Sub-Committee site visit held on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014, a copy of which had been sent to all Members with the agenda.

The Chairman ran through and summarised the items included in the Minutes of the site meeting concerning improvements to the drainage system through Mr J A Outhwaite's land on the Ox Gang Drain. The Sub Committee being given delegated powers by the Board to decide on this matter. This including any level of financial contribution or assistance the Board may wish to provide.

<u>Cllr B Marshall</u> proposed the Board should note and accept the outcome recorded in the minutes from the Finance Sub-Committee as a result of the site meeting. The proposal was seconded by Cllr J Cattanach and <u>UNANIMOUSLY AGREED</u> by the Board.

The Clerk reported that up to the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014 the following rates had been collected:

(a) Special Levy - £ 198,701.03 (50.0%) (b) Direct Levy - £ 80,303.71 (96.5%) £ 279,004.74

The Clerk advised the Board that final reminders have been issued and legal proceedings will be progressed shortly in accordance with the new policy adopted by the Board.

<u>The Clerk</u> provided a list of outstanding accounts to the Chairman at the meeting.

The Clerk reported the Consortium had recruited a new Assistant Ratings Officer, Toni Simpson, who was settling into the position.

### MAINTENANCE REPORT

The Engineering Assistant reported on the work which had been carried out since the date of the last meeting. This was included in a maintenance report circulated with the agenda.

The Board Members discussed the arrangements with The Engineering Assistant for the replacement of the pumps at Stillingfleet Pumping Station along with how the work was going to be funded.

**RATES** 

#### **STAFF**

The Clerk reported that the Boards Foreman Mr C Barrett was retiring on 18<sup>th</sup> December. The Foreman had joined the Board on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1998 and was promoted to Foreman on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

The Clerk further noted on the retirement of the Boards last Foreman an honorarium of £300 was paid on his retirement.

The Board Members discussed this matter in detail and it was proposed by the Chairman that an honorarium should be paid by the Board of £300. This should be paid to Mr C Barrett following his retirement in recognition for his service to the Board. The proposal being <u>UNANIMOUSLY AGREED</u> that the Clerk should be authorised to make the payment.

The Board Members discussed the interim arrangements following the current Foreman's retirement until a successor is recruited. The Engineering Assistant offered to provide cover should the post not be filled.

The Clerk was asked to progress a recruitment process to seek a new Foreman for the Board as soon as possible.

#### **PRECEPT**

The Clerk advised the precept has been confirmed by the Environment Agency in its letter dated 10<sup>th</sup> February 2014 at £92,369. This being the same sum as last year.

The Clerk further highlighted that three other Boards of the York Consortium were raising a precept appeal in regards to the fairness of the precept sum being raised.

# UPLAND WATER CONTRIBUTIONS FROM EA

The Clerk advised that claims had been made to the Environment Agency for 2013/14 upland water ditch maintenance works. This was made on the basis of the sum of £2,802.24. An overall payment has been made of £2,121.84 which is a percentage of 75.72% of the Boards claim.

#### <u>HEALTH AND</u> <u>SAFETY</u>

<u>The Clerk</u> advised that there had been no reportable incidents (RIDDOR) to the Health and Safety Executive.

<u>ADA</u> INCORPORATION The Clerk informed the Board that ADA has now moved to become an incorporated company from being a membership organisation. ADA were further recruiting a new Chief Executive and Assistant to be in place for the next financial year.

# **Northern Branch**

The Clerk informed Members that ADA had now formed a new Northern Branch with a new Director. The first branch meeting is likely to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

#### **ADA Finance and Policy Meeting**

The Clerk further reported that he had now been nominated back on the ADA National Policy and Finance meeting. This should help the Boards of the Consortium to be able to progress some of the strategic issues over which Members have had concerns.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Clerk advised Members that there had been no further correspondence of significance received since the date of the last meeting.

#### **PLANS**

The Clerk referred to the list of Planning Applications commented upon since the last meeting of the Board, which had been circulated to all Members with the Agenda.

The report on the planning responses were received by the Board Members and noted.

<u>Cllr B Marshall</u> raised the long term issue of dealing with the top water from the Olympic Mills development for the wider development.

#### (SEE APPENDIX TO MINUTES)

#### **CONSENTS**

The Clerk referred to the list of consents granted since the last meeting of the Board, which had been circulated to all Members with the Agenda.

The report on the consents granted were received by the Board Members and noted.

## (SEE APPENDIX TO MINUTES)

### <u>BANK</u> STATEMENTS

The Clerk produced the Bank Statements for the Board's Current Account and Business Premium Account showing an aggregate credit balance in Barclays of £640,316.31 as at the 10<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

The Yorkshire Bank account has an additional credit balance of £261,431.74. The Board placing £240,000 funds into a twelve month deposit account which is achieving 1.2% gross per annum. The remainder in a 95 day notice account achieving 0.7% gross per annum with the Yorkshire Bank.

The 12-month investment being staggered at £80,000 at roughly quarterly intervals to balance the Boards cash flow and be able to draw funds off more frequently than once a year.

The total balance of the Boards funds held in these accounts is £901,748.05.

The Clerk noted that these funds include the UK Coal and Coal Authority balances and deposits for the on-going and rechargeable works, which are £58,886.50.

# It was directed that the date of the next Meeting of the VEXT MEETING Board is to be at the Escrick & Deighton Club, on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015 which will be the Annual General Meeting Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2015 Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015 **FUTURE MEETINGS ADA Conference** ANY OTHER **BUSINESS** The Clerk reported that the ADA London Conference will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at the Institution of Civil Engineers in London. The Clerk will be attending the conference and arrangements could be made for any Members to attend if they wished. There was no other business and therefore the meeting was closed. (APPENDICÈS TO FOLLOW)