

MINUTES of Meeting held on Monday 9th March 2015 at Copmanthorpe Methodist Church, Main Street, Copmanthorpe

PRESENT

Mr S E Jackson (In the Chair)
Mr C E Mills
Mr A P Sykes
Mr R F Hildreth
Mr J B Blacker
Mr A Percy
Mr J Bramley
Mr C Clayton
Mr S Wragg
Cllr C Lewis
Cllr J Savage

The Clerk – Mr W Symons
Engineering Assistant – Mr N Culpan

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Sanderson, Mr M Haigh, Mr R Burniston, Mr G H Smith and Cllr G Simpson.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest related to the items listed on the Agenda.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was proposed by Mr R F Hildreth, seconded by Mr C E Mills and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 26th January 2015, 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

Tockwith New Row

The Clerk reported that the report approved at the last meeting had now been published. The Board had further responded to a freedom of information request regarding correspondence on this matter.

HEALTH & SAFETY

The Clerk advised that there have been no reportable incidents to the Health and Safety Executive (RIDDOR) since the last meeting.

The Clerk reported that the Consortium had recently held a joint training course for Consortium Boards for first aid another one will be held later in the year.

RATES

The Clerk reported that the rates collected up to the 28th February 2015 are as follows:

(a) Special Levy	-	£296,531.73	(100%)
(b) Direct Levy	-	<u>£ 60,661.99</u>	(99.8%)
		<u>£357,193.72</u>	

The Clerk also advised that rates collected since the date of the last meeting were in the sum of £719.94.

The Clerk noted a few accounts were in credit where overpayments have been made. Any outstanding rates will be pursued for payments and any remaining sums or credits at year-end will be included in next year's rate demand.

The Clerk reported he was investigating the position on rating regarding RAF Church Fenton.

Board Members discussed low value rate accounts and the cost of raising the income.

MAINTENANCE WORKS

The Engineering Assistant had sent a report to Members with the Agenda prior to the meeting. The report was presented and considered by Members.

Members discussed the situation at Ouse Gill Beck with apparent rising and falling water levels day to day which do not appear to correlate with the weather and rainfall. The possibility of installing sand traps was also discussed because of the nature of the soil in the area.

The Engineering Assistant explained the maintenance work is on-going on the Ouse Gill Beck and the lakes in the area of the iron bridge.

CROSS COMPLIANCE PAYMENTS 2015

The Clerk reported that following this matter being raised at the last meeting ADA had managed to confirm with Defra that IDBs are considered to be a statutory authority. IDBs therefore do not need to seek a derogation to carry out statutory work. The Clerk is now preparing a letter to enclose with the Boards drainage rates to explain this matter to the Board's rate payers. He is further sharing this letter with ADA to seek endorsement to its content which may be achieved before sending out the Boards rate demands.

PRECEPT AND PRECEPT APPEAL

The Clerk advised the precept has been confirmed by the Environment Agency in its letter dated 10th February 2015 at £43,272.00 for financial year 2015/16. This keeps the precept at the same level as the last three financial years. The payment is required in two instalments on or before 1st August 2015 and 1st December 2015.

Members were informed that the Environment Agency were organising a meeting to explain the Agency's maintenance plans and how the Boards precept was being allocated towards this work shortly.

The Clerk explained he was still concerned regarding the Boards precept contribution and was uncertain if the Board should again raise a further precept appeal to the Minister.

Members AGREED that another precept appeal may not be required as the Agency has offered to fund some work in the next week or so on the Old Fleet Foss. In view of this a precept appeal for the current year may not be required and any payment should not necessarily be withheld. However the previous appeal and funds withheld should still be held until maintenance works are progressed.

The location and priority of work to be carried out with the Agency funding was discussed.

INSURANCE

The Clerk is scoping the Boards Insurance Covers, which are due for renewal on 1st April 2015. The Clerk will be asking Towergate as the Boards Insurance Broker to seek covers to sustain the Boards policies. If however any changes are required these can be put in place after the start of the policies.

CONSORTIUM MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The Clerk reported that a Consortium Management Committee Meeting was held on 17th February. The meeting being attended by the Chairman and the Vice Chairman. A copy of the agreement was made available at the meeting for Members to view if they wished.

STAFF

Consortium Staff

Planning Officer

The Clerk informed the Board a new Planning Officer had been recruited who would be starting shortly; arrangements are being made to give an appropriate hand over and training.

Boards Workforce

It was proposed by Mr C E Mills, seconded by Mr J Bramley and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED that a Private and Confidential matter could be discussed.

REGISTER OF MEMBERS INTEREST

The Clerk reminded and asked Members to keep up to date the Register of Members Interests. The Clerk bringing the register for Members inspection at the meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

ADA Northern Branch Conference

The Clerk had circulated details with the Agenda informing Members of the ADA Northern Branch Conference to be held on 29th May 2015 at Cave Castle in South Cave.

The Board Members considered this event and approved payment for the cost of Members wishing to attend at £40 a head.

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 Clerk reported that a number of difficult planning applications were being dealt with which were requiring a large amount of time to progress. This including the redevelopment of the British Sugar site which the Clerk gave a summary of the challenges with the site.

(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.

Network Rail Culvert Strengthening at Bolton Percy

The Clerk informed the Board that he believed a solution can now be progressed on this culvert which is going to meet the Boards requirements which will be able to be consented. The Clerk having a drawing from Network Rail's Consultant and consent application which was made available for Members to view at the meeting.

(SEE APPENDIX TO MINUTES)

BANK STATEMENTS

The Clerk produced the Bank Statements for the Board's Current Account and Business Premium Account showing an aggregate credit balance of £416,545.84 with Barclays Bank as at the 27th February 2015.

Yorkshire Bank

The Yorkshire Bank account has an additional credit balance of £80,000.00.

The total balance of the Boards funds held in these accounts is £496,545.84.

Nationwide

The Clerk informed that the Board will shortly be depositing up to £85,000 in the Nationwide Building Society on deposit when the account is opened as agreed at the last meeting.

ACCOUNTS FOR CONFIRMATION

The Clerk referred to the list of accounts paid since the date of the last Meeting, which had been circulated to all Members with the Agenda.

It was RESOLVED that payment of these accounts be confirmed.

(SEE APPENDIX TO MINUTES)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was directed that the next Meeting of the Board would be held on Monday 15th June 2015 at the Copmanthorpe Methodist Church, Main Street, Copmanthorpe, York 6.30pm.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Future dates for meeting at the same venue to be held at 6.30pm on:

Monday 14th September 2015

Monday 9th November 2015

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Election

The Clerk reported that the time table for the Boards election is being progressed with the draft register of electors being published on 1st April.

There was no other business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

(APPENDICES TO FOLLOW)

