



York Consortium of Drainage Boards | Derwent House | Crockey Hill | York YO19 4SR

Tel. 01904 720785

Fax. 01904 720800

Email: bill.symons@yorkconsort.gov.uk

www.yorkconsort.gov.uk

Dear Ms Wilson,

Please find enclosed a copy of the Foss (2008) IDB minutes from the meeting held on 3rd November 2014 for your information.

Airedale Drainage Commissioners

Ainsty (2008) Internal Drainage Board

Beverley & North Holderness Internal Drainage Board

Foss (2008) Internal Drainage Board

Ouse & Derwent Internal Drainage Board

with compliments

MINUTES of Meeting held on Monday 3rd November 2014 at the Memorial Hall, Huntington

Foss Island
IDB

PRESENT

Mr D J E Sherry (In the Chair)
Mr R A Armitage
Mr M Cockerill
Mr I Ridsdale
Mrs J M Burnett
Cllr A S Richardson
Cllr Mrs S Wiseman
Mr D M Crossley
Mr C Chambers
Cllr M Warters
Mr C Perrett
Mr S Wragg
Cllr S Lane

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr J P Coverdale, Mr D R Brotherton, Mr P E Clark, Mr S Stark, Mr M Kemp and Cllr K Pace.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chairman noted an interest in planning item number 1671. The Board having already responded regarding the application.

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

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on the 8th September 2014; 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

There were no further matters arising from the Minutes, which are not covered in the Agenda.

RATES

The Clerk reported that since the report of the last meeting a sum of £2,234.37 in agricultural drainage rates had been collected. The total rates now collected to the 7th November 2014 are as follows:

(a) Special Levy -	£ 252,800.38	(100 %)
(b) Direct Levy -	£ 39,392.94	(96.3%)
	<u>£ 292,193.32</u>	

MAINTENANCE WORKS

The Clerk reported that final reminders had been sent out. A list of outstanding rate accounts was shown to the Chairman at the meeting. The Clerk will progress court action if required in line with the Boards policy for sums outstanding over £15 following the final reminders if no queries or land transfers are outstanding.

The Engineering Assistant ran through a report which had been sent out prior to the meeting.

Westfield Beck Railway Culvert

The Clerk reported that Network Rail is now considering a proposal to replace the railway culvert at Westfield Beck. This following the Boards refusal to consent relining the existing culvert because of the resultant reduced conveyance capacity. The replacement works are intended to coincide with the railway line closure for 7 to 9 days in February in relation to bridge works. This giving the opportunity to replace the culvert. The Board is informed that Network Rails Consultants are preparing details for submission to the Board for consideration to progress the works.

Strensall Common Black Dyke (F49)

Cllr A S Richardson raised repairs were required on a bridge over the Black Dyke near Common Road.

The Engineering Assistant reported that the Board is not responsible for the bridge on which a large hole had appeared. He however was aware that the City of York Councils Bridge Engineer had been informed. It was also reported that the bridge is on the boundary of the City of York and Ryedale Councils areas.

Bielby Beck

The Clerk reported that significant progress had been made with the Environment Agency regarding maintaining the Bielby Beck (designated as 'main river.'). A site meeting had been held on 17th September with landowners and occupiers, the Board, Natural England and the Environment Agency. The meeting was held on site and an inspection was held on the lower reaches of the Beck. The Beck being seen to be retaining high water flood type levels when the River Derwent was not in flood which was attributed to the channel condition.

The Environment Agency has now carried work out from the Becks lowest reach at the River Derwent beyond Hagg Bridge up to the Sails Beck. The works now relieving the flood water which was being retained.

The Engineering Assistant provided photographs showing water marks on the structures at the level the water was previously retained. The pictures also showing the water levels which have resulted from the maintenance work being carried out. The Environment Agency are proposing further works to continue the maintenance work upstream to restore the conveyance capacity of the Beck.

River Derwent

The Clerk further highlighted the Agency's current position on the River Derwent including the refurbishment of Sutton Weir and at Kirkham Abbey further upstream.

Cllr S Lane reported walking a stretch of the River Derwent and noted the requirement for maintenance to remove trees and intrusions providing recent photographs at the meeting for Members to view.

Full Sutton Industrial Estate Ditch Pollution

The Engineering Assistant reported that the oil pollution continues at the Full Sutton Industrial Estate. The Environment Agency has been contacted about this matter on a number of occasions by the Board. They however appear to consider the matter a low priority and are not appearing to be proactive in finding and controlling the source. This is due to the resources provided in the Agency to address this matter. The Board has now given the Agency further time to address the matter which has not been resolved. It is considered, the Agency does not have adequate resources to progress enforcement.

The Clerk will now progress writing to the local MP to inform them about the concerns of the Board regarding the implication of not addressing and controlling pollution on ditches and rivers in his constituency.

(SEE APPENDIX TO MINUTES)

The Clerk confirmed, no reportable incidents had occurred since the last meeting which would require reporting to the health and safety executive (RIDDOR).

**HEALTH AND
SAFETY**

POLICY
STATEMENT
REVIEW

Cllr S Wiseman proposed that the Boards Internal Auditor should review the effectiveness of the Boards internal control in a separate annual report to the report in relation to the Internal Audit of the Board. The outcome of this report will be included and a copy sent and the item included as a Board meeting agenda item. This should allow Members to be able to consider any action required to amend the Boards processes and procedures. This along with updating the Boards business risk assessment. This proposal was seconded by Cllr A S Richardson. The proposal being UNANIMOUSLY AGREED by the Board.

The Clerk following the last meeting had revised the Boards Policy Statement with the comments made at the last meeting. A copy of the revised document had been circulated with the Agenda for Members consideration.

The Board Members reviewed the documentation however some Members still believed some areas of the proposed Policy required further development. This in relation to the changing environment in which the Board is operating. In particular the Policy in regard to publicity in relation to the work the Board carries out.

Cllr M Warters suggested the Board could issue a press release regarding the Boards Policy.

Mr M Cockerill thought that the Board could produce a press release. It would also be more likely to be taken up with good photos

Mr S Wragg suggested that opportunities may exist with the launch of the City Councils Flood Risk Management Strategy to raise the profile of the work of the Board in the press.

Cllr S Wiseman proposed that the Board could adopt the Policy proposed. However the Board would note that the Policy is in place but is subject to change as it is under review.

The Clerk agreed to ask ADA at its next Policy and Finance Meeting in January to look at reviewing the generic policy statement as the Board believes the original document is now out of date on which the Boards original policy was based.

Mr C Chambers was concerned that the Boards proposed Policy does not inform say a Parish Council exactly what the Board does which is the issue linked to the next item on the Agenda.

Members decided to consider the next item on the Agenda as it was linked into this agenda item prior to considering adopting the new policy.

OSBALDWICK
PARISH COUNCIL
MAINTENANCE
WORKS BILL

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting an invoice had been presented to the Board for works the Parish Council had carried out which the Board may have done previously or earlier in the season. The Clerk had written to the Clerk of the Parish Council and a copy of this letter had been circulated to Members with the Agenda prior to the meeting. In the letter the Clerk had explained that the Board would not pay the invoice for the work but if the Parish Council were not satisfied with the response then this matter would be presented to the Board.

The Clerk explained the background to the situation which was further highlighted by Cllr M Warters. The issue revolving around the expectation of work being created in the community in relation to the work being carried out in the past. In regard to the letter the Clerk had sent; the Board were in support of the letters content. In summary the Board further agreed that the document circulated should be adopted as the Boards Policy Statement.

The Board further considered that a letter should be sent to inform all Parish Councils in its Drainage District on a similar basis to the letter circulated to inform Osbaldwick Parish Council. This incorporating similar text to paragraph 3 and 4 in regard to the work of the Board. This being used to explain the Boards position with its permissive powers and duties of land owners and occupiers.

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. No discussion was made concerning the planning application of Mr D J E Sherry.

Tannery Development Site

The Clerk reported on the current position with infringements by the Developer with unconsented work in the Boards byelaw margin.

Cllr Mrs S Wiseman and Mr C Chambers explained the position and problems which had occurred on the site and the uncertainty as to why the City Council had not enforced some of the apparent planning requirements which appeared to of not been complied with.

Cllr S Lane proposed that the Board should sustain the byelaw strip at 9m which should not be compromised. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Mrs S Wiseman and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED by the Board.

Osboldwick Beck

Cllr M Warters informed the Board that numerous further property developments were being proposed. These being likely to be progressed shortly for consideration of planning. The locations of the potential developments are all in and around the newly developed properties in locations such as Osboldwick Park. The Board need to keep aware of these as they are progressed as they are all likely to require surface water discharge which is likely to end up in the beck or the existing systems which may not have the capacity to cope.

(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.

Westfield Beck Railway Culvert

The Clerk reported that Network Rail were progressing a new proposal to replace the culvert on Westfield Beck. An opportunity had occurred with a line closure for 7 to 9 days in February with other works occurring on the line. Network Rails Consultants were currently looking at the possibility of replacing the culvert in this time. It is hoped that this alternative approach will address the issues which have previously been encountered with progressing this proposal.

(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 £292,100.52 with Barclays Bank as at the 24th October 2014.

The Yorkshire Bank account has an additional credit balance of £155,767.41 on Deposit as of 24th October 2014.

The Board placing £120,000 funds into 12-month deposit account which is achieving 1.2% gross per annum. The remainder in a 95 day notice account achieving 0.4% gross per annum with the Yorkshire Bank. The 12-month investment being staggered at £40,000 at roughly quarterly intervals.

The total balance of the two accounts is £447,867.93.

Yorkshire Bank and the Bank of Australia

The Clerk reported that he had become aware that the Bank of Australia has reported plans to sell the Yorkshire Bank. This has caused concerns about the Boards investment plans of depositing funds for 12 month periods with the Yorkshire Bank. The Clerk having only just transferred funds to put further cash on long term deposit. In view of the uncertainty the Clerk has stopped the cheque and the further funds will remain with Barclays. As the Boards other deposits reach the end of the 12th month deposit commitment with Yorkshire Bank the Clerk will not put the funds back on committed deposit.

Barclays Bank and Bank Charges

The Clerk informed the Board that Barclays were requesting a meeting and it was believed that the Bank wished to discuss introducing bank charges or at least reducing its costs with the Boards banking.

Setting Up Bank Accounts

The Clerk informed the Board that flexibility was required in managing the Boards accounts at the current time. This firstly to be able to manage the Boards funds with the Yorkshire Bank should the bank status deteriorate. To also be able to progress putting in place alternative banking arrangements should the arrangements with Barclays be changing.

It was proposed by Cllr M Warters that the Board should give delegated authority to the Chairman and Vice Chairman to authorise setting up bank mandates for a new bank account with an alternative bank should it be required prior to the next meeting. This proposal was seconded by Mr D J E Sherry and was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED by the Board.

Cllr M Warters also suggested that perhaps the Board could consider different investment types rather than deposit accounts such as Guilts.

The Clerk informed the Board that ADA are recruiting a new Chief Executive and Assistant. It is hoped the outcome of the recruitment process will be announced on 12th November at the ADA Annual Conference in London. It is intended for the changes of staff to be put in place for the start of the next financial year. The Clerk reported he would be attending a meeting of Clerks and Chief Executives the night before prior to the Conference.

ADA

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 reported that no significant correspondence had been received by the Board since the date of 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.

ADA CONFERENCE

ADA Conference

The Clerk reported on the ADA London Conference held on 13th November 2014 at the Institute of Civil Engineers in London. The conference will be attended by Mr S Wragg and the Clerk.

(SEE APPENDIX TO MINUTES)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was directed that the next Meeting of the Board, which is its Annual General Meeting, is to be held at the Memorial Hall, Huntington, York on Monday, 5th January 2015 commencing at 1.30pm.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Monday 2nd March 2015
Monday 8th June 2015
Monday 7th September 2015
Monday 2nd November 2015

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Tang Hall Beck

The Clerk reported that the Board and Parish Council were working on the joint letter to be sent to residents which was raised at the last meeting.

South Beck Study

Mr S Wragg reported he is moving forward with a summary of the issues established in the South Beck study as previously agreed.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 3.23pm.

(APPENDICES TO FOLLOW)