

MINUTES of Meeting held on Tuesday 25th January 2022 via Microsoft Teams Online Meeting due to Global Pandemic. No attendance at the Village Club, Escrick, York

PRESENT

Cllr J Cattanach (In the Chair)

Mr J Hopwood

Mr K Atkinson

Mr J Daniel

Ms T Fawcett

Mr R Britton

Mr S Christian

Mr S Wragg

Mr A Vevers

The Clerk – Mr W Symons

Engineering Assistant – Mr N Culpan

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr K W Terry, Cllr M Crane, Cllr P Welch, Cllr S Duckett, Cllr R W Bramley and Mr R Bramley.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

The Clerk further informed Members that the Register of Members Interests was available for inspection and update as required.

ELECTION RESULT

The Clerk as Returning Officer advised that the new Board had come into place from 1st November. An election had not been required as the number of nominations did not exceed the number of positions on the Board. In view of this all the current Members were re-elected.

New Elected Members

The Clerk informed that Mr M Headley and Mr R Bramley had joined the Board as elected Members following the election period. Mr M Headley having technical difficulties joining the meeting.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Clerk advised that Members were required to consider nominations and to appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the Board. The positions are usually for a three-year tenure.

The Clerk informed the meeting that Cllr J Cattnach wished to be considered for nomination for the position of Chairman.

It was proposed by Ms T Fawcett, seconded by Mr J Hopwood that Cllr J Cattnach be elected as Chairman.

As there were no other nominations Cllr J Cattnach was duly elected as Chairman. The remainder of the meeting was chaired by Cllr J Cattnach.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

The Clerk informed the meeting that Mr J Hopwood wished to be considered for nomination for the position of Vice Chairman.

It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Ms T Fawcett that Mr J Hopwood be elected as Chairman.

As there were no other nominations Mr J Hopwood was duly elected as Vice Chairman.

Election Advert

The Clerk informed the Board that the outcome of the Boards election will be advertised shortly on the Boards website as required. The Clerk noting the required content which includes the details of the elected Members names and addresses.

MEMBERSHIP

Sad Loss of Mr Nigel Forbes Adam

The Clerk informed about the sad loss of Mr Nigel Forbes Adam who had historically been a Member and Chairman of the Board before retiring. The Boards records of Qualifications of Commissioners dating back to 1854 showed him joining on 10th September 1975. The Board appreciating the time and experience he had given in the past.

Formal Reduction in Board Membership Numbers

The Clerk confirmed that the Boards scheme for the reduction in its Membership had been drafted and was progressing to the Environment Agency Director for signing off prior to its submission to Defra.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

It was proposed by Ms T Fawcett, seconded by Mr J Hopwood and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 19th October 2021, a copy of which had been sent to all Members, be taken as read and approved and that they are forthwith signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

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

FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Chairman and Clerk presented the Minutes and recommendations of the Sub-Committee Meeting held on the 11th January 2022, a copy of which had been sent to all Members. These were summarised by the Clerk and considered page by page.

The Chairman proposed acceptance and approval of the recommendations contained within the Finance Sub-Committee Minutes.

The Vice Chairman seconding the proposal which was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED by the Board.

MATTERS ARISING

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

TRANSFER TO SPECIAL LEVY AND WRITE OFF

The Clerk referred to the list and maps of the locations circulated with the agenda. This along with the write-off of drainage rates which cannot be recovered and land transfers to Special Levy from the Boards agricultural rating.

The Sub Committee Members had REVIEWED the list and AGREED with the Clerk to recommend the transfer to Special Levy:

1. The land on account 90-641-6 shown in the circulated list to Selby District Council is now gardens;
2. The land on account 90-607-9 shown in the circulated list to Selby District Council is being developed as properties with the write-off of £16.16;
3. The land on account 90-125-0 shown in the circulated list to Selby District Council is a garden with the write-off of £2.93;
4. The land on Persimmon's account at Germany Beck, Fulford shown in the circulated list to City of York Council is being developed as properties with the write-off of £87.12 (the percentage of land being transferred as previously agreed).

The Clerk informed the transfers will take place from 1st April 2022 to reflect the land no longer being used for agricultural usage.

The Chairman proposed the RECOMMENDATION of the Sub Committee to the Main Board that the land should be transferred to Special Levy (Selby District Council and City of York Council) as above, this along with writing off the sum of £106.21 be accepted.

LAYING OF THE
RATE AND
SPECIAL LEVIES

The Chairman's proposal being seconded by the Vice Chairman which was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED by the Board.

The Chairman informed the Board that he believes the Boards finances are in a good position and pleased that a rate increase is not required. The recommendation remains at 4.38p which has been sustained for at least six years.

Members gave consideration to the budget and estimate for the Board's income and expenditure for financial year 2022/23 and the recommendation made by the Finance Sub-Committee. The Board APPROVED the recommendations contained in the Sub-Committee Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th January 2022, proposed by the Chairman and seconded by the Vice Chairman which set a drainage rate for the sum of 4.38p in the £.

The Board UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the proportion of their expenditure be raised by drainage rates in respect of agricultural land and buildings by Special Levies on local billing Authorities are 17.03% and 82.97% respectively.

THAT the Drainage Board do hereby make a Drainage Rate for the purposes chargeable thereon assessed on the Annual Value of agricultural land and buildings subject to the provisions of the Land Drainage Act 1991 as hereunder set out that is to say:

AN OCCUPIERS' rate assessed at 4.38p in the £ for the period ending on the 31st day of March 2023.

THAT the Drainage Board do hereby make a Special Levy assessed as hereunder, that is to say:

A Special Levy chargeable to **SELBY DISTRICT COUNCIL** in the sum of £263,429.58, for the period ending on the 31st day of March 2023.

AND a Special Levy chargeable to **CITY OF YORK COUNCIL** in the sum of £139,952.39, for the period ending on the 31st day of March 2023.

AND that the Special Levies shall be payable in two equal instalments on the 1st May 2022 and 1st November 2022.

THAT the purposes for which the said Rate.

AND Special Levies are made and the amount in the £ for each of the purposes are as hereunder set out.

AND that the said Rate shall be payable on Demand.

AND that the seal of the Board be affixed on the said Rate and Special Levies accordingly.

AND that the Clerk be and is hereby authorised to take all necessary steps to demand and collect the said Rate.

PURPOSES under the Drainage Act 1991 for which the Rate mentioned is made.

AMOUNT of the Land Rate in the £. for the Occupiers' Rate.

- | | | | |
|----|---|---|-------|
| a) | Expenses of Administration under this Act. |) |) |
| b) | Works of maintenance under the said Act. |) |) |
| c) | Improvement of existing works under the said Act. |) |) |
| d) | New works under the said Act. |) |) |
| e) | Precept of the Environment Agency under the said Act. |) |) |
| | | | 4.38p |

MAINTENANCE WORKS

The Engineering Assistant had circulated a report to Members with the Agenda along with a web link to electronic maps identifying the maintenance work carried out by the Board. He informed that the Board had taken a licence out in new mapping software. This creates a web address which links to an online map on a view only basis highlighting the work being progressed.

The Engineering Assistant ran through the items raised in the report.

The Chairman informed he was very pleased about progress made in particular the Board working with the Agency in relation to Kelfield Ings. This including both the pumping station along with progress being made with backflow problems on the tidal flaps.

(SEE APPENDIX TO MINUTES)

HEALTH AND SAFETY

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

RATES

The Clerk reported that the total rates collected up to the 20th January 2022 are as follows:

(a) Special Levy	-	£402,425.90	(100.0%)
(b) Direct Levy	-	£ 82,233.88	(99.0%)
		<u>£484,659.78</u>	

The Clerk showing the Chairman a list of accounts with sums outstanding.

The Clerk confirmed that any outstanding rates will be pursued for payment and any remaining sums or credits at year-end will be included in next year's rate demands.

ADA NORTHERN BRANCH

PLANS

CONSENTS

BANK STATEMENTS

ADA Northern Branch Meeting – AGM

The Clerk informed this meeting was held on 5th November at Cave Castle Hotel. This was an informative venue-based meeting following lockdown after the restrictions were lifted because of the virus pandemic.

Early Summer Meeting

The Clerk informed an early summer meeting is to be held at The Cave Castle Hotel along with a visit on 27th May 2022.

AGM

The Clerk informed this is likely to be on 4th November 2022 but no venue has been decided upon.

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 reporting that all this information was now digitised and a copy can be provided on a laptop computer instead of the paper records.

The Chairman as Chairman of Planning at Selby District Council highlighted the Councils appreciation of the Boards advice notes and responses being sent in.

(SEE APPENDIX TO MINUTES)

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 Clerk reporting that all this information was now digitised and a copy can be provided on a laptop computer instead of the paper records.

(SEE APPENDIX TO MINUTES)

The Clerk informed the Board that Barclays Bank continue charging bank charges to the Foss (2008) IDB and thus a recharge is being made to the Board for electronic bank transfers. The Board however is not being charged directly for its other banking.

The Clerk produced the Bank Statements for the Board's Current Account showing an aggregate credit balance in Barclays of £926,288.55 as at the 7th January 2022.

The Virgin Bank account has an additional credit balance of £153,715.11 in a twelve-month deposit account which is achieving 0.3% gross per annum.

The Nationwide account has an additional credit balance of £90,017.34 in a 95 day notice account which is achieving 0.4% gross per annum.

The total balance of the Boards funds held in these accounts is £1,170,021.00.

The Clerk noted that these funds include the Coal Authority balances and deposits for the on-going and rechargeable works, which are £50,500.

CORRESPONDENCE

Byelaw Review.

The Clerk reported that advertising of the Boards revised byelaws has now been completed with no apparent objections. They are now having the Boards seal attached and being sent to Defra to progress and advertise further as required.

Red Diesel

The Clerk informed that ADA were seeking legal advice from a solicitor on the continuing usage of red diesel in relation to agricultural benefit along with contact with Defra on the matter. New guidance had been provided from HMRC in November 2021 but this has not helped. In view of this the Board will continue using red diesel in the way previously agreed.

The Clerk reported that no further significant correspondence had been received by the Board since the date of the last meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was directed that the date of the next Meeting of the Board is to be at **The Escrick & Deighton Club** on 28th **June 2022** commencing at **10am**.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Future meetings to be held at the same venue on:

Tuesday 18th October 2022

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Farmer Cluster Groups

The Clerk informed Ms T Fawcett had progressed the farmer clusters arrangement seeking grant funding.

Ms T Fawcett reported that up to 30 farmers were joining in the Boards area. In this it was hoped that progress could be made in water quality and creating wildlife corridors. In setting the group up the group was being set up 'Group Member Forms' which were required for each farmer joining along with a map of the farmers holding. This information was needed for submission as 2nd February was the closing date. She was therefore encouraging the return of this information as soon as possible. She also highlighted how important it was to be engaged with the local IDB in this work and thanked the Board for its support.

IDB Documentary with Hull University

Ms T Fawcett noted the IDB film being made which had recently interviewed her and was in support of its objectives and looked forward to seeing the completed work.

The Engineering Assistant reported that this was the second phase of this work with filming both in the summer and the winter to show the seasonal work of IDBs. This along with interviews of various representatives to input roles and views of IDB work. He thanked Ms T Fawcett for her help and being interviewed.

Biodiversity Action Plans

The Clerk reported he had made limited progress on the Consortium Biodiversity Action Plans but was hoping to create time soon. He also thanked Ouse and Derwent Members who were offering to provide help and support to the process.

Mr A Vevers offered to help kick start the process by sending in some documents he was working on.

The Clerk thanking him and believed this would be very helpful and noted resource shortages to progress and was pleased for any advice.

Mr S Christian offered to find out Nationally how other IDBs are progressing with this work and potentially how he can input to the work.

The Clerk thanking him for the offer and potential help and assistance.

Fordlands Road Potential Pumping Station

Mr R E Britton asked if any information was available about the potential pumping station at Fordlands Road.

Mr S Wragg informed that the work continues on the design but two matters have occurred which potentially have an impact on how it would be built.

These consist of making the station fish friendly in regard to European eels. This along with the location being potentially designated following a request as the location of the Battle of Fulford. Any design currently needing to demonstrate it would not do any damage to a potential heritage site. These aspects are being considered in designs and will take time to progress. Potentially in spring time things should be clearer.

Farm Payments and IDB Maintenance Work

Mr R E Britton asked about the matter raised at the last meeting because of funding lost from stewardship schemes because of IDB Work.

Ms T Fawcett believed progress had been made and was working with the IDB and the usage of beneficial seed mix following works and also pleased about the map system which could be a big opportunity.

The Engineering Assistant informed the Board is putting the time schedule back with its flailing contractors to try to avoid any type of conflict.

The Chairman closed the meeting as there was no other business.

**CLOSE OF
MEETING**

(APPENDICES TO FOLLOW)