

DEMPSTER INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY 19 JANUARY 2016 – SWINEFLEET VILLAGE HALL
MINUTES OF MEETING

Present :

Peter Chantry (Chair) (PC)

Paul Jacklin (Vice Chair) (PJ)

Stuart Hall (SH)

Barry Phillipson (BP)

David Walton (DW)

Iain Omand, ERYC Responsible Financial Officer

Mike Ball, Clerk & Engineer (MJB)

Russ Towse, Deputy Clerk & Engineer (RST)

PC welcomed David Walton as a new Nominated Member of the Board

1547. **Apologies for absence:** Councillor John Frost (JF), Martin Johnson (MJ) and Edward Cowling (EC)
1548. **Declarations of Interest:** Edward Cowling has requested that consideration be given by the board to additional watercourses that run across his land, being adopted by them. It was proposed by SH and seconded by BP that this request being deferred to a future meeting.
1549. **To sign and approve the minutes of the Board meeting held on 11 November 2015:** These were accepted as a true record of the meeting, proposed by PJ and seconded by BP
1550. **Matters Arising from the minutes:**
- The badger sett adjacent to one of the board's watercourses will be discussed later in the meeting. The readings from the Board's pump will also be discussed later. It was reported that the pump's meter is picking up readings from the SIM card.
- Drain Maintenance: the only work done in this respect since the last meeting has been in connection with the badger sett. The authorities appear, on the face of it, to be satisfied with the work carried out to date in order to accommodate the badgers. Any subsequent work necessary would require an additional expenditure.
- The subject of an Annual General Meeting for the consortium was suggested.
- The position with the payment of the Environment Agency precept paid by each Board and the administrative error that has been made by the agency was discussed. IO

suggested that he investigate the background with a view to reporting back to a future meeting.

Cheques were presented for payment. It was proposed by SH and seconded by PJ that they be paid.

1551. Finance Report:

Dempster IDB Rate Setting Meeting 19 January 2016-01-20

The Responsible Finance Officer presented the Financial Planning and Risk Setting report which was in accordance with the Land Drainage Act 1991.

The role of the budget was specified as follows:

- i) That the budget results in the Board Setting Rates and Special Levy
- ii) That the budget gives the Clerk the Authority to spend money
- iii) That the budget allows for monitoring progress during the year

The 2015-16 budget showed an estimated outturn position of net expenditure totalling £30,160, this would produce a surplus of £809 and would increase reserves from £34,155 to £34,964.

The main variance within the budget for 2015-16 was highlighted as a £4,180 under spend on Drain Maintenance.

In terms of income it was noted that all rates had been received.

The Clerk and Engineer, in full consultation with the Responsible Financial Officer, had produced a draft budget for 2016-17 which was shown at Appendix 1. The total net expenditure for 2016-17 was £33,193. This level of net expenditure was £596 below the previous year.

Appendix 2 showed the Indicative Budgets for 2017-18 and 2018-19 which were based around uplifts of 1.75% which was in line with the Government's assumption for average inflation.

Appendix 3 showed the affect of the budget on the rate in the pound and options of 8.0 which was equivalent to the previous year. 8.14 and 8.6 were also presented.

The level of reserves were considered as part of the report. The estimated level of reserves was £34,964 as at March 2016. This level of reserves was considered appropriate.

The Board discussed the report and noted the estimated Outturn position for 2015-16

The responsible Financial Officer proposed a Budget of £33,193 which resulted in a rate in the pound of 8.14.

The Board reviewed and approved the budget drafted by the Clerk and Engineer in full consultation with the Responsible Finance Officer which is a net expenditure of £33,193.

The Deputy Chairman proposed an amendment to the rate set to maintain the level of rate to 8.0 this was not seconded.

The Board approved a rate in the pound of 8.14 for 2016-17.

The Board approved the level of Reserves set at £34,964.

1552. Report on Audit Findings:

The Responsible Financial Officer presented the report regarding Audit Findings in relation to the Audit which took place within 2015-16 and was a requirement of the Annual Governance Statement. The Responsible Financial Officer stated that the overall conclusion of the Audit was that the effectiveness of the controls were considered satisfactory and the exposure to risk was considered minor.

The detailed findings of the Audit were discussed and it was agreed that the Deputy Clerk would refer to the document regarding the valuation of the pumping station and this would be used in terms of the valuation in the accounts. Also that the Deputy Clerk should be able to seek to appoint contractors to undertake a valuation of all electrical equipment and pumps.

All other actions were discussed and the findings and recommendations agreed by the Board.

The Board considered the Review of Financial Regulations which was presented by the Responsible Financial officer who had undertaken a review of financial regulations in accordance with annual requirement to do so. The Board agreed that the Financial Regulations were fit for purpose and did not require any amendments.

1553. Any Other Business:

The ADA Northern meeting on 26 January in Howden was discussed. PC and PJ sent their apologies.

1554. Date of next meeting Tuesday 15th March 2016 at 7pm in Swinefleet Village Hall.