



Rawcliffe Internal Drainage Board

Minutes of the Full Board Meeting held Tuesday 26th January 2021 via Zoom

PRESENT:

Ratepayer Members: Mr P Chantry (C) Mr D Nicholson Mr P Sykes (VC) Mr D Backhouse
Appointed Members: Mrs S Backhouse Cllr L Sargeantson Cllr C Fox Mr D Mckenna Mr K Fillingham

Co-opted Members:

Members Present:

APOLOGIES:

Ratepayer Members: Mr J Lewis Mr P Sykes Mr P Blacker

Appointed Members: Mr S Shubrook

Co-opted Members:

ABSENT:

Appointed

Members: Co-Opted Mr R Dresser

Members:

IN ATTENDANCE:

Officers: Mr McLachlan – Chief Executive
Mr Towse – Operational & Technical Manager
Mrs O’Driscoll – Board Secretary (Minutes)

Others:

Andrew McLachlan
Chief Executive Officer and Clerk to the Board
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793. Order of Meeting

793.1. The CEO explained that this meeting was the Annual General Meeting and with the consent of the Board, he shall chair the first part of the meeting until the Chairman is installed.

793.2. Following appointments, normal business shall commence.

794. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies

794.1. The CEO welcomed Board Members and officers, noting apologies from Mr Shubrook, Mr Lewis, Mr Sykes, and Mr Blacker.

794.2. The CEO welcomed new Board Member, Mr D Backhouse, to the meeting.

795. Declarations of Interest

795.1. There were no declarations of interest.

796. Health and Safety

796.1. There were no matters concerning Health and Safety.

797. Additional Agenda Items

797.1. No additional agenda items were raised.

798. Elections

798.1. As the returning officer the CEO reported the results from the 2020 elections, notifying the following members were duly elected:

SURNAME	OTHER NAMES
Blacker	Paul
Chantry	Peter Lewis
Sykes	Patrick Robert
Backhouse	David Stephen
Lewis	Jonathan Eric
Nicholson	David Edward

799. Election of Chairman

799.1. The CEO set out the procedure for the election of the Chairman.

799.2. Nominations were invited by the CEO, for the role of Chairman and nominations were given for Peter Chantry to be elected. This was not contested; no further nominations were made.

799.3. It was PROPOSED by MR MCKENNA and SECONDED by MR NICHOLSON and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Mr P Chantry be elected as Chairman of the Board.

800. Appointment of Chairman

800.1. Mr P Chantry was duly elected as Chairman.

801. Election of Vice Chairman

801.1. The CEO set out the procedure for the election of the Vice Chairman.

801.2. Nominations were invited by the CEO for the role of Vice Chairman and nominations were given for Mr P Sykes to be elected. This was not contested; no further nominations were made.

801.3. It was PROPOSED by MR P CHANTRY and SECONDED by MR D MCKENNA and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Mr P Sykes be elected as Vice Chairman of the Board.

802. Appointment of Vice Chairman

802.1. Mr P Sykes was duly elected as Vice Chairman.

803. Minutes of the previous Full Board Meeting

803.1. Mrs S Backhouse notified that both Mr D Mckenna and herself has been recorded as ratepayer members in the previous meeting, when in fact they are both appointed members.

803.2. Mrs Backhouse also brought to the attention of the Board that in minute 787.10 she had been recorded as Mr Backhouse.

803.3. The CEO requested that going forwarded Board Members initials be used in the recording of the minutes to avoid confusion. **ACTION Bd Sec**

803.4. It was PROPOSED by MRS S BACKHOUSE and SECONDED by MR D MCKENNA and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that subject to the above corrections the Board approve these minutes as a true record of that meeting.

804. Matters Arising

804.1. The CEO updated Board Members on matters arising:

804.2. 720.7 – The CEO informed that the consolidation of bank accounts has proven to be extremely difficult but that it had now partially been completed.

804.3. 726.1 – The OTM gave an update but informed that this is still ongoing.

804.4. 742.2 – Mr P Chantry explained that he had now spoken to Mr Bate about his signatory being on the Boards accounts and has asked if the CEO can contact Mr Bate regarding this matter. The CEO is to contact Mr Bate when the opportunity arises. **ACTION CEO**

- 804.5. 752.3 - The OTM is awaiting to speak to Mr Colwill regarding the remedial works on the slips between the sewage works and the school.
- 804.6. 784.7 – an update on the Highways Agency is to be given later in the meeting.
- 804.7. 789.4- The Chairman updated Members advising that arrears on account RC-0049-5 were for the hand over period between ratepayers, when ERYC were responsible. He added that the feeling of Board Members is that payment of the arrears should be made by the council.
- 804.8. Cllr C Fox queried if meetings held by the Highways Agency were attended by a Drainage Board representative, as she felt that this would be of benefit to the Board.
- 804.9. The Chair explained that in the past someone had attended but this had not happened for the last couple of years. He added that the YHDBs are currently in negotiations and having conversations with the Highways Agency.
- 804.10. He continued that more is being done by the ADOC consortium to discuss works and enquired if it would be possible to have a yearly maintenance meeting with the Highways Agency.
- 804.11. The CEO advised that this could be a possibility and explained that as the YHDBs area now covers the M62 from Brough to Knottingley and to Thorne on the M18, negotiations are going on at officer level regarding maintenance works that can be carried out by the Drainage Boards with funding from Highways.
- 804.12. He continued that funding had now been approved for cleaning the roadside network for Black Drain area.
- 804.13. The CEO went on to explain that agreements previously set up with the Highways Agency in the 1970's are now coming to an end or for some Boards had expired. He continued that there was a difficult tapestry of different agreements for each Board and new maintenance programmes needed to be agreed.
- 804.14. He reported that the Highways Agency seem favourable to a standardised approach across the Boards and he hopes to secure funding for Pump stations. The CEO explained that apart from Cowick and Snaith Drainage Board, Rawcliffe along with others took a commuted sum in to the 1990's. He is currently trying to come to a new agreement however, this is a long process.
- 804.15. Mrs S Backhouse enquired if funds would be backdated once an agreement is reached.
- 804.16. The CEO explained that as a commuted sum was previously agreed, it would probably only be possible to secure funding going forward.
- 804.17. The Chairman commented that the Board has subsidised works for the Highways Agency for the last few years and compensation should maybe be requested for these years.

805. Minutes of ADOC Consortium Meeting

805.1. The CEO presented the minutes of November Consortium meeting; in appendix B of the meeting papers, for noting.

806. Financial Position

806.1. The CEO reported that the Board is almost within budget and that the predicted outturn position is a £3k overspend. He added that the outturn position can be further considered at the May/June meeting.

807. Invoices Paid and Accounts Settled to Q3

807.1. The CEO drew attention to the Invoices Paid and accounts settled in appendix c of the meeting papers.

807.2. It was PROPOSED by MRS S BACKHOUSE and SECONDED by MR D MCKENNA and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board approves the invoices paid and accounts settled as a true record totalling £45,313.64 (Net).

808. Internal Audit

808.1. The CEO reported that the internal audit for the year ended 31 March 2020 had been completed and no matters were raised to give cause for concern.

809. Conclusion of Annual Audit 2019/20

809.1. The Board's External Auditors PKF Littlejohn completed their annual audit of the Board and no matters were raised to give cause for concern.

810. Budget & Rate Setting

810.1. The CEO explained that the Board is required to set the rate and special levy demand, so that the local authority can be notified no later than 15th February 2021.

810.2. He went on to explain how the rate is calculated and presented an electronic copy of the proposed budget.

810.3. He advised that it is recommended to round the pennies up, increasing the rate to 13p in the £, giving a yearly income of just over £89k.

810.4. He explained in detail each line of the proposed budget.

810.5. Mrs S Backhouse enquired to the reasoning behind the increase.

810.6. The Chairman explained that costs of works carried out are increasing yearly, with a deficit of £3k for the last year, reserves are being drawn on.

810.7. The CEO advised that with the Board having several pump stations, until further funding is secured the Board needs to be able to fund capital maintenance programmes, if the need arises.

- 810.8. Discussions ensued on pump station expenses.
- 810.9. The Chairman commented it may be beneficial in future years, for the Board to see all financial documents and have further information, to make a more informed decision into the setting of the rate.
- 810.10. The CEO explained that if the rate is not put up one year, the Board will be playing catch up which makes the setting of the rate harder in future years.
- 810.11. It was PROPOSED by MRS BACKHOUSE and SECONDED by MR MCKENNA and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the proposed budget for 2021/22 is approved at £89,578.
- 810.12. It was PROPOSED by Mr Nicholson and SECONDED by MR FILLINGHAM and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that to meet the approved budget it is recommended the rate is set at 13p£.
- 810.13. There were no further proposals for what the rate in the £ should be set at and all Board members agreed by a show of hands.

811. Register of Members' Interests

- 811.1. The CEO explained that a form is to be sent to all Board members with the addition of a personal information box to fill in. He added that electronic forms had been requested by Board members however, these show members email addresses to the other Board members.
- 811.2. He asked if Board members would have a problem with others on the Board being able to see their email address.
- 811.3. There were no objections from Board Members.

812. Capital Programme

- 812.1. After giving an overview into the history of the problems surrounding the Pastures Pump from when it first failed back in 2017, the OTM gave an update on the position now.
- 812.2. He explained that following the pump being refitted in 2019 it had again broken, half of the pump is now with the company in Switzerland and half with the company based in Grimsby. He continued that the installer of the pump when bust in 2020 and the companies holding the pump parts are retaining them as they have not been paid by them.
- 812.3. The OTM informed that he has spoken with both the companies and the insurance company to try and resolve this matter, but the current situation is the Board is left with a pump they have paid for but that they do not have.
- 812.4. Mr D Nicholson commented that this is appalling when it is the most important pump in the village and only one pump has been working for years.

- 812.5. The OTM reported that the pump installed had not been compatible with the chamber in which it sits, no ring had been fitted to the chamber and the assumption is that the pump has dropped straight through when fitted.
- 812.6. He went on to explain that Xylem had given an at cost price for installation, which includes the alterations made to the canister. The price given by Xylem for this is £20K.
- 812.7. The Chairman commented that the figure previously given had been £9k, the OTM explained that he had only found out this morning that figure had been before the alterations that were known to be needed.
- 812.8. The CEO informed that this would mean a £14K overspend on last year's figures.
- 812.9. Mr Nicholson stated that the Board cannot be without this pump and something needs to be done.
- 812.10. The OTM advised that Xylem had done everything in their power to bring it in at cost.
- 812.11. It was PROPOSED by MR P SYKES and SECONDED by MR D NICHOLSON and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the new pump be fitted as soon as possible.
- 812.12. The CEO reported that several pumps were approaching end of life and feasibility studies are to be carried out, looking at options of rationalisation. The examples he gave were at Langham which currently has three pump stations and could possibly be rationalised to one. There also maybe the opportunity to join two pump stations together such as Dobella and Pastures. He added that strategy and feasibility studies are needed to secure funding, these will consider eel regs. Business cases will be put together over the next 5 years.
- 812.13. Discussions surrounding the studies ensued.

813. Maintenance Programme

- 813.1. The OTM reported that the planned works on the programme had been completed.
- 813.2. The Chairman stated that maintenance on part of the watercourse behind Mrs Dixons land had not been carried out. The OTM is to investigate this before payment is made.
- 813.3. Mr P Sykes commented that maintenance on the Common had not been done, the OTM advised that this stretch from Beechtree to Pets Pad had been done twice in the spring.
- 813.4. The CEO brought up definitive maps and explained to Board Members that these showed the work the Board will carry out on the yearly maintenance programmes.
- 813.5. Discussions took place on the sand block which had been cleared under the railway culvert, the CEO brought up google maps showing the location of this.
- 813.6. The OTM reported that slips had occurred on Langham Drain between the M18 and the A614, these will take quite a bit of piling to pull back. He added that the Board was struggling to get

hold of piles at an affordable price, they are currently up to 3 to 4 times more expensive, so work may need to wait until the price of these comes down. He hoped that the Board may stand to get some funding from the Highways Agency for this work.

813.7. The Chairman added that a slip had occurred on the Dobella watercourse and queried if funding could also be sought from the highways for this as it had been caused by the culverts being blocked on the motorway slip road.

813.8. The Chairman enquired about the funding Cowick and Snaith Drainage Board had requested for Maintenance work on the ditch in the location of the Peppered Pig. The OTM explained £4k had been granted towards the cost of the works as this water course was on the boundary of the two Drainage Boards.

813.9. Cllr C Fox remarked on the good work that had been carried out by officers of the Board, in saving homes from flooding in recent events.

813.10. The CEO updated on the breach that had occurred over Christmas on the canal. He asked Board Members to look out for and report any issues and concerns in their area, that need to be brought up with the Canal and River Trust.

813.11. He added that the Canal and River Trust is to start on the canal in the next few weeks. Further discussions ensued surrounding the canal.

813.12. Cllr C Fox left the meeting.

814. Date of Next Meeting

Full Board Meetings

Tuesday 15th June 2021 at 9:30am via Zoom

Tuesday 15th January 2022 at 9:30am via Zoom

ADOC Consortium Committee

Friday 19th November at 9:30am via Zoom