



Cowick & Snaithe Internal Drainage Board

MINUTES FROM THE FULL BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 24th JANUARY 2023 AT 24
INNOVATION DRIVE, HU15 2FW.

PRESENT

Elected

Mr P Cooper (C)

Mr S Wood

Mr I Wood

Mr W Bayston

Mr A Wood

Appointed

Mrs V Whiteley

Cllr Fox

APOLOGIES

Elected

Mr E Bayston (VC)

Mr T Bayston

Mr R Thompson

Appointed

Mr S Wright

Cllr Sargeantson

Cllr S Jones

ABSENT

Appointed

Cllr A Handley

Cllr Emsen

Cllr Spencer

IN ATTENDANCE

Officers

Mr A McLachlan – Chief Executive Officer

Mr R Towse – Director of Operations

Miss A Cowen – Director of Policy & Finance

Miss L Smith – Board Secretary

Andrew McLachlan
Chief Executive Officer and Clerk to the Board
24 Innovation Drive
Newport
East Riding of Yorkshire
HU15 2FW

01430 430237

info@yorkshirehumberdrainage.gov.uk

yorkshirehumberdrainage.gov.uk

@idbyorkshire

625. Announcements

625.1. The Chair announced the passing of Mr Kealy and asked for a moment of remembrance.

626. Welcome, Introductions & Apologies

627. Declarations of Interest

627.1. None

628. Health and Safety

628.1. None

629. Natural Environment

629.1. Will continue as a standing item. Nothing to report.

630. Additional Agenda Items

630.1. Mrs Whiteley raised Hull University, who have set up flood innovation centre to speak with local businesses to understand the local flood risks and advise how support can be offered.

630.2. Advised that there is an insurance provider which will support properties which have been flooded before.

631. Minutes of the previous Full Board Meeting

631.1. The Chair drew attention to the minutes of the previous meeting at Appendix A.

631.2. It was PROPOSED by MR W BAYSTON and SECONDED by CLLR EMSEN and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board approves these minutes as a true record.

632. Matters Arising

632.1. The DPF advised the Boards savings account interest rate has increased so now receiving a better rate. It is worth looking at other options in the next financial year.

632.2. Regarding 621.21 all funds have now been recovered in respect of Lord Downes from the Environment Agency.

632.3. Mr Wood asked if there was a cost to remove the willows from the pumping station, the DO advised this was completed by a contractor and was charged at the daily rate.

633. Minutes of ADOC Consortium Meeting

633.1. The minutes of the ADOC Consortium meeting were presented for noting.

634. Budget & Rate Setting

- 634.1. Extraneous costs at Lords Downes PS were identified. The DO originally estimated this would cost around £25k to remove and refurb a pump, however these costs were closer to £30k.
- 634.2. Cllr Emsen asked what the cost would have been to put in a new pump, the DO advised around £140k. Cllr Emsen asked when it would be worth replacing this pump to which the EO advised that a full refurbishment should ideally be undertaken around every 25-30 years.
- 634.3. Cllr Emsen queried how funds are received for these refurbishments, the CEO advised that the governments funding formula is not favourable and although some funding is available from National Highways this is not the case for Lord Downes.
- 634.4. Mrs Whiteley highlighted the reserves position that the internal auditor had commented on, the DPF confirmed the board is above the 75% of operational budget and is a relatively healthy figure of £223k at the end of March 2022 but may be slightly less this year.
- 634.5. The CEO advised that the biggest cost to all Boards this year was due to electricity increases at around 400%.
- 634.6. The Board discussed the interest rate on the Boards reserves, to which a rate of 0.6% is being received with the instant access savings account. The DPF advised that she was investigating more favourable savings schemes.
- 634.7. Mrs Whiteley queried if the Board had mobile pumps, to which the DO confirmed there are six pumps available within the Consortium area.
- 634.8. It was PROPOSED by MR Emsen and SECONDED by S WOOD and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board approve a rate of 10.6p£ to meet an estimated budget requirement of £111,394.

635. Invoices Paid and Accounts Settled to Q3

- 635.1. The Chair drew attention to Invoices Paid and Accounts Settled at Appendix C.
- 635.2. Mrs Whiteley asked how many instalments there were for the precept to the EA, and asked what this is was for. The DPF advised this is paid in two instalments and was for main river maintenance.
- 635.3. Mrs Whiteley asked if the Board could claim VAT to which the DO confirmed yes.
- 635.4. Chair asked what the consortium charge would increase by this year the CEO advised this would increase by the RPI of 10%.
- 635.5. Mr I Wood queried the telemetry charge, which led to a discussion as to how the telemetry would work across the pumping stations.
- 635.6. The Chair queried whether Gowdall pumping station was in full working order since the floods the DO confirmed that investments had been made and both Gowdall and Hensall were fully operational.

635.7. The Board discussed the planned and reactive works of the MEICA team across the Consortium pumping stations.

635.8. It was PROPOSED by MRS WHITELEY and SECONDED by MR W BAYSTON and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board approve invoices paid and accounts settled to the value of £97,400.38 (net).

636. Internal Audit

636.1. The DPF advised that the first internal audit of the ADOC Boards for 2022/23 took place in November and recognised that the Board had put in place the fixed asset valuation policy, there were no concerns raised.

637. Conclusion of Annual Audit

637.1. The DPF confirmed that the Board's External Auditors PKF Littlejohn completed their annual audit of the Board and concluded that no matters were of cause for concern. This means the Board has passed the external audit.

637.2. The external auditor did however note that the dates of the consultation period for members of the public to inspect the accounts should have been 30 working days rather than 30 consecutive days, and consequently that the Board must answer "No" to Assertion 4 of the Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23.

638. Planning & Development

Planning Summary

638.1. The DO confirmed no major planning consultation or large developments however the housing development southwest of Snaith will require land drainage consent.

639. Capital Update

639.1. No major updates, there is an [unfunded] line on the regional programme to support the construction of a tunnel and other works under the M62 to reduce flood risk on the Snaith Ings. The CEO confirmed this work is predicated on receiving modelling information from the Environment Agency.

639.2. The CEO advised this is a flood alleviation scheme to help with flooding on the Ings, a business case needs to be created, however the quantum of the event needs to be understood so that the technical specifications can be confirmed.

639.3. Mr I Wood advised he did not support a scheme which connected the water from the Aire to the Don as he believed the capacity of the river could be increased if the EA undertook sufficient maintenance works. The Board agreed that the EA should be carrying out more effective maintenance work, this was outside of the Board's direct influence.

- 639.4. It was discussed that the modelling may confirm the the area of Snaith may not have flooded had it have not been for the placement of the motorway.
- 639.5. Mrs Whiteley advised the reason why the Town Council have asked for the meetings to take place predominantly with the EA is because Cllr Jones [in his capacity as Town Mayor] does not want past events to be forgotten. There are open invitations to the EA, ERYC and IDB and any member of the community who wished to be present on Monday 30th January, he wants people to be aware that the community wants resolution.

640. Maintenance Programme

- 640.1. The DO confirmed the full system was maintained last year, with funds being taken from reserves to allow this. Issues will be investigated from the canal breach and remedial works put in place as required, £10k has been set aside in the budget to fund these works.
- 640.2. The DO confirmed that CRT had paid for some of the electricity costs however in relation to the remedial works, CRT have not been outwardly supportive of providing funds to assist with these works.
- 640.3. Other than a couple of areas which were planted, all areas should have been completed as normal.
- 640.4. The Chair queried plan for flailing and de-weeding, the DO advised he expected to complete the same as this year however a maintenance programme will be brought to the Board for approval in June.
- 640.5. Mr A Wood asked if red diesel issue had stabilised to which the DO confirmed it had and the Board were continuing to use red diesel.
- 640.6. The Board discussed developments and how this has had an impact on flooding within the Cowick and Snaith areas.
- 640.7. Mr I Wood read a letter expressing his concerns with the keys, manual and lubricants being removed from the pumping station. He also advised a harness had been removed. The DO advised he would investigate these concerns. He did confirm the panels should be locked, but the key should not be present in the station.
- 640.8. The CEO stated that only qualified electricians employed or instructed by the Board have permission to access the panels.
- 640.9. The DO confirmed the harness had been removed and disposed of as this was out of date and not safe to use, along with harnesses in other pumping stations.

641. Date of Next Meeting

- 641.1. The next Full Board meeting is due to take place on Tuesday 20th June 2023 at 1:00pm at 24 Innovation Drive, HU15 2FW.

641.2. The ADOC Consortium Committee is due to take place on Monday 20th November 2023 at 9:30am.

641.3. The Chair thanked Members and Officers for their attendance and closed the meeting.