



## Cowick & Snaith Internal Drainage Board

### MINUTES OF THE FULL BOARD MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 24TH JUNE AT 24 INNOVATION DRIVE, HU15 2FW.

#### PRESENT

##### Elected

Mr E Bayston  
Mr I Wood

Mr A Wood

Mr P Cooper (C)

##### Appointed

Cllr S Jones

Cllr C Fox

#### APOLOGIES

##### Elected

Mr S Cooper

Mr R Thompson

##### Appointed

Mr S Wright

Cllr A Duke

Cllr C Emsen

#### ABSENT

##### Elected

Mr T Bayston

Mr S Wood

##### Appointed

Cllr L Sargeantson

Cllr R Spencer

Mrs V Whiteley

#### IN ATTENDANCE

##### Officers

Mrs A Larkin – Director of Policy & Finance

Mr R Towse – Director of Operations

Miss L Smith – Board Secretary

##### Others

Mr Jackson – Town Clerk – Parish Council

Andrew McLachlan  
Chief Executive Officer and Clerk to the Board  
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**715. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

715.1. The Chair welcomed Members and Officers to the meeting noting apologies from Mr S Cooper, Mr S Wright, Cllr A Duke, Cllr Emsen and Mr R Thompson.

715.2. Mr A Jackson introduced himself as Clerk for Snaith Parish Council.

**716. Declarations of Interest**

**717. Additional Agenda Items**

**718. Health and Safety**

718.1. No incidents within the Board area.

**719. Natural Environment**

**720. Minutes of the previous Full Board Meeting**

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

720.2. 703.1 – Mr I Wood queried this. The DO advised that there are no updates from the ERYC at this time and had therefore their representatives had declined the invitation to attend this meeting.

720.3. The Board requested that Officers contact ERYC regarding the modelling to enable an update at the next meeting and request who is responsible for signing this modelling.

720.4. Cllr Fox advised she would raise this at the next council meeting at County Hall.

720.5. Mr P Cooper raised the outstanding drainage rates and queried if the landowner had been identified. **Action DPF.**

720.6. Cllr Jones suggested that the council may be able to identify the landowner due to a previous attempt of the town council to purchase this land.

720.7. It was PROPOSED by Mr A Wood and SECONDED by Mr I Wood and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board approve these minutes as a true record of that meeting.

**721. Matters Arising**

**722. Annual Risk Register and Health & Safety Review**

722.1. The DO confirmed that operational staff had participated several training sessions and health & safety reviews, updating risk assessments and safe working procedures.

722.2. The DO advised that a desktop review had been completed comparing business risks to the previous year and notified Members that there had been no changes made this year.

722.3. The risk register was presented at Appendix B.

722.4. It was PROPOSED by Mr I Wood and SECONDED by Mr E Bayston and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board approve the revised risk register for 2025.

### **723. Accounting Statements and Annual Return**

723.1. The DPF drew attention to Appendix C and notified Members that the Internal Auditor has answered “Yes” to the Internal Control Objectives.

723.2. The DPF confirmed the Board’s accountants, Hunter Gee Holroyd Ltd, had prepared the Board’s official accounts and annual return documents for the period 2024/25.

723.3. “Other income” appeared to have decreased, however the DPF explained this was an accounting amendment and that National Highways contributions would no longer be presented as an accrual.

723.4. The recent £75m Defra IDB fund allowed the Board to claim for sunk costs to recover excessive energy expenditure and remedial works to pump stations and watercourses over the previous year due to poor weather. Bids submitted by Officers secured £15k in reimbursements.

723.5. An underspend under pump station maintenance due to a relatively dry year, contributing to the Board’s surplus of just under £30k, setting the board in a strong financial position.

723.6. The Chair queried why fixed assets were represented as “1” and the DPF explained that the Board’s pumping stations were valued as such because they do not have a capital value.

723.7. The DO added that pumping stations would more appropriately be recorded as a liability due to the costs involved in running them.

723.8. The DPF proceeded to read the “Annual Governance Statements with Internal Controls” and requested the Board indicate their agreement or disagreement with each statement.

723.9. It was PROPOSED by Mr E Bayston and SECONDED by Mr A Wood and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board approve the Annual Governance Statement for 2024/25.

723.10. It was PROPOSED by Mr I Wood and SECONDED by Mr E Bayston and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board approve the Accounting Statements for 2024/25.

### **724. Invoices Paid and Accounts Settled**

724.1. The Chair referenced the invoices paid and accounts settled at Appendix D.

724.2. It was PROPOSED by Mr I Wood and SECONDED by Cllr Fox and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board note and approve the record of Invoices Paid and Accounts Settled, totalling £14,425.11 (net), for the last financial quarter.

## **725. Internal Audit**

- 725.1. The DPF circulated the latest internal auditors report and confirmed that no concerns had been raised.

## **726. Planning & Development – Q4 (January – March 2025)**

- 726.1. Monitoring the progress of the development south-west of Snaith.
- 726.2. Works ongoing on powerlines which are crossing the upper reach and Carr drain of overhead electrical line from Drax to Doncaster.

## **727. Capital Programme**

- 727.1. The DO advised the Board had applied to National Highways for work at Finleys Lane pump station, 100% funded by National Highways, however it needed a significant refurb therefore £250k was applied for. This week this has been awarded and therefore upgrades to weed screen, electric motors will be upgraded. This has had little work done since the 1970s.
- 727.2. ACE carrying out weed screen works and in house MEICA will be stripping pumps for refurb. Interlec to upgrade the panels.
- 727.3. Mr E Bayston queried when this would be completed. The DO advised that this must be completed this year. Control panels takes 3-4 months to build therefore will look for a spring installation, so they are not out during winter.
- 727.4. It was PROPOSED by Mr A Wood and SECONDED BY Cllr Fox and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Board approve the Capital Programme.
- 727.5. All boards within the Consortium were awarded a portable diesel pump which can be stored within the board area. This will be used in emergency events and for mutual aid across the region.

## **728. Maintenance**

- 728.1. The DO reported that Lord Downes pump station had four separate isolated failures this year. The outer flap had a large lump of wood and concrete preventing the outer door from closing allowing water to flow back into the central chamber, back through the pump station.
- 728.2. Mr E Bayston queried why this was not noticed sooner. The DO advised that this was now being rectified and would be subject to more frequent reviews.
- 728.3. A foreign object had also been taken into the pump causing damage to the shaft and is therefore out for repair, which is expected to take 6-8 weeks.
- 728.4. The flap valve was also removed and replaced by the MEICA team.

- 728.5. The DO reported Canal & Rivers Trust [CRT] are looking to take enforcement action in relation to a temporary settlement at New Bridge pump station.
- 728.6. The Chair asked that Officers request CRT secure access with a gate and allow the IDB to keep a key.
- 728.7. Future grounds maintenance at Finleys Lane and New Bridge pumping stations will be completed by Danvm operational team.
- 728.8. Additional slips have been reported on Balk Road drain. The DO advised there are funds within the budget for remedial works and recommended this area should at least be regraded.
- 728.9. CS can afford to maintain the whole network every year. Every board-maintained watercourse will be flailed. Presented the de-weeding and de-silting programme electronically.
- 728.10. Marsh Drain issues with some bridges which are beginning to collapse.
- 728.11. Cllr Jones highlighted the A19 and queried if National Highways could upgrade Carlton bridge due to taking the traffic whilst this work had been done. The DO advised he did not believe this to be possible.
- 728.12. Mr I Wood advised that there is quite a lot of growth from Lord Downes, possibly to be cleared later or cut shorter.

**729. Date of Future Meetings**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025 – ADOC Consortium Committee

Tuesday 27th January 2026 – Full Board Meeting