

Minutes from: South Holderness Internal Drainage Board
Held at: Ottringham Village Hall, Main Road, Ottringham
On Tuesday 6th February 2024

Present:	G Nettleton – Chairman	Apologies:	Sue Steel
	R Ward – Clerk to the Board		
	J Maston – Preston	Non- Attendance:	Clln S McMaster
	A Styche – Preston		Clln S Gallant
	M Grant – Keyingham		Clln K Smith
	H Sadler – Keyingham		Clln C Holmes
	P Lount – Skeffling		C Leckonby
	T Williams – Ottringham		R Stephenson
	M Jackson - Ottringham		
	M Cook -Thorngumbald		
	T Annison – Thorngumbald		
	S Whyte – Councillor		
	J Dennis - Councillor		

- 1 **Apologies, Absences and Introductions** - Chairman introduced Councillor Samantha Whyte who was attending her first meeting. Apologies were received from Councillor Sue Steel.
- 2 **Interests** - No comments made; all farmers members have interests as Rate Payers.
- 3 **Minutes** from the meeting held on Thursday 7th November 2023 were agreed as a true recording and signed by the Chairman.
- 4 **Matters** – As discussed at the November meeting the Chairman and Clerk attended a debriefing meeting with the EA at Tickton in December 2023. There was a good turnout from the EA with Andrew Barron being the Senior Member of their team. GN asked that there be better communication with the EA operators at FIDO. We have requested direct phone numbers for the operatives controlling the pumps that are in the control centres in York with no idea of local issues. For instance, Winestead boost pump at a setting of 2.1 meters has no problem but it is regularly set at 1.8 meters. The EA are short of staff in time of emergency GN has offered staff from the IDB (farmers) even as a cover for Health and Safety reasons. They will need training on dates to be confirmed, any members who have staff available please let the Clerk know. The EA have confirmed that they will probably want some drains cleaning during the summer in order partly to satisfy their Fisheries Officer. GN stated he would like to

use a boat with a weed wiper. The EA are to advise whether this is acceptable. RW has been following this up but has NO response as yet but will keep trying. TW asked if a drone could do the job instead of a boat, obviously this would not be weed wiping.

The use of chemicals was discussed and the subject of a boat was left to AOB.

5 a + b) **Maintenance Works** - Works complete except Preston New Drain under Saltend and the Preston sludging works. TW mentioned a slip on Ottringham Drain and a fence removal on Charlie Leaks Wood.

c) **Health and Safety** - nothing to report

d) **Correspondence** – given out in the meeting, no comments

e) **Planning Application** – given out in the meeting, several application were still to respond to. No Comments

f) **Land Draining Consents** - 2 only reference - Skeffling - RW discussed them

g) **Bank Account** - discussed final figures and a copy was given out

h) **Accounts** - for confirmation to 31st January - copy given out

i) **Expenses** – no comments

6 a) **Rates Collected** – £114,268.23 collected to date leaving £5397.75 outstanding. The Clerk to pursue. The Clerk informed the board that some accounts had gone to the courts as agreed by the board and that he will pursue others. The Clerk also informed the board that there were a couple of accounts under query which he was in the process of looking into. This was approved by the board and the clerk will report back at the next meeting.

b) **Drainage Rates to Write off – Preston Area** – Following the abolishing of the differential rates Preston ratepayers were brought in line with the other areas - The Clerk informed the board that following this £574.54 still remained outstanding due to previous errors in valuations. There were issues which had to be resolved on some of the accounts. It was agreed by the Board that all outstanding rates for minimal amounts would be written off. The board agreed unanimously.

c) **Budgets 2024/2025**

Three provisional proposals were put forward to the Board (1) The Rates stay the same (2) a 3% increase (3) a 10% increase.

Following discussions by the board it was agreed to implement a stand still.

It was proposed by M Grant and seconded by A Styche and agreed unanimously by the Board.

d) **Laying of the Rates** – It was proposed and seconded that the Drainage Board do hereby make a Drainage Rate for the purposes changeable there on assessed on the Annual Value of Agricultural Land and Buildings subject to the provisions of the Land Drainage Act 1991 as here under set out that is to say:

An Occupiers rate assessed at 0.147p in the £ for the period ending on the 31st December 2025. 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 here under 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 Land Drainage Act 1991 for which the Rate mentioned is made	Amount of the rate in the £ for the Occupiers Rate
£p in the pound	14.70p/£
Special Levy	£65,214.91
Expenses of Administration under this Act	0.1050
Works of maintenance un the said Act	0.2575
Improvement of existing works under the said Act	0.000
New works under the said Act	0.000
Precept of the Environment Agency under the said Act	0.0456
Total Expenses	0.4081
Less Government Grants	0.000
Contributions from EA	0.0185
Other Income	0.2426
Total Income	0.2611
£p in the pound	0.1470

7 **Internal Control Financial regulations** – Members had been asked to read and digest the Risk Management Policy, Financial Regulations and Standing Orders. These were discussed and their effectiveness was discussed. The Internal Control Arrangements throughout the year were discussed and found to have been followed and had been effective. Amendments were discussed and found not to be necessary. The policies were approved and signed off by the Chairman.

8 **Stone Creek** -The Clerk outlined that our engineers Yorkshire and Humber are completing the survey and are starting the modelling process between the doors and the railway bridge. They had commented on 50% silt in the drain. HS mentioned the Leaking doors but the EA will not accept it leaks so unless we do it, it will keep leaking, the EA also have no desire to clean the outfall. Left hand side doors need work because silt is stopping it shutting. MG – that is changing the course of the water way. HS – can't we send Wilkin in – RW - no as it would raise issues on the Ramsar site.

Following up on the meeting in December. GN – follow this up as an emergency proposal. TA - do we need permission for emergency work. REW – we may get funding but no promises. Big temporary pumps cleared one side, but consent to jet them is needed on the EA site.

- 9 **Sand Le Mere** – Last summer we took over the doors. RW has the key and they will be on the insurance this year.
- 10 **Skeffling** – Skeffling pumps have planning permission for pumping over the new bank rather than the old so don't have to have MMO consent. EA have applied for planning on Winstead outstray pumps but do not think planning has been accepted. By the ERYC Humber Lane Road culvert is broken. We sent Andrew Wilkin in and EA said not their responsibility but now the EA have accepted responsibility and they will put it right.
- 11 **Hedon and Paull** – a little confusing on what is happening. AS – spoke of new culvert on Paull Road. RE – discussed this in general and stated it is a mismatch. JM – had it all agreed then changed it all. GN – pursuing major flood elevation scheme for whole site.
- 12 **New Board Area** – Nothing to add, a letter to the Secretary of State was sent by ADA 5th September 2023. Still no parliamentary time can be found but still feel left in limbo.
- 13 **EYRC Flood Alleviation Schemes** – REW – all had circulated emails from Paul Kendall @ ERYC with briefing notes – still proposing to go into Old Fleet from Bilton. Yorkshire Water are doing some SUDS in the village. A survey was taken 10 days after the last meeting and we have asked for the report. AS - we need to stand our ground and not put more pressure on Preston North Drain. They would want consent from us. The Board agreed they would NOT give consent unless they are putting pumps in. AS proposed and 2nd JM all in favour.
- 14 **New Tenders 2024/2025 and 2026** – Tenders are due in May for either 3 or 5 years, options are available so as a board we have to decide. MG proposed 3 years and all agreed. Clerk to circulate in March
- 15 **ADA Northern Branch** – REW will let everyone know when the May date comes in
- 16 **Driffield Show** – 17th July 2024
- 17 **ADA Northern Branch AGM November 2024** – To be confirmed
- 18 **Any other Business** – Skeffling pumps, needs a generator at times but we were told NO any problems and EA will bring a mobile generator in. pointed out was when **Northern Power Grids** electric goes off for 35 hours at a time and there is no generator there causing serious floods.
- Flood and Coast** Meeting in Telford June 2024 – date to be confirmed and will let you know.
- Humber News Letter** – The Clerk will send out if requested but makes for frightening reading.
- Proposed Boat**
- GN – Had after last meeting spoke to Andrew Wilkin and is looking at the option, he had taken on board the comments on spraying and Drone etc. TA – noted we need


to be able to spray first as control may be OK for 5 years. GN – to pursue further and then report back to the board as soon as possible

19 **Future Meeting** - 4th June 2024 Venue confirmed as Ottringham Village Hall.

Signed as a True & Correct Record of the Meeting



Chairman Guy Nettleton



Clerk Ralph Ward