

Meeting of the South Holderness Internal Drainage Board
Held at: Ottringham Village Hall, Main Road, Ottringham
On: Tuesday 7th February 2023 at 9.30am

PRESENT

Guy Nettleton (Chairman) - Winestead
M Grant - Keyingham
J Maston – Preston
R T Williams – Ottringham
M Jackson - Ottringham
P Lount – Skeffling
Chris Leckonby - Skeffling
A T Annison – Thorngumbald
M Cook – Thorngumbald
R Stephenson - Winestead
Cllr C Holmes
Cllr B Skow

IN ATTENDANCE R Ward (Clerk), D Moss.

1. **Apologies for absence** – Howard Sadler (Vice Chairman), A Styche, Cllr D Edwards, Cllr D Tucker, Cllr J Dennis, Cllr S Steel, Cllr J Holtby
2. **Declaration of Interest**
All Farmer members have an interest as rate payers.
3. **Minutes of the Meetings held on Tuesday 8 November 2022**
After an amendment on maintenance sites regarding Old Fleet altered to Preston New Drain and the woodyard altered to Pinefleet.
The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by Chairman Guy Nettleton
4. **Matters arising therein not included on agenda**
None
- 5a/b. **Maintenance works for IDB and Maintenance Works under the PSCA**
A majority of the maintenance work on both the IDB and PSCA sections have now been completed.
A small amount of bush clearing still to be done.
Preston New Drain/Saltend – On the newly cleared paddock area the contractors were going in on Wednesday 8th February to carry out the required work.
Preston New Drain/Pensana – The area within the grass paddock has been completed
Winestead Drain/PSCA – Apart from some bushes to remove – all the work is up to date.
- 5c. **Health & Safety**
Ralph Ward stated there was no incidents to report.
To assist in health and safety issues the gateway down the Paull slip road into Pensana is going to be cleared and opened up to enable machinery to be off loaded/loaded in a safe manner and not obstructing the highway.
- 5d. **Correspondence**
A list of correspondence, received and sent, was handed out to members.
Jayne Moxon from Withernsea Town Council had contacted the Board regarding the overgrown dyke along the old railway line near the allotments. This area was not in the boards remit but passed the relevant contacts at the ERYC onto her. RW was going to contact her to see if they had got this resolved and if there was still an issue offer assistance, at a cost, to help clear the dyke to prevent any flooding issues in the future.

5e. Planning Application

A list of applications was handed out to members and approved.

Wardell Armstrong – Proposed Solar Farm at Froghall Farm, Preston – This is only an EIA Scoping Opinion at this stage but full planning permission is expected to be submitted in the near future – The board stated that a full flood risk and drainage strategy was needed to be produced to enable further comments to be made. They also stated that under the byelaws 9 metre easements on both banks were needed and that no structures were to be erected within this area. Any relevant consents under the Land Drainage Act must be applied for and approved before any discharges/alterations were carried out.

Hull Eco Park – this is still an ongoing issue and the board is continuing to object to their proposals.

5f. Land Drainage Act Consents

A list of applications was handed out to members and approved.

Skeffling Managed Retreat – A list of approved consents to date, made by the boards consulting engineers from Ouse and Humber, were handed out – This is still an ongoing project with some consents still under consultation and some still to approve.

5g. Bank Accounts

A summary of bank account activity was given out to members. Discussions took place and this was approved.

5h. Accounts for confirmation

A summary of accounts for confirmation was given out to members. Discussions took place and this was approved.

5i. Other Expenses

No expenses were brought to the meeting.

- 6 (a) Rates Collected** – £112,234.39 collected to date leaving £2,172.93 outstanding. The Clerk to pursue. The Clerk informed the board that some accounts were going through the courts as agreed by the board and that he will pursue the others. The clerk also informed the board that there was 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 £180.60 from £237.30 still remained outstanding but due to changes in ownership etc there were issues to be resolved on some on the accounts and that he would report back at the next meeting with an update.

It was agreed by the Board that all outstanding rates for minimal amounts would be written off. The board agreed unanimously.

(c) Budget 2023/2024

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 5% increase inline with the ERYC rates increase.

It was proposed by M Grant and seconded by T Williams 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 chargeable thereon 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 Day of March 2024.

That the Drainage Board do hereby make a Special Levy assessed as hereunder, that is to say:-

A Special Levy chargeable to East Riding Yorkshire Council in the sum of (as listed) for the period ending on the 31st Day of March 2024.

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 hereunder 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 under 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 Arrangements and Verification of Existing Policies.

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.

8. Update of proposed pump at Stone Creek

The clerk reported back that he had been in contact, numerous times, with Chrissy Miller from the EA regarding the water flow through Stone Creek Outfall – she was going to pass our concerns onto Steven Waite but to date we are still awaiting a response.

Andrew Mclachlan from Ouse and Humber has had verbal approval for a £78,000.00 grant from Defra for a feasibility study but is awaiting written approval.

9. Update Sand Le Mere

R Ward has done an induction on how to open the gates and will hold the keys in the office for the moment. However, the official handover to the Board has not taken place.

The top flood gate is shut at the moment and has been in the same position for the past 12 months with no evidence of excessive salt water entering.

Board members will continue to monitor.

10. Update on Skeffling Managed Retreat

No work has been carried out during the winter months.

RW and GN take part in a monthly online teams meeting for updates with the next one scheduled for 28th February.

The EA are looking at installing an Archimedes screw system at both Skeffling and Winestead with the Skeffling section to be constructed further back towards Weeton to make it easier for construction.

Winestead/Outstrays Pump – They are 99% there with the structure etc. but the chairman, clerk and Andrew Mclachlan are not happy with the overall layout plans.

The easement at Welwick is a bit narrow - the hedges would need to be taken out to widen this.

Weeton Road – Public Access Car Park – Unsure of the drainage plans so need to check the levels etc.

Andrew McLachlan our consulting engineer on this project continues to monitor this on our behalf.

11. Update on Hedon and Paull Developments

This is still an ongoing issue.

Cllr J Dennis states that they are now holding progress meetings every 2/3 months but usually have nothing much to report.

A new Civil engineer for the Saltend Chemical Park has been in contact regarding the Preston New Drain Section that runs under the site and states that the preliminary findings from the site survey in October has shown that the condition of the culverts have not changed since the previous inspection but the survey was currently been checked and revised for official issue. He also stated they were going to increase the frequency of the surveys.

GN, RW and John Maston were due to attend a meeting with him on the 9th to discuss the situation.

Natural England are still insisting that the developers fence along the full length of the top of north-western bank of Reedmere Sewer. The Board are still maintaining that this was unacceptable and against the Boards bylaws which states that a 9m easement is required for access and would not give any consents. The board agreed that if this did go ahead that they would enforce their byelaws as they needed to protect all easements in the Boards area.

The Board highlighted their concerns, mainly regarding the position of Preston New Drain under Saltend Chemical Park, at a meeting held on the 9th March 2022 with representatives from the IDB, ERYC, EA, ABP, PX Group and local Councillors in attendance. It was suggested that a follow up meeting was organised for an update from all parties. Cllr C Holmes was happy to attend on the planning aspect if required.

12. Update on revising New Board Area

Nothing still to report on the statutory instrument required.

The Crown Estates had suggested an informal discussion on Sunk Island being included.

13. **Update on Humber Low Carbon Pipeline**
 Nothing much more to report to date.
 Appears to be a large paperwork exercise at the moment the agents intending to coming to talk to all the affect farmers/landowners in due course.
 Winestead Carrs – We have insisted that they drill under all the IDB and Landowners drains regardless of depth.
 The Board is going to press ahead with its consultations on this scheme.

14. **ADA Northern Branch Summer Visit 19th May 2023**
 This will probably take place at Cave Castle but unsure of the programme and will notify the Board as soon as something is more concrete.

15. **ADA Flood and Water Live 5/6th July 2023**
 The invitation was circulated to the Board members.

16. **Driffield Show 19th July 2023**
 R Ward will be attending

17. **ADA Northern Branch AGM Meeting**
 This will be held on the 24th November 2023

18. **Any Other Business**
 Humber Freeport – Following the publication of an article in the local newspaper it stated that ‘Business Rates would be managed and reinvested by the new company instead of automatically going to the government’. Further to this the Clerk had contact Innes Thomson at ADA to ask what this meant to the IDB as most of this was in the Boards area and was currently drawing agricultural rates from this and would it then go into special levy once developed. In his reply his understanding was that the Land Drainage Act was still applicable and that the appropriate rate would still be charged.
 With regards to the Special Levy he suggested contacting the ERYC and asking them to clarify the situation. If the Board were unable to clarify this with the ERYC he was happy to follow this matter up for us.
 John Ledger/Burstwick Drain – We have been copied into correspondence regarding the drain in the Hedon Area regarding the weed clearing and de-silting that Mr Ledger has sent to both the EA, ERYC and Local MP – This is an historical issue with access been the main issue - The Clerk is monitoring this and is responding when appropriate.
 Recreational Disturbance on the Humber in 2022 – A report had been received from Jackson Sage from Humber Nature – showing the number of unlicenced drones etc in the area which was at very low numbers.
 Environmental Good Governance Guide for Internal Drainage Boards - This has been produced and is available for Board Members.
 Humber 2100+ - The recent newsletter had been received and circulated to Board members for their information/comments.

19. **Future Meetings**
 Tuesday 6th June 2023 at 9.30am – Ottringham Village Hall

The meeting was closed at 11.00am.

Chairman's Signature.....*G Nettleton*.....

Mr G Nettleton

Date.....*6 June 2023*.....

Signed on behalf off

