

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE WAVENEY LOWER YARE & LOTHINGLAND INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD HELD ON 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014 AT 2 O'CLOCK AT HADDISCOE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Mr B Collen (Chairman)  
Mr P Cargill (Vice Chairman)  
Mr R Basey-Fisher  
Mr H Budgen  
Mr M Caston  
Mr J Fiennes  
Mr D Watson  
Mrs L Neal (South Norfolk District Council)  
Mr T Lewis (South Norfolk District Council)  
Mrs K Billig (South Norfolk District Council)  
Mr J Savage (South Norfolk District Council)

**In attendance:** Mr B J S Blower (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Mr R Beevor  
Mr D Burroughs  
Mr N Dodd  
Mr M Gooch  
Miss R Hipperson  
Mr C Mutten  
Mr W Slater  
Mr I Vincent  
Mr J Pettman

**16.1 Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Board held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2014 having been circulated were approved as a true record. Mr Collen was authorised to sign them.

**16.2 Matters arising**

Minute 15.5.2. Mr Cargill asked whether the Japanese knotweed problem at Wild Duck Caravan Park had been dealt with and the Clerk confirmed that contractors had been engaged who were conducting a regular programme of spraying.

Minute 15.16.3. Mr Collen asked whether there had been any further progress with the Environment Agency regarding their proposals for the Benacre outfall and the Clerk reported that the latest had been the Minutes of the Environment Agency meeting which had been circulated to Mr Budgen and Mr Collen which indicated that the Environment Agency was proposing to carry out some works this Autumn.

**16.3 Approval of the Accounts**

*B. G. Collen*

Copies of the accounts for the Board for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 had been circulated with the draft Annual Return as completed by the Internal Auditor with a summary of the comparison between estimated and actual expenditure for each level. Board members had considered the figures and it was unanimously agreed that the figures be accepted.

#### **16.4 Annual Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014**

The Board considered the Annual Return and in particular the Annual Governance Statement in Section 2. It was unanimously agreed that the content of the Annual Return be approved.

#### **16.5 Internal Auditor's Report**

The Internal Auditor's Report had been circulated and the content of the Report was noted and accepted.

#### **16.6 North Cove/Barnby Pump Replacement Scheme Update**

The Clerk had circulated updated figures for the estimated cost of the Scheme (as attached). He explained that most of the additional cost over the original estimate arose from the requirement for a fish friendly pump and an eel and elver pass which is now a condition of the Scheme being approved by Natural England and the Environment Agency. He further explained that since the attached revised estimates had been prepared in preparation for the meeting, budget figures had been received from Broadland Environment Services for the cost of the works that were to be undertaken by them as part of the Scheme. In the revised figures attached the cost provided for was £50,000.00 but the BESL estimate had come in at £95,000.00. The Clerk reported that he had instructed the consulting engineers Rossi Long to try and negotiate this figure with BESL and at the same time to obtain an alternative quotation for these works to be undertaken.

At present there has been allocated £180,000.00 grant aid towards the Scheme although this is subject to final approval. Clearly with the additional costs additional grant will be needed and the Clerk reported that the Environment Agency had indicated that they were optimistic that additional funds might be made available in the current year. The required approvals from Natural England were being sought and once obtained application could be made to the Environment Agency for land drainage consent and after that formal application for grant could be made and it was hoped that this would be ready for the project appraisal board meeting in September. It was acknowledged that no decision on whether to proceed with the Scheme could be made by the Board without further information as to the final likely cost to the Board. It was agreed that the Clerk should proceed with the preparation for the Scheme in the expectation that it will proceed and that Messrs. Collen, Cargill and Watson should be authorised to make a decision as to whether to proceed with the Scheme once the final cost was known and that they should make that decision

*B. Collen*

following consultation with the principal ratepayers on North Cove and Barnby levels once the net cost was known.

### **16.7 Environment Agency Highland Water Proposals**

The Clerk reported on the proposals received from the Environment Agency to change the procedures by which they pay their highland water contribution to the Board. There was linked to this the possibility that an arrangement could be made for IDBs to assume greater responsibility for maintenance within the entire catchment for each Board. A pilot project was being run in the Norfolk Rivers Board area this Autumn where the IDB will carry out maintenance in return for a payment by the Agency. Ultimately these changes might lead to the Boards being able to extend their areas to include the upland catchment but this was likely to be possible only if there was a change to the rating system. However, this presents an opportunity for Boards to demonstrate that they are able to undertake works more efficiently than the Environment Agency. Concern was expressed at the Board assuming responsibility for upland drainage channels which have been poorly maintained or not maintained at all in recent years but it was agreed that this was a welcome approach and presented a good opportunity for IDBs which should be explored further.

### **16.8 ADA Eastern Branch Matters**

The Clerk reported that a meeting of the Association of Drainage Authorities Eastern Branch had been held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May when it had been agreed that meetings should be held at least twice a year. The Clerk reported on the excellent work being undertaken by the Chairman of ADA Mr Henry Cator to raise the profile of IDBs nationally and stressed the importance of supporting that work through attendance at branch meetings. He encouraged all members to attend and to consider who else might usefully be asked to attend to assist with raising the profile of IDBs.

### **16.9 Health & Safety Report**

The Clerk had circulated the Health & Safety Officer's Report which Board members had considered and the content of the Report was noted. It was further noted that the Health and Safety Officer had checked and confirmed the existence of assets as shown on the Assets Register.

### **16.10 Any other business**

16.10.1 The Clerk read an email received from Councillor Pettman of Broadland District Council who has suggested the Board should look in to generating electricity through the use of hydro electric generators where they adjoined rivers that have a constant flow. The suggestion was noted and discussed but it was agreed that this was beyond the remit of the Board.



- 16.10.2 The Clerk reported on two cases in the Burgh Castle area where developers are seeking IDB byelaw consent to discharge surface water into the IDB area at a rate in excess of the greenfield run off rate. Consulting engineers had been engaged to advise on developers' proposals and in both cases the additional flows would be modest and could be accommodated taking into account the surface water lagoon built for the Tesco development a few years ago. Although the proposals were not of great significance formal agreement would be needed in each case with the developers which would be concluded by the Clerk in accordance with the developers' timetable. The Chairman took the opportunity to remind Board members that where there is development which affects the Board's area details should be brought to the Clerk's attention so that appropriate development contributions could be secured.
- 16.10.3 It was agreed that the date of the next meeting should be the 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2015.

*B. G. Cotton*

<b>Barnby - N Cove Reorganisation - Revision of estimates</b>	<b>Original</b>		<b>Current</b>	
Preliminary investigations (site surveys)	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000
DC Hunt Replacement Pump (1,000 l/s) and tube	£36,000		£36,400	
DC Hunt Control panel for 1,000 l/s pump	£8,000		£8,000	
DC Hunt Install gate valve on existing pump rising main in sump	£3,000		£5,000	
DC Hunt Additional Pump (500 l/s) and tube	£30,000		£29,200	
DC Hunt Control panel for 500 l/s pump	£7,000		£6,300	
DC Hunt Cast iron discharge pipework for 500 l/s pump	£10,000		£10,000	
DC Hunt Materials and Labour for electrical work	£7,000	£101,000	£6,500	£101,400
BESL Earth moving to connect Soke Dyke at Hundred Drain end west to east plus provision of 2 no. water control structures with elver passes	£35,000		£35,000	
BESL Soke Dyke resectioning at points B, C & D u/s of Hundred Drain end plus extra over resectioning to design bed grade along 400 m approx d/s	£0		£5,000	
BESL From Soke Dyke ch1065m move w/l control about 300m u/s and provide larger access crossing culvert and elver pass	£0		£10,000	
Rebuild access bridge across pump drain at Share Mill	£15,000		£0	
DC Hunt Dams with piling to stank off Share Mill inlet pond	£3,000		£3,000	
DC Hunt Temporary pumping of inlet pond	£5,000		£5,000	
DC Hunt Repair SSP wing-wall and provide fencing at Share Mill PS	£3,000		£3,600	
DC Hunt Remove old 1,000 l/s pump and old switchgear	£2,000		£2,000	
DC Hunt Reposition weedscreen plus accommodation works for 500 l/s pump	£4,000		£8,500	
DC Hunt Decommission North Cove PS	£5,000	£72,000	£3,000	£75,100
Rossi-Long fees estimate - design	£8,000		£8,000	
Rossi-Long fees estimate - site supervision	£8,000		£8,000	
Rossi-Long fees - additional design	£0	£16,000	£4,000	£20,000
IES fees original estimate - PAR preparation and liaise with EA	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000	£3,000
BESL fees Hundred Drain end eco survey and report	£0	£0	£1,000	£1,000
UKPN upgrade of pole mounted transformer for Share Mill	£18,000		£18,000	
DC Hunt new pole kiosk & electrics	£5,000		£4,000	
DC Hunt Replace kiosk for new switchgear and provide supply cable	£11,000		£11,000	
		£34,000		£33,000
DC Hunt Extra over cost for fish friendly pumps upgrade	£0		£40,000	
DC Hunt Provide and install Eel ladder at Share Mill with water supply	£0		£5,000	
Rossi-Long fees Fish and Eel regulations liaison and additional design	£0		£5,000	
IES fees Fish and Eel regulations liaison with EA and others	£0	£0	£2,000	£52,000
DC Hunt Provisional sum for delay until March 2015	£0	£0	£10,000	£10,000
Provisional sum for earthworks delay & re-establishment post March 2015	£0	£0	£11,500	£11,500
Contingencies	£11,000	£11,000	£0	£0
<b>Totals</b>		<b>£240,000</b>		<b>£310,000</b>

*B. G. Giffen*