

Minutes of the seventy first Meeting of The Witham Third District Internal Drainage Board held on Tuesday 25th January 2011 at Fiskerton Village Hall.

Present:

J C Smithson Esq ~ Chairman
P R Hoyes Esq ~ Vice Chairman
R Armstrong Esq
I M Clark Esq
Mrs J Clark
W S Crane Esq
R Curtis Esq
Mrs M W Davidson
J R Garner Esq
R Hairsine Esq
P Harness Esq
D C Hoyes Esq MBE
Ms P Isaac
M G Leaning Esq
Mrs F M Martin MBE
Mrs J Pears
P Phillipson Esq
J G Porter Esq MBE
Dr C Shaw
M I Thomas Esq
J Upsall Esq
N E Ward Esq

In attendance:

Chief Executive
Director of Operations
Senior Finance and Rating Officer
Administration Assistant

1942. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Weightman, Mr. McCartney, Mr. Good, Mr. Frith and Mr. Fleetwood.

1943. CONGRATULATIONS

The Chairman congratulated Mr. D. Hoyes and Mrs Martin on the award of MBE in the New Years Honours List.

1944. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 26th October 2010 were confirmed.

Matters Arising

1945. RAILWAY PATHS (Minute 1917)

It was reported that the dispute was no nearer a resolution.

1946. HUNTERS LANE, TATTERSHALL (Minute 1918)

It was reported that the conveyance of the land over the culvert remained outstanding.

1947. ASHWOOD CLOSE, HORNCastle (Minute 1922)

It was reported that the Board's Engineer was preparing Tender documents and submitting an application for grant-in-aid. Members expressed concern at the effect of proposed developments upstream of the site.

1948. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY MAINTENANCE (Minute 1924)

The Chief Executive reported that, accompanied by Mr. Garner, he had held a site meeting with Mr. Russell and Mr. Barron of the Agency, to inspect parts of the River Bain. A letter received from Mr. Russell confirming additional maintenance by the Agency was read to the Meeting.

A prolonged discussion ensued on the delays incurred in the Agency's proposals to formulate an improvement scheme for Horncastle.

It was agreed to invite the Agency to the next Meeting of the Board.

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1949. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Joint Administration Committee Meeting held on 9th December 2010 were confirmed.

There were no matters arising from those Minutes.

1950. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting held on 6th January 2011 were confirmed.

Matters Arising

**1951. PLANT AND VEHICLE REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME
(Minute 2)**

It was *RESOLVED* to adopt the amended programme.

1952. CAPITAL (ASSET MANAGEMENT) PROGRAMME (Minute 3)

The Chief Executive confirmed that whilst there were no amendments to the programme, the remote water level management scheme proposed for the current year would probably be deferred until the next financial year.

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1953. INTERNAL AUDIT

It was *RESOLVED* to appoint Mr. David Gowing as internal auditor to the Board.

1954. LAND DRAINAGE ACT 1991 SECTION 37(2)

It was *RESOLVED* that the valuation upon which Drainage Rates and Special Levies be calculated at 31st December 2010 be £9,739,657.

1955. DRAINAGE RATES AND SPECIAL LEVIES

It was *RESOLVED* that Drainage Rates and Special Levies for year ending 31st March 2012 be determined as set out hereunder:-

The period for which the Rate is made shall be the year ending 31st of March 2012.

The amount in the £ of the Rate shall be 7.9p

The Rate is made for the undermentioned purposes in respect of which expenditure is to be defrayed out of the proceeds of the rate, and the estimated amount of the Rate in respect of each such purpose is:-

	<u>pence</u>
a) New Works & Improvement Works	0.91
b) Contributions to the Environment Agency	1.08
c) Administration and other expenses	1.04
d) Maintenance Works	<u>6.74</u>
	9.77

Less:	
Government Grants	0.12
Contributions from Environment Agency	1.02
Other Income	<u>0.23</u>
Adjustment from balances	<u>0.50</u>
	<u>7.90</u>

In accordance with the provisions of the Act, special levies were issued on

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|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| (a) East Lindsey District Council | in the sum of £246,977.23p |
| (b) Lincoln City Council | in the sum of £219,308.35p |
| (c) West Lindsey District Council | in the sum of £161,364.37p |

of the total of Boards expenses required for the aforesaid period, £141,783 (18.4%) was raised from the proceeds of drainage rates and £627,649 (81.6%) was raised by special levy as detailed above.

The Chairman and Chief Executive sealed the rate.

1956. DRAINAGE RATES

It was reported that 95.9% of drainage rates due in the current year had been collected to date.

1957. PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS

The Chief Executive reported that following negotiations with the Actuary, employer contributions were to increase by 2% in 2012/13 and a further 2% in 2013/14.

1958. TOTAL ENVIRONMENT

The Chief Executive reported on proposals made by a group of Drainage Boards to extend drainage districts as part of a County Council pilot scheme. Whilst the proposals had yet to be presented to the County Council, the Members agreed that the proposals appeared to offer a good solution to outstanding problems.

1959. FISKERTON FLOOD MITIGATION SCHEME

It was *RESOLVED* to include the outfall culverts from the scheme in the Boards regular CCTV inspection regime.

1960. DIRECTOR OF OPERATION'S REPORT

The Director of Operations referred to his report, which had been previously circulated, and responded to Members' questions.

The Director of Operations was thanked for attending a Meeting of Woodhall Spa Parish Council.

1961. SCHEDULE OF ACCOUNTS

Mrs Martin and Mr. Harness declared interests as relatives of directors of companies in receipt of Board payments, and took no part in the discussions.

It was *RESOLVED* that the Schedule of Accounts for the period 1st October to 31st December 2010 amounting to £326,705.79p be approved.

1962. SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Schedule was examined and the actions taken were approved.

Mr. Curtis declared an interest in a planning application from Coningsby Parish Council.

1963. VENUE

The Members were asked for their initial views on the change of venue. There were no adverse comments.

----- Chairman ----- Date