

NORTH EAST LINDSEY DRAINAGE BOARD

Minutes of a meeting of North East Lindsey Drainage Board held on Tuesday, 27th September 2022 in Stallingborough Grange Hotel at 2pm.

Present: Cllr P Batson
Mr J Fussey
Mr. L Grooby Vice Chairman
Cllr S Harness
Cllr R. Hannigan
Mr J Hargreaves
Mr. P J Hoyes Chairman
Mr R Kirk
Cllr B Parkinson
Mr. S Shepherd
Cllr D Wells

In Attendance:
Mr I R Coupland, Director of Operations
Miss J. Flower, Executive Assistant
Mrs. J. E. Froggatt, Chief Executive
Mr. G. Hird, Head of Engineering & Technical Services
Mr. S. Larter, Director of Finance & Governance
Mr M J Shilling, Director of Engineering & Technical Services

1. Apologies.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr P Clark, Mr J Finch, Cllr I Lindley and Cllr N Pettigrew.

2. Declaration of Members' Interests.

Members nominated by North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire Councils declared interests relating to their respective Councils. The Chairman declared an interest in any matters raised in respect of NELC pertaining to Stallingborough.

3. Chairman's Announcements.

In the light of the recent death of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and following last Monday's state funeral, the Chairman asked members to stand and observe a minute's silence, reflecting on Her late Majesty's long life, well lived and full of duty.

The Chairman reminded members that currently the Board holds 3 vacant seats for directly elected members:

- 2 vacancies for the electoral ward of Brocklesby, Habrough, Keelby, Kirmington, North Killingholme & South Killingholme.
- 1 vacancy for the electoral ward of Barnoldby, Bradley, Cleethorpes, Humberston, Irby, Laceby, Riby, Waltham & Weelsby.

Members were advised that the Board was in a healthy position financially at the end of August, but the papers today demonstrated some of the cost pressures for the remainder of this financial year and the significant challenges ahead for the Board being able to set a financially balanced budget in January 2023 for the new financial year 2023/24.

4. Minutes of the Board Meeting, 24.05.22.

The minutes of the Board's previous meeting held on Tuesday, 24th May 2022 were proposed by Cllr Harness, seconded by Cllr Wells and APPROVED as an accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising from the minutes, all being covered by the agenda.

5. Chief Executive's Report.

The Chief Executive's report had been circulated with the agenda. Issues highlighted included:

5.1 Annual Inspection Thursday 29.09.22

After a break of 2 years, the Boards will be hosting an Inspection on Thursday, 29th September. To date 49 members, guests and staff have confirmed attendance. A few remaining places are available, and members were asked to confirm attendance asap with jayne.flower@witham3idb.gov.uk or by telephoning 01522 697123.

This year the tour will start at Upper Witham's depot and the 4 Boards' joint office [which opened in February 2020] at Meadow Lane in North Hykeham from 08:30 onwards, with the coach departing at 09:30. The itinerary includes a presentation at the Lincoln Washlands FAS of the upgraded, automated system and then a visit to some of the sites affected by the heavy rainfall events of autumn/winter 2019/20 and the 5 relevant EA main river breach sites which impacted upon the Boards' systems and assets.

5.2 FloodEx22 Exercise.

The national flood simulation exercise to involve 20 Local Resilience Forums [LRFs] was scheduled to take place 10.09.22 to 23.09.22. This was rescheduled for Monday 14.11.22 to Friday 18.11.22. The 3 relevant LRFs for Witham & Humber Drainage Boards are Humber LRF, Lincolnshire LRF and Nottinghamshire LRF. SCG, TCG and relevant cell meetings are being rearranged and the Boards will participate in the response and recovery phases of the exercise. The review day on 18.11.22 will be an opportunity for IDBs to feed in nationally some of the lessons learned.

'FloodEx2022' is a significant regional simulation exercise involving all the LRFs along the Trent Catchment as well as all the East Coast LRFs, covering both Tidal and Fluvial Flooding.

The exercise will test the interaction between LRFs including the Humber which is also looking at a scenario like the tidal event in 2013.

Several meetings have taken place to finalise the proposed exercise. The exercise involves several virtual meetings, physical meetings, attendance at the control room and workshops. This involves IDB officers from our Boards and others in Lincolnshire. The invitations are currently being sent out to the people involved.

It will give an opportunity to consider how we engage with the LRF(s) and the exercise to maximise protection of the districts, reduce the impact of flooding and potentially have access to national resources for future events.

Whilst funding for 'in event' additional costs incurred is potentially available through the Bellwin Formula, this is providing certain trigger criteria for the relevant District or Unitary Council are met [and IDB costs may not trigger such]. There is no funding mechanism available for the post-emergency response phase, for the recovery phase. So, for example, there is no additional money to clear away the sand and debris washed in by the sea, clear and reinstate the drainage channels or repair pumping stations or embankments. It is an opportunity to raise this issue in the National Forum.

5.3 ADA AGM on-line, Wednesday 28.09.22.

Our national membership body, ADA has this year split its AGM and Annual Conference. For those who wish to attend the online AGM, it is tomorrow at 10:30 (Wednesday 28th September) and members were reminded they can register for this free event via Eventbrite on <http://www.ada.org.uk/ada-agm>

5.4 ADA Annual Conference 2022 on Wednesday 09.11.22.

The ADA Annual Conference moves from its usual London venue this year. It will be held at Dyson Farming in Nocton, Lincolnshire on Wednesday, 09th November 2022. Further details will be issued by ADA in the next couple of weeks.

The Chief Executive's report was received and NOTED.

6. External Auditors' Notice of Closure of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2021/22.

A report had been circulated with the agenda and was presented by the Director of Finance.

The Annual Return 2021/22 was agreed at the Board meeting on 24th May 2022, subsequently published on the Board's website for public inspection and submitted to the Board's appointed External Auditor PKF Littlejohn LLP on 08th June 2022. The public inspection period was from 13th June until 22nd July 2022.

The Board had until 30th June 2022 to approve and submit its Annual Return 2021/22 and the External Auditor had until 30th September 2022 to complete their work and publish their report.

The External Auditor has a statutory deadline of 30th September to complete their external audit and publish the formal Completion of Audit Certificate (Section 3 of Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR)). This was issued and received on 24th August 2022.

Part 2 of section 3 of the AGAR has been completed as follows:

'On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met'.

Under the section 'Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority' they have reported 'None'.

This therefore completes the External Audit for 2021/22 and this Board, along with the other 3 Boards in the Witham & Humber Drainage Boards group, have received the same clean Audit opinion, so there are no issues to report to the Board.

The Notice of Conclusion of Audit was issued on 01st September 2022 and has been displayed at the Board's depot, on the Board's website and at Witham House office.

Members NOTED the External Audit Notice of Closure on the IDB Annual Governance & Accountability Return 2021/22.

7. Schedule of Expenditure, 01.04.22 to 31.08.22.

The schedule of expenditure for the five months ended 31st August 2022 had been circulated with the agenda and was presented by the Director of Finance & Governance. The schedule was of invoices paid in the period, and therefore some expenditure incurred in the five months period was excluded. Items highlighted to or raised by members included:

- Items 26 & 27: £2,925.00 (net) and £1,485.00 [net] to Black Sluice IDB for External Support. Julian Hargreaves asked what this was for, and it was explained that this was the Grant Manager Contribution for the period 01.01.22 to 30.06.22, this being the Capital Programme Manager role shared between our 4 IDBs and 3 others with Georgina Nichols working on relevant schemes for each Board to lever in external FDGiA funding [examples being Immingham and Mawmbridge].
- Item 40: £80,509.50 (net) to Environment Agency for Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management IDB Precept. This being the first of 2 payments – total payment due being £161,019.00 for 2022/23.
- Item 73: £86.71 (net) to Network Rail for Barrow Haven Subway Rental (24.06.22 to 23.06.23). Members queried what this payment was for. Officers agreed to provide further information on this. **Post meeting note: this is a rail culvert near Wren Kitchens that has a dedicated walkway with steps and railings through the culvert. The Board has a written agreement with Network Rail providing access for the Board.*

Members NOTED the schedule of expenditure incurred for the five months 01st April to 31st August 2022, which totalled £314,287.44 gross or **£281,895.03** net of £32,392.41 VAT. There were £16,885.05 recharges to other bodies during this period.

8. Financial Performance Report 2022/23, as of Month 5 at 31st August 2022.

The Financial Performance Report for 2022/23 to 31st August 2022 had been circulated with the agenda. The Director of Finance and Governance presented the position, summarised as:

	2022/23 Estimate	Profiled Budget	Actual	Variance
	£	£	£	£
Income	(837,597)	(329,179)	(450,731)	(121,552)
Board & General Admin	21,900	7,626	6,817	(809)
One Off Schemes	17,000	0	1,485	1,485
Conservation	2,500	1,317	663	(654)
Depot	9,100	3,684	3,716	32
Drains	153,020	14,738	14,819	81
Pumping Stations	83,200	22,660	15,421	(7,239)
Staffing & Joint Admin	109,408	31,684	31,737	53
Consents & Enforcement	2,151	0	0	0
Engineers & Works Supervisor	176,688	57,857	56,477	(1,380)
Contribution to/(from) Reserves	0	0	113,630	113,630
PWLB				0
Rechargeable Works	100,000	7,386	11,875	4,489
EA Precept	162,630	81,315	80,510	(806)
FRS17 Pension Adjustment (net)				0
Wages & Plant Holding Account				0
(Surplus)/Deficit	0	(100,912)	(113,581)	(12,669)

The Board was showing a surplus position of (£113,581) at 31.08.22, a positive variation of (£12,669). Whilst the Board is currently showing a positive position, Members were reminded that this is still early in the financial year and some of the 'high risk' spend areas have not yet been incurred (e.g., electricity during winter months, etc) and inflationary increases are being seen across many budget heads which will impact on the remainder of this year and the next financial year.

On income, Special Levies received totalled (£311k) for the first payment from the 3 relevant councils. The second Special Levy payment by councils is due on 01st November. Drainage Rates invoices for 2022/23 were on budget, the collection rate for drainage rates income as of 31st August 2022 was 83.7% (compared with 86.2% for the same point in 2021/22). First reminders were despatched on 15th August 2022 and final reminders will be despatched in October 2022. A court date will be set for January 2023.

Highland Water claims have been submitted to the Environment Agency for the balance on the 2021/22 actual claim due of (£15,836) and for the 2022/23 estimated claim of (£112,000). In total, 80% of the estimated claim for 2022/23 (£89,600) is due to be paid by the EA in September 2022 along with the balance for 2021/22 actual (£15,836), making (£105,436) Highland Water monies due to the Board before 30.09.22.

On Rechargeable Works, PCSA works undertaken by the Board's contractor Eric Carnaby & Son Ltd, totalling £12k on behalf of the EA will be fully recharged.

The cost of the works undertaken for the Killingholme Marshes pumping station scheme continue to be recharged to Able UK Ltd, as previously agreed. However, monies are owing to the Board and payment reminders are being sent to Able UK Ltd.

A replacement culvert has been installed at Barton Upon Humber by the Board's contractors near the Humber Bridge viewing car park at a cost of £12,150. This has been fully recharged to North Lincolnshire Council (but is not included in these figures as completed and recharged in early September 2022, after the report cut-off of 31.08.22).

FDGIA income of (£116,600) had been received for the following schemes:

Scheme	Total Scheme £	Received £	Due £
Immingham & Habrough Catchment Study	(35,000)	(35,000)	0
Mawmbridge Catchment & Asset Condition Study	(96,600)	(81,600)	(15,000)
Total	(131,600)	(116,600)	(15,000)

This income will be expended during this financial year with any balance transferred to reserves for works to be completed in future financial years if required. To not distort the financial monitoring report, this amount is currently shown as transferred to reserves.

The bank balances as of 31st August 2022 were set out as follows:

Barclays Bank plc

Payments Account	£ 7,349.70
Receipts Account	£ 339.49
General Deposit Account	£ 465,000.00
Developer Contributions Account	£ 132,135.62
Nationwide Instant Access (Dev Cont's)	£ 152,276.94
Total	<u>£757,101.75</u>

Members were advised that electricity costs may be a significant cost pressure in this financial year and for next year 2023/24. The Board has a budget of £15k for the Pumping Station electricity and to date £4.4k had been spent. This equates to nearly 30% of the annual budget. ESPO have notified the Board that a further increase will be made on 01st October (the last increase was October 2021) and to expect at least a 100% increase in rates. This, coupled with additional usage if a heavy rainfall event occurs, will put significant pressure on the budget.

The insurance renewals have been undertaken for 2022. The main policies were renewed from 01st or 08th July 2022, with some smaller policies renewed from 22nd April 2022. Whilst there has been an 8.7% increase this time, it is much lower than the 65% increase last year. Overall premiums are now only 5% above what they were in 2017. The Boards are due to market test their insurances for next year's 2023 renewals.

Members were briefed on the inflationary pressures which are affecting many of the Board's costs. Electricity, fuel, plant and vehicle maintenance, insurance, mobile phones are all seeing escalating costs. Where possible, these are locked into contracts so not all the impact is being felt currently, but it will feed through into future costs which will put undue pressure on the latter half of this financial year's budgets and next year's budgets. Additionally, the availability of materials, spare parts and suitable companies to carry out works is causing additional downtime and delays. This has not been experienced as much directly on this Board due to having an external contractor to undertake the drains maintenance works, but it may do in the future should, say, a major breakdown be incurred by the Contractor.

Members noted the 2022/23 financial performance for the 5 months 01st April 2022 to 31st August 2022.

9. Write-off of Drainage Rates.

A report by the Ratings Officer had been circulated with the agenda and was presented by the Director of Finance.

The Board has a policy for writing off Drainage Rate demands under £2.50. The following 30 accounts are outstanding as of 31st August 2022 but are under £2.50 for 2022/23:

Account	Value £
0072	2.43
0095	0.63
0107	1.30
0108	1.80
0122	1.51
0129	2.14
0144	1.47
0174	1.51
0208	1.38
0215	0.80
0237	2.01
0238	2.05
0241	2.14
0271	1.05
0288	0.38
0318	2.14
0333	2.22
0361	1.47
0368	1.89
0375	1.84
0377	1.05

Account	Value £
0394	1.05
0398	1.22
0410	1.93
0418	1.13
0419	1.64
0423	2.14
0433	2.31
0436	1.38
0111 – 2018/19 (post land transfer)	-0.87
0111 – 2019/20	1.73
0111 – 2020/21	1.76
0111 – 2021/22	1.80
0111 – 2022/23	1.89
TOTAL	52.32

As each account's annual drainage rates are under £2.50, the Board was recommended to write off the debt, totalling £52.32.

Account 0250 holds a balance relating to a deceased account holder. Despite attempts to collect the balance from the estate, our efforts have proved unsuccessful. The balance on this account stands at £16.92 and it is considered uneconomical to collect.

Account 0365 contains land now used as residential housing/business purposes that should have been included in the Special Levy calculations for this year 2022/23. Unfortunately, we were not made aware of this until after the rates demands were issued. We also use the Land Drainage Act 1991 guidance of refunding the current year, plus the one previous, meaning that in most cases, two years of rates become due for 'write-off'. It is requested that the Board therefore write off £5.80 for this account, and these parcels will be transferred to the 2023/2024 Special levy calculations as part of known land movements as at 31.12.22.

Following discussion, it was AGREED that the following amounts be written off:

Under £2.50	£52.32
Uncollectable /accounts	£16.92
Special Levy	£5.80
TOTAL	£75.04

10. **Health and Safety Update.**

A report had been circulated with the agenda and was presented by the Director of Operations.

Summer maintenance means Operatives are lone working more than in winter. This gives us the opportunity to allow an Operative to come to work with Covid-19 provided they a) feel well enough and b) can work with no interaction with others. Failing to meet those 2 criteria would mean having to stay at home until they have 2 clear LFT test results (on separate, consecutive days).

Witham House office is open to members of the public and visitors. We have removed the need to wear a mask when walking around the office or along corridors and in circulation areas. Masks are still provided for those who wish to wear one. We are returning to a form of normality, but very conscious that we need to keep everyone safe and ensure we can deliver all work required. These arrangements and the Risk assessments are reviewed weekly at Management Team Meetings, and any change to national guidance is kept under review.

Cope, the 4 Boards' Health and Safety advisors have completed their annual site visits to all Four Boards. Cope have supported the review of risk assessments as part of the follow up work after the visits. The Annual Review meeting is on 17.10.22.

We have had no reportable accidents since the May report. On 12th August 2022 an Operative walked into equipment (in the field). The accident was investigated, and no further action was required.

Near-miss reporting is regularly discussed with the teams and the effect this can have in the reduction of accidents. We have had 2 near-miss reports since the last report, on UW and on W1st.

On Upper Witham, an Operative had a member of the public walk under his excavator arm whilst weed cutting in Lincoln. The member of public then proceeded to be verbally abusive to the Operative about not having room to pass and not looking out for passers-by. This person did later phone in and complain. Speaking to the Operative, he was concentrating on what he was doing with the machine but said

before moving on he would always look to see if anyone needed to pass but would be in position each time for around 5 minutes, before needing to move. When reviewing this incident, we looked at training, electronic proximity devices and signage on the machines. Training in this instance was not the issue, proximity devices are very expensive and would need installing on every machine we have so we decided to look at the signage option as a proportionate response and are currently waiting for signs to be delivered. The reason behind this decision is, this is the first time we have had someone take such a risk in all the years we have used machinery, so even though it was high risk to the person involved it is low risk of it being repeated. The signage will say "Please ensure you have the driver's attention before attempting to walk pass this machinery".

Witham First DIDB had a tractor/flail driving on the road. The Operator indicated to turn right and the vehicle behind him remained there. The vehicle behind that one decided to overtake, as the tractor started to turn. Both the Operator and overtaking driver were forced to take evasive action. The car failed to stop, carrying on as if nothing happened. The review of this incident is a difficult one, this does happen to Operators of slow-moving vehicles. Most tractor drivers will have stories of this happening to them. The vehicle immediately behind the tractor was a large van and could not be seen over, the car passing was not seen in our Operative's mirrors when he looked. We meet all legislation to be on the highway. Therefore, on review there was little to be done differently and it has been reiterated with all Operatives to remain vigilant on the public highway.

New Operatives will undergo NPORs excavator training. Their assessments have been completed and their subsequent training is booked. We have undergone forklift truck training for 6 x Operatives with more booked in soon. Manual handling training and working at heights training is booked for December, for all staff and Operatives. Training opportunities are routinely extended to Carnaby's for their staff.

The Risk Manager joined the Boards on 27th June 2022 and is currently working on the PSCA support works with the Operational Team and the Emergency Planning to support the National FloodEx Exercise on 14th-18th November, then a review of the 4 Boards' Emergency Plans and Business Continuity Plan followed by a review of our Health & Safety Policy and our Corporate Risk Register.

Members received and NOTED the Health and Safety update.

11. Annual Environment Report.

The Annual Environment Report had been circulated with the agenda and was introduced by the Head of Engineering & Technical Services.

As a public body, under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006), Internal Drainage Boards must have regard to the purposes of conserving biodiversity in a manner that is consistent with the exercise of normal functions such as policy and decision-making. 'Conserving biodiversity' may include enhancing, restoring, or protecting a population or habitat. An IDB has a legal duty to protect and enhance the environment, set out in a wide range of legislation.

The report set out the agreements and achievements of the Board's environmental activities from September 2021 to September 2022.

The Rosper Road pits continue to provide refuge and nesting for migrating wader birds with Lionel Grooby providing regular species updates to the Environmental Officer for report inclusion. Despite the extremely dry summer, the pools have maintained a relatively good level. The standout sightings this summer include Lapwings, Pochards and Curlews all of which are globally threatened bird species and thus it is great to activity at the site. The pool will continue to be monitored throughout the winter months with the hope that it continues to provide valuable habitat for birds.

The Board continues to monitor and record the barn owl and kestrel numbers across the district with this year continuing the Board's good record of providing valuable nesting for Barn Owls. Badger sets, specifically those that may potentially cause damage to flood banks are being reported and closely monitored. A carbon emission audit is being carried out with the aim of reducing the Board's carbon output. The 4 Boards' Environment & GIS Officer continues to represent the Board at environmental forums and steering groups while recently taking on the role of Secretary for the ADA Lincolnshire Branch's Environment Committee.

Members received and NOTED the report.

12. Killingholme Marshes Pumping Station.

A report prepared by the Director of Engineering & Technical Services had been circulated with the agenda and was presented.

This pumping station development is located within the Board's district, serving an area of development between the North and South Killingholme Haven, and outfalls into the Humber Estuary. This area, previously known as Killingholme Marshes, is now being promoted and developed by Able UK Ltd. [AUL] and is known as the Able Marine Energy Park.

The Board had been invited to attend the regular meetings of the Able Marine Energy Park Delivery Board. The Director of Engineering & Technical Services has been invited to the next meeting to be held on 08th November 2022.

Whilst there has been various communication between the Board's officers and AUL, there has been no progress as to the drawing up of the legal agreement necessary between AUL, NELDB and Crown Estates, allowing access to the various parcels of land to be occupied by the new pumping station, discharge pipeline and outfall structure. The Board has appointed Solicitors.

The construction of the pumping station continues slowly, with the provision of the reinforced concrete elements almost complete. But progress is not in line with projected programmes. The piles around the outfall bay remain in situ.

Access to the construction site remains open and unfettered for both the Board's officers and their representatives from Stantec, who continue to attend site to monitor work and ensure compliance with the design specification and drawings.

The Director of Engineering & Technical Services has participated in several meetings and email correspondence regarding technical aspects of the station's design and

performance. Discussions as to how the pumping capacity required of the station is to be met over the lifetime of the station continue.

The installation of the motor control centre is complete along with other electrical cabling around the intake of the station. The canisters that will house the pumps have been delivered to site and their installation is in progress.

The delivery date of the pumps is to be confirmed. However, due to the absence yet of a discharge channel from the pumping station, these cannot be installed and commissioned. It is understood that the pumps will be stored by AUL until installation, now intended sometime in 2023 [no longer August 2022]. The Board is seeking details as to how these will be stored and maintained, so that any warranty that may apply to them is maintained during this time. This is key for those pumps.

Progress on several elements of this facility has stopped. It is unlikely that the pumping station will be operational either in a temporary arrangement or as designed until some point next year, at the earliest. The Board, however, will continue to cooperate fully with this project in the expectation that it will ultimately take responsibility for the pumping station operation and maintenance, subject to a calculated commuted sum being agreed and paid to the Board.

Members received and NOTED the update.

13. Operations Report.

The Operations Report had been circulated with the agenda and was presented by the Director of Operations.

Summer maintenance is well under way on all four Boards, the dry season we have had is taking its toll on machinery. Weed cutting dry watercourses and flailing grass that is like straw means we are using more wearing parts than normal.

Winter maintenance 21/22 was completed and Darren Scott, the Board's Works Supervisor, is now overseeing the delivery of the Board's summer maintenance and the delivery of the PSCA works being undertaken by the Board's appointed contractor Eric Carnaby & Son Ltd. This work is currently going well and is on schedule.

The replacement cabinet at New Holland outfall is still needed and was included in the FDGiA review that Georgina Nichols undertook, to see if any FDGiA grant funding towards the work required was available. However, the FDGiA review for this has now concluded that there would be a shortfall for this station, as such we are currently looking at options to replace the cabinet from the Board's resources.

We are currently putting together a design to send out for quotation to replace Barton Weed screen to improve accessibility.

Following what was an extremely difficult PSCA works commissioning/quoting session with the EA for 2022/23, we are now undertaking PSCA works for another season and these works are well underway. We are still having issues with receiving maps and required paperwork from the EA, but a change in staff at the EA may improve this.

Witham Third have had an incident. The EA fisheries department have found an area on the Barlings junction with Welton Beck where too much of the bed has been removed and the toe of the bank has been damaged during PSCA works on main river. This has occurred very close to a spawning ground for Trout. We are currently investigating the incident internally and awaiting a decision from the EA as to how they are going to proceed with their investigation.

Members received and NOTED the report and update.

14. Engineering Report.

A report by the Head of Engineering & Technical Services had been circulated with the agenda.

Pleasingly, there had been no flood events on which to report.

Multi agency Rain Gauge Project (JA-5378-2020-ASS)

Officers have explored on behalf of all four Boards whether to be involved with this multi-agency scheme. Potential partners across Greater Lincolnshire are the three Lead Local Flood Authorities [LLFAs] namely Lincolnshire County Council, North Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Council. Other partners include Anglian Water and other Internal Drainage Boards (but not the EA). The scheme was proposed to be part funded by the Anglian (Northern) RFCC Local Levy and a draft bid was submitted by Lincolnshire County Council in November 2020. The proposal was to have 'live' web-based rainfall data available to partners during heavy rainfall events and historic data for post event investigations including the LLFA led Section 19 investigations. Approximately 50 sites would be located across the area hosted by partners in appropriate secure sites which potentially could be the Boards' Pumping Stations. However, we need to understand more about locations, potential ongoing maintenance costs for which the Boards may be liable etc before agreeing to participate in what is currently an expression of interest stage project. There has been no change since the May 2021 meeting and information is awaited from Anglian Water. Although the FRCC Local Levy funding has been confirmed for the project it has proved difficult to move the project forward and commit to, some potential partners have already dropped out. The project is being reviewed, no further update.

Local Resilience Forum (LRF) Lincolnshire (JA-1400-2014-ORG) Humber (ND-4250-2018-ORG)

'FloodEx2022' is a significant regional simulation exercise taking place in September 2022 [19th to 22nd] involving all the LRFs along the Trent Catchment as well as all the East Coast LRFs, covering both Tidal and Fluvial Flooding.

The exercise will test the interaction between LRFs including the Humber which is also looking at a scenario like the tidal event in 2013. For our 4 Drainage Boards are the Humber LRF, the Lincolnshire LRF and Nottinghamshire LRF.

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It will give an opportunity to consider how we engage with the LRF(s) and the exercise to maximise protection of the districts, reduce the impact of flooding and potentially have access to national resources for future events.

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Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP) (JA-5170-2020-PRO)

The Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan (DWMP) is a project lead by Anglian Water to improve the lives of people and the environment, in the East of England over the long-term. It will use it to plan for investment in drainage, treatment and sewerage systems. This collaborative and long-term strategic plan will highlight the known and expected future risks to drainage and treatment and identify the solution strategies to mitigate.

The DWMP is a long-term plan covering 2025-2050, looking at the risks in 2025, 2030, 2035 and 2050. There have been several general meetings starting in January 2020 but now catchment specific meetings are being held. On 12th October 2021 there was a meeting looking at the catchments of Louth and Horncastle which was attended by Internal Drainage Boards, ELDC and the EA. Following the survey meetings, a focus group for Internal Drainage Boards was held on 19th January 2022.

The draft plan is now open for consultation since July and closing at the end of September 2022. There will be an update at the November meeting on this.

Further information can be found on this website:

<https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/about-us/our-strategies-and-plans/drainage-and-wastewater-management-plan/>

Immingham multi-agency study and model (ND-3987-2018-PRO).

A multi-agency approach has been taken to assess the Flood Risk and distribute potential scheme benefits between the parties involved, North East Lindsey Drainage Board, EA, Anglian Water and North East Lincolnshire Council - who are hosting the scheme because they have an in year FDGiA scheme which has received funding for the work. NELDB commissioned the survey of the watercourses which will be combined in the model which Anglian Water have agreed to undertake.

The results of the work will potentially allow the Board to proceed with FDGiA funding schemes for Habrough Marsh Drain system.

All types of flood risk are included including surface water, fluvial and coastal.

North East Lincolnshire Council have secured some alternative funding and this joint approach has now ended, This means the potential Middle Drain Pump Station and Habrough Marsh Drain schemes need to be progressed separately by the Board and we are doing so.

Anglian Water Services have completed the Hydraulic Model of the combined systems, and this is in the process of being evaluated. Several minor changes are being undertaken following discussions with Anglian Water and the Modellers to finalise and refine the process for the final report which can be used for any FDGiA applications. The preliminary results are positive with regards to the Board's drainage system.

Ground Water Flooding November 2019, Barton upon Humber (ND-5379-2020-FLD).

Wren Kitchens needs to sign off the Drainage Condition for the latest phase (PA/2021/1832). Part of that is a site emergency plan, a plan has been produced for the new phase, but North Lincolnshire Council LLFA Team is insisting that the full site needs to be included before the condition can be discharged.

A multi-agency meeting has been held and Wren have agreed to produce the Site Emergency Plan.

Humber Wader Mitigation (ND-3458-2017-ENV)

This site is designed to attract wading birds as part of mitigation for development in the area. It is located adjacent to Mawmbridge pumping station and will include a small pump to top up the wet areas on the site. The scheme has evolved, and the proposal is now to have the pump location remote from Mawmbridge pumping station. Several site meetings have taken place. A Consent application has now been received but it is incomplete, and discussion are ongoing to finalise the proposed works that affect the Board. The works started in April 2022 but currently works are remote from the watercourses. Consents have been issued for most of the works which are currently on going.

North Lincolnshire Council Operation Flood Group (ND-4485-2019-GEN)

This is a multi-agency meeting to discuss and resolve local drainage issues. A meeting was held on the 17th June 2022, this was useful to re-establish contact across the agencies and receive general updates. It also enabled the issue with the collapsing culvert at the Humber Bridge Country Park to be resolved. It has now been replaced by Carnaby's funded by NLC.

Townscroft Drain/Mawmbridge Drain Branch 3 proposed bus bridge, Grimsby. (ND-4366-2018-CON, ND-4835-2019-CON)

North East Lincolnshire Council have a project to construct a bus only bridge over the Board maintained Townscroft Drain/Mawmbridge Drain Branch 3 to link the two parts of Europarc. This has now been resolved and a Byelaw Consent has been issued. No further updates have been received.

Port Infrastructure Project at Immingham (ND-6157-2022-PLN)

The Board has received a preliminary enquiry for a new port between the outfall of Habrough Marsh Drain and the EA main river, North Beck. The site drainage is split between Habrough Marsh Drain, Immingham Pumping Station and a small area near the Humber direct to North Beck.

Stallingborough 3 Sea defence improvements - NE Lindsey IDB liaison (ND-5362-2020-ASS)

The EA are advancing the development of the scheme to improve the tidal defences and outfalls along the frontage from Middle Drain to New Cut Drain at Barton. The Outline Business Case was approved in July 2020. One aspect of this scheme is considering how best to sustain the conveyance of Oldfleet Drain. Furthermore, they are also particularly looking at options to improve the defences and outfall at Mawmbridge Drain.

This potentially has an impact on Middle Drain pumped catchment, Mawmbridge pumped catchment and Oldfleet Drain.

An initial meeting was held on with the EA where options to divert flows from Oldfleet Drain into the Middle Drain or Mawmbridge Pumped Catchments were discussed, initially Middle Drain Branch 3 (6C) adjacent to the Humber bank is favourable. Further analysis and modelling will need to be done to establish how the connection is made and whether the Oldfleet gravity outfall is abandoned. The EA gravity outfall and Board's pumped outfalls will be looked at to see whether it is feasible to combine them like at Middle Drain, to ensure the gravity is not obstructed by silt.

The EA is in the process of getting the four gravity outfalls are due to be de-silted to allow inspections and CCTV surveys to be carried out. The locations are Middle Drain, Oldfleet Drain, Mawmbridge Drain and New Cut Drain.

Potentially the schemes can use FDGiA funding either combined with the EA or separately for the Board.

In anticipation of a potential FDGiA scheme for the refurbishment of Mawmbridge Pumping Station an application has been successfully submitted to the EA for funds to undertake modelling and an asset condition assessment to provide information for the main submission. The watercourse survey has been completed but modelling is currently delayed.

Mawmbridge Pumping Station was due to be dewatered for the asset inspection on 19th/20th September, but we understand this was postponed.

Barton to New Holland sea defence improvements - NE Lindsey IDB liaison (ND-5613-2021-GEN)

The EA are advancing the development of the scheme to improve the tidal defences and outfalls along the frontage from Barton to New Holland. The project considers the next 25-30 years, options will be considered against the assessed benefits for the areas behind the Humber Banks.

Two groups have been set up and each has met twice.

Project Steering Group - (including Phil Hoyes together with 2 local Councillors and 2 local members of the RFCC)

Resilience Advisory Group (RAG) - (including Darren Scott and Julian Hargreaves)

The provisional time table of the project is:

- Early 2022 - Survey
- 2022/2023 – Options Development
- 2024 – Design/Approvals/Procurement
- 2025 – On site works begin

Habrough Marsh Drain Outfall (ND-5365-2020-DRA)

A consent (ND-5976-2022-CON) has now been issued for the replacement of the pointing doors on Habrough Marsh Drain outfall. Works on the pointing doors were undertaken by the contractor working for the EA in early May, but only the doors were replaced as reported verbally at the May Board meeting. The outfall was observed at high tide and there was still a substantial amount of back flow of water passing the gates. This was reported back to the EA. The contractors produced a report which found the 'key fault found was down to excessive wear to the timber quoins'. The EA have confirmed that the contractor had been instructed to undertake further works which were 'anticipated to be completed by Autumn this year prior to the winter operational period'. The works are now confirmed as completed and Darren Scott is monitoring the situation.

Lower River Witham Strategy Review & Billingham System Review (FD-5336-2020-PRO)

Topographical survey work of the main river system in the Lower Witham [downstream of Lincoln] has been completed. This information taken will be used to create a new hydraulic model of the River Witham system. This model is now expected to be completed in March/April 2023 when it will be used evaluate various options considered economically suitable, and technically able, to provide the appropriate standard of protection as part of a long-term strategic programme of work.

Whilst this review is designed to address the long-term future of the system, its current condition and short-term work programme is of more concern. The reason for this concern will become evident should the system be exposed to similar rainfall and catchment conditions as those experienced in 2019 and 2020.

The Board's officers continue to raise issues of concern relating to the systems condition and ability to convey water with the Agency and its consultants.

The EA have a web page for the Lower Witham Flood Resilience Project

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/lincolnshire-and-northamptonshire/lower-witham-flood-resilience-project/>

The first newsletter was published in July 2022.

Upper Witham Strategy Review

This is due to start soon, and we are waiting for an invitation from the EA to engage with the project [we are advised to date it has been an internal EA review]. No further updates to report.

Members received and NOTED the report.

15. Planning & Consultations Report.

A report had been circulated with the agenda and was presented by the Head of Engineering & Technical Services. The report provided information on the planning applications received by the Board and detail of the comments submitted to the relevant Local Planning Authority (LPA).

There were no issues to highlight to members on this occasion.

Members received and NOTED the report.

16. Consents and Enforcements Report.

A report had been prepared by the Consents and Enforcements Officers, circulated with the agenda and was presented by the Head of Engineering & Technical Services:

A date is shown when the consent has been given, or an enforcement issue closed.

Byelaw Consent Applications

Reference	Location	Applicant	Details	Date
ND-5966-2022-CON	Mawmbridge Drain (4) near Mawmbridge Pumping Station.	North East Lincolnshire Council	Wader Roosting Mitigation Habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Novartis Ings – Pumping Station• Stock fencing along NE bank of Mawmbridge Drain• Novartis Screening Bund in west field• Bylaw zone runoff prevention - north west field• Palisade & other fencing (3No)• Access gates (2No)• Attenuated outfall• twin steel pipe crossing (water & power)• Power cables & water supply pipes	26/5/22
ND-5982-2022-CON	Mawmbridge Drain (4) near Mawmbridge Pumping Station.	North East Lincolnshire Council	Proposed box culvert (18t)	13/6/22
ND-6049-2022-CON	Mawmbridge Drain (4) near Mawmbridge Pumping Station.	JE Spence & Son Ltd	Temporary culvert	20/5/22
ND-6081-2022-CON	Marsh Drain Branch 2 (10B). Between AHPL	Able Humber Ports Limited	Temporary culvert 1.2m dia 18m long.	20/6/22

	Area K & L, North Killingholme			
ND-6082-2022-CON	Between AHP Area G & H under Killingholme Marshes railway track. Access Road 3	Able Humber Ports Limited	Installation of culvert under Killingholme Branch Line railway track (railway culvert) Installation of tie-in culvert to the North (access road 3 culvert)	20/6/22
ND-6135-2022-CON	Far Ings Drain Branch 1. (19A) Barton upon Humber	Far Ings Drain Branch 1. Barton upon Humber	Replacement culvert	8/7/22

Section 23 Land Drainage Act Consent Applications – District

Reference	Location	Applicant	Details	Date
ND-6030-2022-CON	Dam Road, Barton upon Humber	Mr P Gladwin	Removal of three brick arch culverts and replace one with 1.2m dia twin wall	12/5/22
ND-6100-2022-CON	Falkland Way Lorry Park, Barton upon Humber	Wren Kitchens Ltd	Pumped attenuated outfall (5.4l/s)	29/6/22

Section 23 Land Drainage Act Consent Applications – Extended Area

The Board acts as Agent for Lincolnshire County Council, the Lead Local Flood Authority. North Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Council process their own Consent Applications.

None received.

Enforcement Issues – District

Reference	Location	Description / Comments	Actions
ND-5207-2020-ENF	Land adj Brocklesby Ave, Immingham	Encroachment of access strip adj to Habrough Marsh Drain Branch 1 with a fence	Pre-action letter to be sent by Solicitor requesting that the fence be moved back to the original line.
ND-5921-2022-ENF	Barton Haven Bridge	Collapsed culvert	Works were due to commence on 22/08/22.

Enforcement Issues – Extended District

The Board acts as Agent for Lincolnshire County Council, the Lead Local Flood Authority in the West Lindsey District Council area. North Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Council undertake their own enforcement.

No current cases.


Members received and NOTED the report on consents and enforcement cases.

17. Any Other Business.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 16:13.

18. Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Board was confirmed for Tuesday, 29th November 2022 at the Stallingborough Grange Hotel.

.....  Chairman..... 29. 11. 22 Date

NELDB BM 27.09.22.

