

Minutes of a meeting of the Woodwalton Drainage Commissioners held on Tuesday 30th July 2020 at the farm office of D & J Papworth & Co, Middle farm, Connington at 11.00am

Apologies for Absence L Parker, C Evans

Present J R Papworth (Chairman), J S Papworth, S Papworth, A W Lensen, J Rule, R L Price, Cllr S Bywater

205/20 Declaration of members Pecuniary Interests

S Papworth declared an interest for any discussion regarding the Old Pump House.

J R Papworth declared an interest in any discussion regarding drain works.

206/20 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED – that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2020 were correctly recorded and that they be signed as being a true record.

207/20 Contribution to District Security Gates – J Rule and J Papworth had security gates installed at two entrance points to the district to stop hare coursers from trespassing. The board decided rather than pay for the entirety of the gates they would contribute £3600 inc. VAT and then reduce the drainage rate for a year so that everyone benefitted equally from the installation.

208/20 Matters Arising

a) Bap report – The Clerk report upon the 2019-2020 Bap report from the Environmental Officer. The report was accepted.

c) Badgers- As per minute (198/20c) R Price reported to the Operation Engineer of the MLC J Fenn that Badgers had return to the banks of Monk Lode and concern was registered that it could damage the stability and cause flooding to the adjoining land. J Fenn attended the site, but no program had been undertaken to evict them.

209/20 Maintenance of Channels

The Chairman reported that 25 hours of flail mowing had been undertaken but that drain works were on going and to date lengths 1-2-3-4-5-14-15-22-23 had been completed.

210/20 Pumping Station

The Chairman reported that the pump was in good order, and he had no issues to report.

211/20 Payments – The Commissioners considered and approved the following payments made during 2019/2020

Vouchers 1 – 16 £11,752.63 inclusive of vat

213/20 Estimates of Income and Expenditure

R Price reported that to date income of £20,488.62 had been received whilst expenditure of £11,752.63 had been incurred. The Clerk presented the bank statement that showed the balance as at 31st March 2020 as £38,752.42.

214/20 Annual Accounts year ending 31st March 2020

R Price presented the Annual Government and Accounting Statement, which were approved by the board.

215/20 Rating and Levies 2020/21

Under Section 37 of the Land Drainage Act 1991, the appropriate proportions in which the net expenditure of the Board must be borne for 2020/2021:

- a) Proportion to be borne by Agricultural Sector 96.22%
- b) Proportion to be borne by Special Levy issued to Huntingdon District Council 3.78%

A rate in the £ on agricultural land and buildings of 12.00p.

RESOLVED – that a rate of 12p in the £ be levied.

That the Clerk/Consultant be authorised to collect any outstanding drainage rate through the appropriate court.

That the seal be affixed to the Record of drainage rate and special levies.

216/20 Date of next meeting

The AGM was to be arranged once more information about Covid-19 restrictions were released.

Approved Payments:

Voucher#1 – 30/06/2021 – PSE01 – SWALEC - £331.99