

**Minutes of a meeting of the Holmewood & District Internal Drainage Board held on  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at Ladyseat Farm, New Long Drove, PR7 3PN, at 11.00 am**

**Present:** J Ayres (Chairman), D J Collett, N Collett, J Wright, Cllr J Clarke, K Smith. R Price (Clerk), T Simpson, L Parker, G Bliss, J Davis, M A Davis, J Mears

**Declaration of members Pecuniary Interests:** LP declared an interest in the application of a permanent pump installation.

**21/21 Confirmation of Minutes:** Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021 were correctly recorded and that they be signed as being a true record.

**22/21 Matters Arising**

- a) The Clerk reported that the insurances would be reviewed at a suitable time to ensure the Board was receiving the best value for money.
- b) JA informed the members that the penstock on pump 1 at Whittlesey Mere was to be sticking. RP was to contact Middle Level to reinvestigate the issue due to their staffing changes. RP was also to see at what stage Avonmouth Engineering were at regarding the lifting of pump 2.
- c) RP presented quotes for the sump cleaning of Yaxley Pumping station. The Board decided to explore other avenues.
- d) The Board were concerned about the lack of inlets in the district due to constantly being damaged by MLC flail mowers. RP was to explore possible fixes for the issue.
- e) With the outstanding application from the Great Fen project dragging on, it was agreed that all involved parties along with MLC would meet on site to come to an outcome for the application.  
JA reported that grazers are violating Bylaws by fencing within 9m of its watercourses. LP reported that cattle grids were being installed to counteract these issues. DC thanked the Great Fen for trying to resolve these issues.
- f) KS reported that work was underway for the resurfacing of access paths into the reserve and 2 vehicular bridges had been deemed structurally unsound. These would be replaced with a like for like bridge and a culvert.

**23/21 District Officer**

- a) JA reported that the water levels within the district would increase once potatoes have been put in.
- b) JM had been contacted by a ratepayer to voice his displeasure at the Boards decision to give up a section of drain running through their land. The Clerk explained that the Board as per the Land Drainage Act were within their rights to do so. The Board saw no reason to reverse their previous decision.

## 24/21 General Matters

The Clerk reported that ADA had helped secure the continued use of Red Diesel although the exact details would not be known until the literature surrounding the ruling was released.

## 25/21 Payments

Payments for the current financial year of 2021/22 were presented to the board by the Clerk. All payments were scrutinised, and the Board accepted them as being true and accurate.

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21-Sep-21	Feldale IDB E Butler rates	AM04	100620	9		£ 21.71		£ 21.71
27-Sep-21	Havenpower - Electricity	PSE01		10	1105471253	£ 493.92	£ 98.78	£ 592.70
27-Sep-21	Havenpower - Electricity	PSE01		10	1105471252	£ 469.83	£ 93.94	£ 563.77
27-Sep-21	Havenpower - Electricity	PSE01		10	1105398868	-£ 617.44	-£ 123.45	-£ 740.89
28-Sep-21	S C Electrical	PSC01	100622	11	465	£ 755.98	£ 151.20	£ 907.18
29-Sep-21	M L C Consultancy Fees	AM06	100621	12	20642	£ 49.00	£ 9.80	£ 58.80
04-Oct-21	SWALEC - Electricity	PSE02		13	2524643211	£ 293.31	£ 14.66	£ 307.97
19-Oct-21	Havenpower - Electricity	PSE01		14	1105500464	£ 597.49	£ 119.49	£ 716.98
20-Nov-21	M L C Consultancy Fees	AM06	100625	15	20803	£ 73.50	£ 14.70	£ 88.20
20-Nov-21	DRAX Electricity	PSE01		16	1105555175	£ 533.04	£ 106.63	£ 639.67
11-Dec-21	DRAX Electricity	PSE01		17	1105685468	£ 529.21	£ 105.85	£ 635.06
11-Dec-21	Feldale IDB Easton rates	AM04	100624	18		£ 167.05		£ 167.05
10-Jan-22	SWALEC - Electricity	PSE02		19	2524643211	£ 314.94	£ 15.74	£ 330.68
19-Feb-22	Havenpower - Electricity	PSE01		20	1105762067	£ 612.02	£ 122.40	£ 734.42
19-Feb-22	S C Electrical	PSD01	100627	21	607	£ 426.00	£ 85.20	£ 511.20
01-Feb-22	R J Dale flail mowing	DM01	100628	22	F177-22	£ 1,869.00	£ 373.80	£ 2,242.80
02-Feb-22	Fen Group Drain works	DM02	100630	23	5663	£ 3,717.00	£ 743.40	£ 4,460.40
02-Mar-22	Middle Level maintenance	PSB01	100631	24	21001	£ 98.71	£ 19.74	£ 118.45
08-Mar-22	Havenpower - Electricity	PSE01		25	1105824999	£ 694.83	£ 138.97	£ 833.80
08-Mar-22	Middle Level Conser Officer	AM08	100632	26	21052	£ 745.00		£ 745.00
08-Feb-22	Ada Great Ouse Branch	AM08	100633	27	2021/2022 Subs	£ 25.00	£ 5.00	£ 30.00
08-Mar-22	Avonmouth Eng Serv Ltd	PSB01	100634	28	523564	£ 5,982.00	£ 1,196.40	£ 7,178.40
08-Mar-22	PDSM Ltd	AM01	100637	29	11	£ 5,000.00		£ 5,000.00
08-Mar-22	PDSM Ltd	AM02	100637	29	11	£ 250.00		£ 250.00
08-Mar-22	ADA annual subs	AM08	100638	30	IDB2724	£ 565.00	£ 113.00	£ 678.00
08-Mar-22	Middle Level planning	AM06	100639	31	21110	£ 24.50	£ 4.90	£ 29.40
08-Mar-22	DRAX Electricity	PSE01		32	1105867926	£ 592.10	£ 118.42	£ 710.52
08/03/2022	John Ayres Chairmans exp	AM04	100635	33		£ 1,155.00		£ 1,155.00
08-Mar-22	John Mears pump attend	PSG02	100636	34		£ 342.00		£ 342.00
18-Mar-22	EDF Metering Mere PS	PSE01	100637	35	60002036	£ 244.00	£ 48.80	£ 292.80

## 26/21 Estimates of Income and Expenditure

The Clerk presented an income of £54,872.00 and expenditure of £41,778.00 to date and confirmed that the balance held with Barclays Bank as of February 28<sup>th</sup> was £100,277.99

## 27/21 Rates and Levy Requirements

Under Section 37 of the Land Drainage Act 1991, the appropriate proportions in which the net expenditure of the Board must be met for 2022/2023 is: -

- a) Agricultural Sector 96.03%
- b) Special Levy issued to Huntingdonshire D C 3.97%

The rate for 2019/20 was set at 15p. The Board are to consider the rate for 2022/23.  
Resolved – That a rate of 18p in the £ be levied for the year ending 31st March 2023.

## 27/21 Date of Next Meeting - TBC