

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

MINUTES

of the proceedings of a Meeting of the
Northern Works Committee

held at the Wheatsheaf Inn, Hubbert's Bridge
4th March 2015 at 12:30pm

Members

Chairman - * Mr R Leggott
Vice Chairman - * Mr P Holmes

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| * Cllr P Bedford | * Cllr C Brotherton |
| * Mr S Bartlett | * Cllr M Brookes |
| * Mr K C Casswell | * Mr D Casswell |
| * Cllr D R Dickinson | * Mr J Fowler |
| * Cllr Y Gunter | * Cllr A Lee |
| * Mr J E Pocklington | * Mr R Needham |
| * Mr P Robinson | * Mr M J Scott |
| * Mr R Welberry | * Cllr S Woodliffe |

(* Member Present)

In attendance: Mr I M Warsap (Chief Executive)
Mr D Withnall (Finance Manager)
Mr C Richards (Pump Engineer)
Mr J Mitchell (Acting Operations Manager)
Mr M Rollinson (Vice Chairman Southern Works Committee)
Mr V Barker (Southern Works Committee Member)
Mrs K Daft (Guest - Welland & Deepings IDB)
Mr A Malkin (Guest - Boston Borough Council)
Cllr Stuart Ashton (Guest - Boston Borough Council)
Mr Paul Grant (Guest)
Mr Richard Emerson (Guest)

The Chairman welcomed the guests to the meeting and highlighted the function of the Works Committee. He further thanked the Officers of the Board for the well conducted tour before the meeting.

705 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

706 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were raised for Minute No: 709(f) from Mr P Holmes.

707 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last Meeting of the Committee held on 1st October 2014, copies of which had been circulated, were considered and it was agreed the Minutes should be signed as a true record.

708 MATTERS ARISING

(a) Development Fund – Minute No 597(p)

The Chief Executive reminded the Committee that works at Wyberton Marsh Road will be commencing for 4 weeks from 18th May 2015. He highlighted that there could be road closures and traffic delays.

709 TO RECEIVE INSPECTION WORKS BROCHURE - Agenda Item 4

The Chief Executive presented the Inspection of Works:

(a) Fish Refuge Works for the Environment Agency (EA), North Forty Foot Drain

Chris Reeds, Senior Environment Monitoring Officer at the EA has requested to have 25 gabion baskets filled with brash and barley straw placed along the North Forty Foot Drain. These works are to be carried out by BSIDB and monitored by the Environment Agency. The Committee AGREED providing the Environment Agency fund all aspects including labour.

(b) Silt Spoil – Chain Bridge Pumping Station

The Committee discussed whether silt should be placed on the triangle of land near Chain Bridge Pumping Station. Due to the classification of the spoil the Committee AGREED that the spoil be placed on this land up to a reasonable depth of 300 – 400 mm and fenced off.

(c) Marsh Lane Industrial Estate Jetting Plan

The Chief Executive stated that the jetting works contracted out at £20,000 have not been completed due to pollution being found at two different locations.

A map detailing the pollution issues was presented to the Committee. The EA are investigating to identify the guilty parties - analysis of the polluted silt spoil samples should assist in identification. The costs of cleaning the pipes and removing the polluted silt if the polluter cannot be identified can be covered by the FDGiA Tidal Surge funds. It is recommended that jetting maintenance of these systems will be completed every 5 years.

(d) Wyberton Marsh Catchment Culvert Replacement Plan

Culverts are currently being replaced and others will be replaced in the coming months to be completed by the end of June 2015. We have attracted FDGiA funding of c£700,000 for works in the Wyberton/Kirton area by being pro-active in producing a catchment study report that has aided our efforts in attracting this funding.

(e) Wyberton Marsh Pumping Station Works

The Chief Executive gave an overview of the works in and around the Wyberton Marsh pumping station. Works will be dependent on budgets, the gravity outfall will be suitable for eels along with limited gravity discharge.

The Chief Executive requested suggestions in order to stop the livestock rubbing themselves against and damaging the fencing. Barbed wire was suggested to be the best solution.

(f) Old Kirton Marsh Pumping Station

The Chief Executive presented photographs of the old Kirton Marsh Pumping Station and asked the Committee what should be done with it. Cllr Bedford suggested contact be made with Mr Matthews who may want to restore it. It was suggested that it be boarded up and made secure with an owl box inside. The Committee AGREED to the proposed securing of the pumping station and an owl box being placed inside.

(g) Kirton Marsh Pumping Station Outfall Bays

The Chief Executive outlined the resilience works that were completed last year. Attention has been raised regarding the safety of the outfall bay. The Committee reviewed the photographs and recommended that fencing and suitable signage be erected.

Proposed Works 2016/17

(h) Refurbishment Holland Fen Pumping Station

The weedscreen cleaner was installed in 1994 and will require a full refurbishment. In order to keep the machine in good working order it will require a new trolley, supply cable and modifications to the control panel.

(i) Damford Grounds Pumping Station

Funding is being sourced from FDGiA to raise the pumps and control panels. Resilience works to construct a surge protection barrier between the EA main river (Kyme Eau) and the pumping station is also being investigated following seepage through the bank being witnessed.

(j) Swineshead Pumping Station

The works on the bays has been completed; the next stage of the refurbishment is the replacement of the weed screen cleaner.

(k) Clay Dyke Cleansing Works

Funds have been allocated to cleanse and de-silt the Clay Dyke in front of Holland Fen Pumping Station.

(l) Morley Lane, Bicker

Proposed works are to cleanse, bush and replace toe boards along the dyke on Morley Lane in Bicker.

The Chief Executive updated the Committee on the works included in the budgets.

Consenting and Byelaw Issues

(m) Littleworth Drove, Star Fen, Heckington

The Chief Executive presented a plan showing a request from the Owner to form a new larger field. The outline of the request is for the Board to give up the section of drain indicated in red across his land, which he says suffers from slips. He would like to take over the section and backfill along with the sections of private dyke (in black) and then tile drain his land from south to north with outfalls into Drain 9/1 on the northern boundary. The remaining section of Drain 9/11 on the north east boundary he would also adopt and maintain. The private drain on his North West boundary (marked purple) would be adopted by the Board to maintain the outfall for Drain 9/11.

The Committee AGREED to recommend.

(n) Slate House Farm, Rainwall's Lane, Sutterton

The Owner has requested consent to demolish the existing house and rebuild on the existing footprint which is currently sited 6m from the centre of the maintained drain.

The Owner has requested that the maintained drain fronting the property is given up and they have confirmed they are prepared to take on the riparian maintenance of the drain which is at the upper end of a maintained system.

The Committee AGREED to recommend.

710 REPORT ON RAINFALL - Agenda Item 5

The rainfall figures at Swineshead were presented, copies of which had been circulated. In addition to a copy of the Met Office rainfall amounts for 2014.

711 ANY OTHER BUSINESS - Agenda Item 6

(a) South Forty Foot Catchment

The Chief Executive highlighted a joint EA and BSIDB Public consultation to outline the South Forty Foot Catchment strategy which is due to be held in Billingborough and Bicker on 11/12 March 2015. Board members and Officers will be in attendance, if anyone would like to be involved please contact the Chief Executive.

(b) Chairman, Northern Works Committee

Mr R Leggott stood down as Chairman of the Northern Works Committee. He nominated Paul Holmes as Chairman, which was seconded by Cllr P Bedford. The Committee unanimously AGREED to the appointment.

The Chairman of the Board asked members to recognise the work and dedication that Mr Leggott has put into his role as Chairman and in developing the Works Committee.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 1:30pm.