

WITHAM FIRST DISTRICT INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Minutes of the ninety third meeting of Witham First District Internal Drainage Board held on Tuesday, 29th September 2015 in Branston Booths Village Hall at 2pm.

Present:

Mr. R.A. Fletcher	Chairman.
Mr. P. Gilbert	Vice Chairman.
Mr. E. Applewhite	
Mr. S. F. Cobb	
Mr. J. R. Crust	
Mr. T. Gilbert	
Mr. R. Hall	
Mr. M.D. Harrison	
Mr R. Hickling	
Mr. B.S. Leggate	
Mr. D.G. Leggate	
Mr. S.B. Leggate	
Mr. L. Maplethorpe	
Mr. S. Maplethorpe	
Cllr. J.F.Money	
Dr. V. Stanton	
Mr. E.H. Tonge	
Cllr. P. Vaughan	
Mr. A.S. Whitehead	

In attendance:

Mrs. Jane Froggatt	Chief Executive.
Mr. Steve Larter	Finance Manager.
Mr. Martin Shilling	Director of Operations.
Mrs. Anna Wilson	Finance and Rating Officer.

1946 Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. D. C. Armstrong, Cllr. B. Charlesworth, Cllr. R. Cucksey, Cllr. G. Hewson, Cllr. D. Jackson, Mr I. Mair, Mr. D. Means and Cllr. R. Oxyby.

1947 Declarations of Interest.

Declarations of interest were received from members nominated by City of Lincoln Council and North Kesteven District Council, in matters relating to their respective Councils.

1948 Chairman's Announcements.

The Chairman welcomed members and officers to the meeting and highlighted changes to membership as follows:

- City of Lincoln Council nominees.

It was confirmed that Cllr. Brent Charlesworth had been nominated in June as a new Board member, with 3 returning members in Cllr. David Jackson, Cllr. Gary Hewson and Cllr. Pat Vaughan.

- North Kesteven District Council nominees.

The Council had confirmed 3 returning members in Cllr. Ray Cucksey, Cllr. Ron Oxby and Cllr. John Money.

- Changes to directly elected members.

Three members had indicated they will be standing down when their term of office ends on 31.10.15, namely Mr. Sam Leggate, Mr. David Means and Mr. Eddie Tonge. The Board is currently also carrying a vacancy, following the death on 08.06.15 of Mr. Norman Osborne.

In the light of the 4 vacant seats from 01.11.15, the Chairman was pleased to report that 4 new members would be joining the Board following the Election 2015 process. These will be Mr. David Busby (representing Blankney & Martin Fens), Mr. William Grantham (representing Billingham and North Kyme Fens), Mr. Andrew Hodgson (representing Ruskington & Dorrington Fens) and Mr. Andrew Means (representing Billingham & North Kyme Fens).

Members noted these changes and the Chairman acknowledged the long service to the Board of those members standing down. Mr. David Means was unable to attend today but had attended the Executive Committee meeting on 15.09.15 where his long service and contribution, including a term of office as Chairman, to the Board had been acknowledged with a gift from members. The Chairman presented Mr. Sam Leggate with a gift from members and thanked him for his 43 years' service to the Board, five of those as Chairman from 07.11.2006 to 01.11.2011. Similarly, Mr. Eddie Tonge was thanked for his service and contribution to the Board, over the 21 years from 01.11.1994, as a representative for Billingham and North Kyme Fens and he too received a gift from members.

1949 Minutes of the Board meeting on 16.06.15.

The minutes of the Board's previous meeting held on Tuesday, 16th June 2015 were proposed, seconded and APPROVED as an accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING:

1949.1 **Request to adopt a watercourse downstream of a proposed housing development off Grantham Road, Sleaford (minute 1922.2 refers).**

A meeting with representatives of the Millward Partnership in Nottingham had been held on 16.07.15 to discuss a potential new stretch of watercourse and the the condition required on the existing watercourse, in order for the Board to consider the potential adoption of the system (but not any structures within that system).

The Millward Partnership would be considering options, as the planning application to North Kesteven District Council for housing development was processed, and in terms of timescale they suggested they would be in touch with the Board's officers in November for further discussion.

1949.2 Internal Auditor's Report on 2014/15 (minute 1927 refers).

Following on from the Internal Auditor's report on 2014/15, which he presented to the June meeting, he would be visiting on 18th & 19th November to review actions arising and to start work on 2015/16.

1949.3 IDB Annual Return 2014/15 (minute 1930 refers).

Following the Board's approval of the Annual Return for 2014/15 on 16.06.15 (together with the Annual Report & Statement of Accounts and the IDB1 Report to Defra for 2014/15), it had been submitted to External Auditors, Grant Thornton.

Attention was drawn to the Executive Committee minutes of 15.09.15, noting that Chairman's action had been taken to amend 3 boxes on Section 1 of the Annual Return, all changes relating to the treatment in the accounts of the £350k Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loan to the Board for the transfer of bridges/culverts responsibility to LCC. These changes having been made, the Annual Return had been returned to Grant Thornton and the 'Notice of Closure' had been issued on 21st September. Members ratified the Chairman's action to authorise amendment of the 3 boxes in Section 1 of the Annual Return.

It was NOTED that Grant Thornton had given a clean audit opinion, with no qualifications, but one 'other matter' had been raised, to be drawn specifically to the attention of the Board. This was as follows:

"Other matters not affecting our opinion which we wish to draw to the attention of Witham First District Internal Drainage Board for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Financial Regulations.

The Financial Regulations do not include checks to ensure that all expenditure is within the powers of the Internal Drainage Board or checks to ensure that all PAYE/Ni and VAT regulations are met".

There followed discussion about this comment, given the revised Financial Regulations approved by the Board in November 2014. It was noted and AGREED that a minor modification to wording would be made, with revisions to the Financial Regulations accordingly coming to the 10.11.15 Board meeting for approval.

It was confirmed that the 'Notice of Closure' had been advertised on the Board's website on Monday, 25.09.15 for at least the minimum period of 14 days. In effect, this now concluded the 2014/15 financial year.

1949.4 Summer Inspections 2015 (minute 1937 refers).

There had been good attendance at the group of 3 Boards' two Summer Inspections, the first on 15.07.15 internal to the 3 Boards' drainage districts and the more recent visit on 22.09.15 to North East Lindsey IDB's district (including the Port of Immingham).

Members expressed support for the content of the Inspections and a similar format for 2016.

1950 Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting on 15.09.15.

The minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 15th September 2015 were proposed, seconded and APPROVED as an accurate record and recommendations from the Committee to the Board were noted.

MATTERS ARISING:

1950.1. Pay Award 2015/16 (minute 6.3 refers).

It was highlighted that, following the last meeting of the ADA Branch Pay Committee on 09.09.15, there remained no agreed recommended pay award to Boards for this financial year (from 01.04.15). Members noted that some Boards had, in the interim, paid 1% 'on account' pending agreement and that the Chief Executive would seek staff views on this. However, the matter would be raised at the next ADA Lincolnshire Branch meeting on 15.10.15.

1950.2 Five Mile development, Washingborough.

Whilst no progress had been reported to Executive Committee on 15.09.15, there had now been action to progress the few outstanding issues on site (identified to the new site owners on 21.11.14 and 17.12.14 as those issues requiring completion in order to fulfil the 2007 Agreement with the Board). The Director of Operations would update members, with site photographs, following his and the Engineer's site visit last week.

1950.3 Developer Agreements (minute 11 refers).

Richard Hickling raised this matter, commenting on the diverse arrangements in place from the WLMA in King's Lynn currently charging developers £74k per impermeable hectare for increasing the flow of water into the drainage district, North East Lindsey levying a charge of £20k per impermeable hectare and there being no agreed policy in the group of 3 Boards.

1951 Minutes of the Joint Services Committee meeting on 27.07.15

The minutes of the first Joint Services Committee meeting held on Monday, 27th July 2015 were NOTED, as were the recommendations from the Committee.

MATTERS ARISING:

1951.1 Financial Report 2015/16 (minute 6 refers).

Attention was drawn to the joint administration recharges between the Board, Witham Third DIDB and Upper Witham IDB for the first three months of 2015/16 to 30.06.15. On a budget for the three months of £101,354, actual expenditure was £101,165.19 (i.e. a positive variance totalling only £188.81).

It was highlighted that this Committee now had a wider role including, for example, Engineering Services, GIS, Consents & Enforcements and Operations.

On Engineering Services, against a budget of £54,484 for the 3 months, expenditure of £55,485.85 had been incurred (giving an adverse variance of only £1,001.85).

Although the budget assumption was that Upper Witham's Engineer returns from secondment on 01.11.15, there is likely to be continued savings to all 3 Boards as an extension of his secondment to 31.03.16 is being finalised.

It was noted that overall, for all joint services, on a budget for the 3 months to 30.06.15 of £186,383, expenditure was £185,012.77 (i.e. a positive variance of £1,370).

The Financial position on joint services was noted, as too were the Terms of Reference for the Joint Services Committee.

1951.2 Motor Vehicles Allowances Policy (minute 8 refers).

Progress on implementing the revised vehicle allowances policy was noted and that the commercial lease vehicles were likely to arrive in early November 2015. The vehicle allocations were as set out on page 9 and, whilst there was to be additional 4 x 4 resilience in the Board's fleet of vehicles, there would no longer be a designed depot 4 x 4 vehicle.

Members noted the revised arrangements.

1952 Chief Executive's Report.

The Chief Executive's report for September had been circulated with the agenda and was presented with updates. Issues highlighted were:

- Insurance Renewals June 2015 to June 2016.

At £23,066.86 in 2015 this represented a 6.6% price increase on the £21,642.02 cost of insurance in 2014 (a 5% increase had been assumed in budgets). This did, however, include insuring the Board's new Cavalier Herder flail, delivered on 13.07.15 on the Case Puma tractor, at a value of £55k.

- Eel Regulations (England & Wales) 2009.

Members were advised of the potential costs of full compliance with the Eel Regulations. Based on an assessment of 6 of the Board's pumping stations to date, the estimate for compliance at those is £2,752,467. A further 7 pumping station sites had yet to be assessed by Capita Symonds but, if the current average cost is used at £585,452 per pumping station, this gives a further notional cost of £4,098,164. The total estimated Eel compliance cost for the Board is currently therefore £6,850,631 (a figure of £9,432,438 for Upper Witham and £10,647,728 in Witham Third provided comparison).

- Consents & Enforcements Service for Lincolnshire County Council.

Members noted that LCC, in the capacity as Lincolnshire's Lead Local Flood Authority since April 2012, had extended the annual Memorandum of Understanding (whereby the IDBs provide a Consents and Enforcements service outside the drainage districts in their extended rainfall catchment areas for the LLFA) to a 3 year agreement ending 31.03.18.

1953 Election 2015.

Following earlier discussion about changes in membership of the Board, it was confirmed that, as at the closing date of Friday, 25.09.15, there were not more completed nomination papers than the 21 available seats on the Board (excluding the 7 members nominated by the Councils),

so 21 members are duly appointed to membership of the Board for a 3 year term from 01.11.15 to 31.10.18. This included the 4 new members referred to earlier.

It was noted that accordingly, a 'Notice of No Poll' had been placed in the Lincolnshire Echo for Thursday, 01.10.15 and will be on the Board's website. Letters of appointment and copies of the notice were distributed to members and will be posted to absent and new members. This concluded the Election 2015 process.

1954 Financial Performance Report 2015/16, month 5 to 31.08.15.

The Finance Manager presented the month 5 financial performance report to 31st August. This had been circulated with the agenda and set out approved full year Estimates 2015/16, profiled budget, actual income and spend and variances.

In summary, the anticipated 31st August position was a (£304,317) budget surplus as the Board receives much of its income from drainage rates early in the financial year. The actual position was a surplus position of (£327,542), so a positive variance position of (£23,225).

Whilst the Board has currently an improved actual position against budget, this was cautiously optimistic at this early point in the year. Income was good at (£15k) above profile at this stage in the year and the Board has benefitted from savings on electricity costs (£12k), fuel prices being lower than planned (£4k) and a refund of (£6k) from Western Power on the generator hire costs for the Twenty Foot Drain bank reinstatement scheme.

However, against this there is this year's pay award to be paid, the risk of a wet autumn/winter with increased electricity costs at pumping stations and further overtime costs yet to be incurred.

On plant purchases, in 2015/16 there was the Cavalier Herder flail (delivered 13.07.15) at £55,000.

On drainage rates collection, this was good at 96.1% as at 31.08.15, with £464,198 collected on 2015/16 and from prior years' arrears, leaving a closing balance of £18,275.45 yet to be collected. Final reminders had been posted on 03.09.15 and a court date had been set for 25.11.15. The collection rate was an improvement on last year, at this point in the year.

Highland Water payments were due from the EA by 30.09.15 and this should be the positive balance due to the Board on 2014/15 of (£231) together with 80% of the 2015/16 estimate at (£10,040). Payment had been chased.

On bank balances and investments, the NatWest account had a balance of £327,069.15 and the NatWest instant access account had a balance of £75,057.53 as at 31.08.15 (i.e. total balance of £402,126.68).

Members received and noted the report.

1955 Statement of Expenditure, 01.05.15 to 31.08.15.

The Statement of Expenditure for the 4 months to 31st August 2015 had been circulated with the agenda.

Gross expenditure was £354,522.51 which, net of £31,828.46 reclaimable VAT, was net expenditure of £322,694.05. Of this, £8,746.00 was rechargeable to other Boards and bodies like AWS.

It was noted that expenditure in the period included some high value items e.g.

- EA Precept Payment 1 for £41,515.50 (second payment due in November 2015), item 65.
- Mastebroek Ltd for £4,502.62 for spare parts for flails (item 87).
- Mastebroek Ltd for £55,000.00 for Cavalier Herder flail (item 89).
- Associated expenditure (items 3 to 10 and item 92 for example) for Chapel Hill Twenty Foot Drain bank reinstatement scheme.
- Perry's Pumps Ltd - £11,543 (item 99) and £7,872 (item 100) for pump lifts and repairs on both pumps at Heighington Pumping Station.
- Insurance Renewals from June 2015, Towergate Risk Solutions (items 138 to 150).

Members received the report and noted the expenditure incurred.

1956 Write-off of Drainage Rates.

The Finance and Ratings Officer had prepared a paper requesting the write-off of drainage rates totalling £123.43 across 3 accounts and costs of £70.00 on 1 account, write-offs being reserved to the Board.

She explained the reasons on account 532 (rates of £13.57), account 659 which should have been transferred to Special Levy (rates of £88.37 and costs of £70.00) and account 832 where the occupier of land is unknown (rates of £21.49).

The Board approved the write off of drainage rates of £123.43 and costs at £70.00.

1957 Director of Operations' Report.

The Director of Operations' Report to 15.09.15 had been circulated with the agenda and was presented, together with updates, as follows:

- **Planned Maintenance Programme.**

The summer maintenance programme had progressed throughout this period. The work to flail the channel batters and clear the channel bed of vegetation had progressed well on the whole, with only the usual challenges of inclement weather, standing crops and drilled fields providing obstacles to good progress. Some changes in crops (to beans, OSR and maize) had changed somewhat the order of working on channels.

During this period, Notices had been sent to those affected by the proposed winter programme 2015/16 of channel de-silting within Ruskington, Martin and Blankney Fens.

The reinstatement of the slip in the Twenty Foot Drain batter at Chapel Hill was completed on 25th June, work undertaken by the Board's workforce. The reinstatement of the channel profile downstream will continue during the winter months, when the water's edge will be reinforced using timber piles and boards and reinstated using imported material. This work will ensure continued support to the access road that serves the pumping station and neighbouring residential property. The Board has received a refund of some £4900 (net) from Western Power Distribution in connection with the temporary power supply during part of the works. Their original estimate of £8956, plus VAT, included for the full use of the temporary generator capacity. In reality, the full capacity was not required and so very little fuel was used to power them and the time needed to support them was minimal.

- **Pumping Stations.**

Pump no.2 has been reinstated to Heighington Pumping Station. However, due to the high summer retention levels, it had not been re-connected to the discharge pipeline. This will be

completed when levels can be lowered in the autumn. The pump received the usual cleaning and re-application of paint protection to its casing as well as a new top thrust bearing and bronze neck bush. This work was included in the budget for pump maintenance during 2015/16.

- **Plant.**

The Case Puma 170 tractor with its new Herder Cavalier HBK 418 flail were returned to the depot on 13th July, where driver instruction and training was provided. Both the Board's flails have been fitted with devices to limit the height of the hydraulic arms whilst in operation. These give greater confidence whilst the flails are being operated under power cables that, should a failure occur, the arm will not strike a live cable or transformer. These devices are already fitted to all the Board's excavators.

- **Public Sector Co-operation Agreement.**

The Board continues to undertake the work commissioned under the PSCA by the Environment Agency. It includes the clearing of obstructions from Digby Beck, the cutting of flood defence embankments at Digby, Sandhill, Farroway, Ruskington and Anwick and the removal of vegetation from the channel bed of these watercourses. This work will continue throughout this financial year.

- **Lincolnshire Show, 24th & 25th June.**

The Board was represented at the show as part of a stand and display demonstrating the work of all the Boards in Lincolnshire, organised by the Show Committee of the Lincolnshire Branch of the Association of Drainage Authorities. The display included one of the Board's Atlas 140W wheeled excavators. The stand received a steady flow of visitors throughout both days of the show including the Board's Chairman, Vice Chairman, the Chairman of ADA (Henry Cator) and ADA's Chief Executive (Innes Thompson).

- **Timberland Diesel PS Open Day, Saturday, 12.09.15.**

The Board hosted a further open day recently, some 30-40 visitors attending on this occasion.

- **Winter de-silting programme 2015/16.**

Members were briefed on the forthcoming winter programme as follows, noting that Notices of Entry had been posted to affected occupiers of land:

<u>Watercourse</u>	<u>Length m</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Farroway Bankside Drain	3455m	2.1 miles
Busby's Drain	760m	0.5 miles
Blankney Fen Main Drain	4670m	2.9 miles
Martin Town Dyke	4180m	2.6 miles
Wrights Dyke	325m	0.2 miles
Martin Delphside Drain	2090m	1.3 miles
Totals	15480m	9.6 miles

- **EA proposed de-maining of watercourses.**

Members were briefed on informal approaches to the Board from EA staff concerning those watercourses where the EA is interested in de-maining, with the IDBs being the potential recipient. For Witham First, the relevant watercourses were given as (those marked with an * are those watercourses that would provide some hydraulic benefit to the Board's existing system):

Ancaster Beck (part).
 Anwick Catchwater *
 Digby Beck (part) *
 Dorrington Catchwater (part).
 Farroway Drain.
 Heighington Beck.
 Leasingham Beck.
 Metheringham Delph.
 New Cut (Billinghay) (part).
 North Hills Drain.
 Ruskington Catchwater.
 Washingborough Roadside North.

There followed considerable discussion about the rationale for particular watercourses being included, whilst others were not, the condition in which they might be handed over and at whose expense they would be brought up to standard, future maintenance costs and funding and the impact on the Board's existing system. It was outlined that all such watercourses across Lincolnshire had been mapped on the GIS and the ADA Lincolnshire Branch Secretary had written to the EA's Area Manager (Lincolnshire & Northamptonshire) to request discussion. This was at an early stage and members will be briefed on discussion.

Members received and noted the report.

1958 Consents & Enforcements.

The Engineer's Consents & Enforcements report to 29.09.15 had been circulated as follows:

- **Byelaw Consent Applications**

Reference	Location	Applicant	Details	Date
FD-2173-2015-CON	Chappel Hill PS	Western Power	3 dyke cable crossings	14/07/15
FD-2264-2015-CON	West Cross Drain	Mr A Hodgson	Land drain outfall	01/09/15

- **Section 23 Land Drainage Act Consent Applications – Board's District**

Reference	Location	Applicant	Details	Date
FD-2156-2015-CON	Digby Fen	Mr R Wright	Fill in watercourse	27/07/15

- **Section 23 Land Drainage Act Consent Applications – Board's Extended Area**

The Board acts as Agent for Lincolnshire County Council, the Lead Local Flood Authority.

Reference	Location	Applicant	Details	Date
FE-2174-2015-CON	Potterhanworth	FG Battle & Sons	Stormwater outfall	13/07/15

- **Enforcement Issues – Board’s District**

Reference	Location	Description / Comments	Actions
FD-1970-2015-ENF	Sleaford Fen, off Electric Road Sleaford	Watercourse filled in.	Meeting on site with complainant, awaiting Land Charge Search.

- **Enforcement Issues – Board’s Extended Area**

Reference	Location	Description / Comments	Actions
FE-237-2013-ENF	89a Main Street, Dorrington, Sleaford	Flooding in property and garden.	Order to carry out remedial work received from NKDC. Continuing to monitor. Work programed for November 2015.
FE-1406-2014-ENF	Spring Lane, Leasingham, Sleaford	Possible maintenance required to watercourse.	Following investigation and consultation continuing to monitor.
FE-1683-2014-ENF	Rear of North St, Digby	Possible culvert blockage.	Awaiting action by PC as to their intentions, Will monitor.
FE-1881-2015-ENF	Fen Lane Metherringham, Lincoln	Water not flowing in watercourse.	Awaiting response from land owner.
FE-1913-2015-ENF	Sleaford Road, Dorrington	Blocked culvert.	LCC to clear culvert. Additional maintenance required to watercourse

The consents and enforcements report was noted.

1959 Planning Applications Report.

The Engineer’s Report on planning applications considered, and comments submitted, relevant to Lincolnshire County Council, North Kesteven District Council and City of Lincoln Council for the period 08.06.15 to 16.09.15 had been circulated as follows:

NORTH KESTEVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Location Applicant Details

No objections were raised to the following applications:

1 Harrowby Close, Mr B Hall Extension to dwelling, detached double garage and new vehicular Digby access

7 Fen Road, Washingborough White House, Metheringham Fen	Ms S Newell Mr & Mrs Spencer-Knott	Outline for semi-detached dwelling with all matters reserved Garden room to rear
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**LINCOLN CITY
COUNCIL**

Objection was raised to the following application:

Land South of The Old Mr G Smith Erection of 7no. industrial units
Bottle Yard, Great
Northern Terrace,
Lincoln

The Board OBJECTS to this application because there is no drainage design. At section 12 of the application form it is not correct to indicate the site is not in Flood Zones 2 or 3. It is in Flood Zone 2. The means of drainage is indicated as by soakaways, but there is no evidence to support this proposal.

The report on planning applications was noted.

1960 Environmental Report.

- Environmental Training, 22.07.15.

A joint training session had been held for Operational staff in all 3 Boards, which ADA Lincolnshire Branch's Environment Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman also attended. This included the identification of Invasive Non-Native species (INNS), using the GLNP INNS identification guides. The session also covered a review of 2014/15 issues and the 2015/16 Environmental Action Plan. Locations for the 2015/16 works were presented and discussed. On a number of wider drains across the 3 Boards, a marginal fringe of vegetation will be left uncut for environmental benefits. The possibility of trailing a static water level on a drain in Witham First DIB was discussed.

- Diversity of Invertebrates.

Discussion is underway with Paul Wood of Loughborough University, regarding a study to assess the diversity and abundance of invertebrates on the 3 Boards' drains. His work elsewhere suggests regular maintenance work on IDB drains creates valuable habitats.

- Community Engagement.

The Boards hosted a visit from South Hykeham Community Primary School on 17.09.15 at land opposite Upper Witham IDB's Meadow Lane Depot. The aim was to explain the work that IDBs do and activities included:

- wildflower meadow planting, as part of the national 'Growing Wild' project.
- identifying invertebrates in water samples from Hykeham Pump Drain North.
- identifying where species live, in and around a watercourse.
- making a model Archimedean Screw Pump.
- tour of Hykeham Pumping Station.

- Eel Regulations (England & Wales) 2009.

The EA's holding position on compliance with Eel regulations remains:

“The Environment Agency is still considering the challenges presented by the need to implement measures to protect eels at pumping stations across the country. We will provide an update as soon as we are able to.

The Environment Agency is required by law to take action to halt and reverse the decline in the European eel stock. We are working with Internal Drainage Boards to assess what is required at priority sites in order to take the most cost-effective action to protect this endangered species. While the costs of the work will vary from place to place, many of the measures that site owners can make are simple to implement and are relatively low cost. Where the agreed projects will involve higher costs, sites will be given a longer period to complete the work”.

A liaison group has been set up between the Environment Agency and IDBs to discuss the implementation of eel regulations. Following the last meeting on 13th July, ADA has sent a questionnaire to IDBs to provide an accurate picture of the national cost and timescale for implementing eel regulations. It will also capture local progress and concerns.

- Upper Witham IDB’s estimated cost of eel compliance is £9.4 million.
- Witham First DIDB’s estimated cost of eel compliance is £6.9 million.
- Witham Third DIDB’s estimated cost of eel compliance is £10.6 million.

Members received and NOTED the report on Environmental initiatives.

1961 Any Other Business.

There were no further items of business.

1962 Date, Time and Place of the Board’s Next Meeting.

The Board’s next meeting and AGM was confirmed for Tuesday, 10th November 2015 at 2pm in Branston Booths Village Hall.

..... Chairman Date

W1st BM 29.09.15