

SWAVESEY INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

At a Meeting of the Swavesey Internal Drainage Board
held at the Memorial Hall, High Street, Swavesey on Wednesday the 8th February 2017

PRESENT

K Wilderspin Esq (Chairman)
J E Dodson Esq (Vice Chairman)
A Day Esq

Ms H Parish
N K Stroude Esq
N I Wright Esq

Mr Robert Hill (representing the Clerk to the Board) was in attendance. Mr Iain Smith attended as a member of the public.

The Chairman welcomed Hannah Parish to her first meeting of the Board and Councillor Nick Wright on his re-appointment to the Board by South Cambridgeshire District Council.

The Chairman also welcomed Iain Smith, recently retired Clerk to the Board, who was attending the meeting as a member of the public and gave him permission to comment on any agenda item he felt appropriate and to update the Board on specific issues he was dealing with prior to his retirement.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs A C Hemington, J S Burgess Esq and B R Burling Esq.

B.863 Declarations of Interest

Mr Hill reminded Members of the importance of declaring an interest in any matter included in today's agenda that involved or was likely to affect any individual on the Board.

The Chairman declared an interest in the Superintendent's Fee and payments.

The Vice Chairman declared an interest in agenda item 15.

B.864 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Board held on the 10th February 2016 and 24th June 2016 are recorded correctly and that they be confirmed and signed.

B.865 Clerk to the Board

- a) Further to minute B.823, Mr Hill reported that Mr David Thomas had been appointed as Clerk to the Board and that Miss Lorna McShane had been appointed Solicitor/Assistant Clerk.

Mr Hill reported that the Chairman had authorised a donation of £100 towards the gift to mark Iain Smith's retirement and that Mr Smith had asked that his thanks be passed on to the Board for their generous contribution towards his retirement gift and would like it recorded that it had been a pleasure for him to serve the Board and that he wished it all the best for the future.

b) Changes to bank mandate

Further to minute B.852, Mr Hill reported that, as most of the invoices raised came through the engineering department, the Internal Auditor had advised that David Thomas should not be named on the bank account and that the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer of the Middle Level Commissioners should be the officers authorised to make payments of authorised accounts and that in pursuance of minute B.852, the Chairman had authorised the appropriate changes to the mandate.

RESOLVED

- i) That the action taken be approved.
- ii) That the donation to mark the retirement of the Clerk to the Board, authorised by the Chairman, be approved.
- iii) That the Chairman be authorised to approve the opening of a suitable investment account for the Board, should this be required.

B.866 Hire of Hall

Further to minute B.824, the Chairman confirmed that he had discussed the matter with the Committee and in view of the benefit the Board provides to the local community they had agreed to charge the same rate as for the Parish Council meetings i.e:- £7.00 per hour, rising to £7.30 per hour from April 2017.

RESOLVED

That the action taken by the Chairman be approved.

B.867 Completion of the Annual Accounts and Annual Return of the Board – 2015/2016

- a) The Board considered and approved the comments of the Auditors on the Annual Return for the year ended on the 31st March 2016.
- b) The Board considered and approved the Audit Report of the Internal Auditor for the year ended on the 31st March 2016.

RESOLVED

- (i) That in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations the minutes record that approval of the accounts was given on 24th June 2016.
- (ii) That the Chairman was authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement, on behalf of the Board, for the financial year ending 31st March 2016.

B.868 Election of Board Members

Mr Hill reported that the term of Office of the elected Members of the Board would expire on the 31st October 2017 and submitted the proposed Register of Electors applicable to the 2017 election.

RESOLVED

That the Register be approved.

B.869 Land Drainage Act 1991

Board Membership – South Cambridgeshire District Council

Mr Hill reported that South Cambridgeshire District Council had appointed Councillor N Wright to be a Member of the Board under the provisions of the Land Drainage Act 1991.

Mr Hill also reported that Councillor Sue Ellington was not re-appointed.

B.870 Water Framework Directive

Further to minute B.829, Mr Hill reported that there had been no further developments, apart from Mr Paul Sharman being appointed as the IDB representative following the retirement of Mr Iain Smith, but advised that, due to the Environment Agency no longer being able to support it, the River Basin Liaison Panel had since been disbanded. He also reported that the Clerk was satisfied that there were other partnerships in place and would continue to update Members when required.

B.871 Proposed Northstowe Development and other developments draining to Uttons Drove STW Northstowe

a) Further to minute B.831, Mr Smith reported that he had written to Heidi Allen MP on the matter last June and had also contacted Paul Quigley at South Cambridgeshire District Council and Philip Harker at the Homes and Communities Agency over the lack of progress of the Mare Fen works. Mr Quigley had then confirmed that a ground investigation and design works had been commissioned and that he hoped that the detailed design would be available to the Board late in 2016. The Council's solicitor, Stephen Reid, was also working to finalise the proposed Public Sector Co-operation Agreement with the Environment Agency.

Mr Harker had confirmed that the Homes and Communities Agency would help to manage the works and that an updated proposal regarding the detailed design was awaited from their consultant.

Mr Smith also reported that Anglian Water Services had indicated that they would proceed with the sewer laying without obtaining consent from the Board and that he had advised them that the Board would therefore take any necessary action to protect their interests.

Mr Hill referred to an e-mail from Philip Harker, Homes and Communities Agency dated 7th February 2017 detailing the latest position.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk contact both the Environment Agency and South Cambridgeshire District Council for an update on the proposed agreement between the two parties concerning Reach 5 works.

b) Effluent Discharge to Swavesey Drain

Mr Hill referred to a letter from the Environment Agency dated 12th August 2016.

Mr Smith reported on the effluent discharge to Swavesey Drain which the Chairman had reported and which he had referred to the Environment Agency. While the Environment Agency had initially advised that they did not consider the damage to be as a result of the sewage works discharge, they had confirmed that there were small bank slippages. The Chairman had drawn attention to the erosion causing a step in the berm and had pointed out that Anglian Water Services had accepted liability for similar damage elsewhere on the channel.

In August Mr Smith had been advised by the Environment Agency that the bank top was considered too dangerous for their machines to work over, that a detailed inspection would be undertaken later in the year and that the cost of remedial measures would be recovered from Anglian Water Services.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk write to the Environment Agency for a progress update on repairs to Swavesey Drain.

(NB) – Councillor Wright declared an interest as a member of South Cambridgeshire District Council.

(NB) - The Vice Chairman and Mr Stroude declared interests as landowners potentially affected by the scheme.

B.872 High Level Stewardship Scheme – Mare Fen

Further to minute B.833, the Chairman reported that he had heard nothing further concerning the scheme and considered that funding may be an issue, as it had been reported through the County Council that the costs were likely to be greater than the benefits.

B.873 Works to the bank of the River Great Ouse

Mr Smith reported that it had been difficult to arrange meetings with the Environment Agency in 2016 to discuss this matter and on a meeting held in September involving the Environment Agency, the Board and the Parish Council at which the flood risk to Swavesey of not reconstituting the bank had been emphasised. The Environment Agency had issues with the future maintenance of the bank if the capital works were undertaken. The Board/Parish Council had drawn attention to the availability of material locally. The Environment Agency had wondered if the Board would be prepared to maintain the bank if the works were done. Mr Smith had agreed that, given the circumstances, a joint Public Sector Co-operation Agreement involving both the Middle Level

Commissioners and the Board could be discussed and the Chairman had wondered, in view of the present lack of maintenance, what level of maintenance would actually be required.

The Environment Agency's estimates for the capital works had varied, depending on what was involved, between £423,000 and £802,000 whereas the Middle Level Commissioners' Operations Engineer had obtained a quote of £150,000. It appeared that Grant-in-Aid of up to £213,000 was available for the works and that the Environment Agency had allocated £155,000 to the works from their "pipeline projects fund". The Board had contributed to the works through the allocations made from precept.

The Chairman reported that he had met with members from the Environment Agency in October and there had been an agreement for some works to be carried out and, that a further agreement with the RSPB was being progressed, with a view to works commencing in the Spring. Further, the Clerk to the Parish Council had written concerning the works, but no reply had been received.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk write to the Environment Agency for an update concerning a possible Public Sector Co-operation Agreement for these works and how this could be progressed.

B.874 A14 Improvement Scheme

Further to minute B.832, Mr Smith reported that there had been little communication with the Board in 2016. There had been a meeting last February to discuss the outstanding issues but he had not heard anything further from the consultants representing Highways England. While the Scheme had been approved, because the Statement of Common Ground with the Board had not been finalised, certain provisions of the Order did not apply to the Board. Mr Smith had also raised the issues of discharges from the A14 works compound to the Swavesey Drain with the Environment Agency's Richard Taylor and a response to this was still awaited when Mr Smith had left office.

The Chairman considered that water was entering the Board's system and reported that the Parish Council were meeting next Wednesday and he would update the Clerk further following this meeting.

The Chairman further reported that he was aware of an application to extend the Cambridge Service area, which would impact on flows into the Uttons Drove watercourse.

RESOLVED

- i) That the Chairman discuss issues with the Middle Level Commissioners' Planning Engineer and update the Clerk following the Parish Council meeting.
- ii) That, following any update from the Parish Council, the Clerk to write to the Environment Agency for a progress report on the issues surrounding the A14 Improvement Scheme.

B.875 Covell's Drain, Swavesey

Further to minute B.834, Mr Smith reported that he had spoken to Rob Mungovan of South Cambridgeshire District Council in August and had been advised that the works had now been completed.

The Chairman confirmed that the works had been completed to a satisfactory standard.

B.876 Outstanding drainage rates – Mr and Mrs Cuff

Further to minute B.835, Mr Smith reported that, because the original proceeding had been taken through the magistrates' court, it was not possible for the Board to go for a charging order without taking additional proceedings. He had also been informed that the Cuffs had "gone away" but this appeared not to be the case and suggested that the bailiffs be re-instructed to visit the site. The Chairman confirmed that the Cuffs still appeared to be "in situ".

RESOLVED

That the bailiffs be instructed to collect the outstanding monies due to the Board.

B.877 Electric fence connection to pumping station energiser

Further to minute B.836, Mr Smith reported that he had started to draft an agreement and was waiting for the final details to complete. The Chairman reported that he had discussed the matter with the Vice Chairman and had reached agreement, in principle. The Vice Chairman reported that the previous owner had an agreement to gain access through the Board's gate, but this agreement had not been transferred.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk and the Chairman be authorised to finalise the two agreements.

(NB) – Mr Dodson declared an interest when this item was discussed.

B.878 Consulting Engineers' Report

The Board considered the Report of the Consulting Engineers, viz:-

Swavesey I.D.B.

Consulting Engineers Report – January 2017

Asset Survey

As an essential part of our work in seeking to reduce flood risk, the Middle Level Commissioners (MLC) have surveyed all MLC and third party owned penetrations through MLC river banks and embankments and recorded and uploaded these to our GIS (Geographical Information System). The condition and likely continuing use or otherwise of these penetrations (generally pipes or culverts) has been assessed. Should the Board wish for a similar exercise to be carried out on their own district assets this can also be arranged. Such a survey would assist the Board with future budgeting in ensuring that smaller but strategically/locally important assets such as culverts, slackers and adjustable and fixed weirs are not overlooked.

Weed Control and Drain Maintenance

The maintenance works carried out last year generally accorded with the recommendations approved by the Board at its last Annual Meeting.

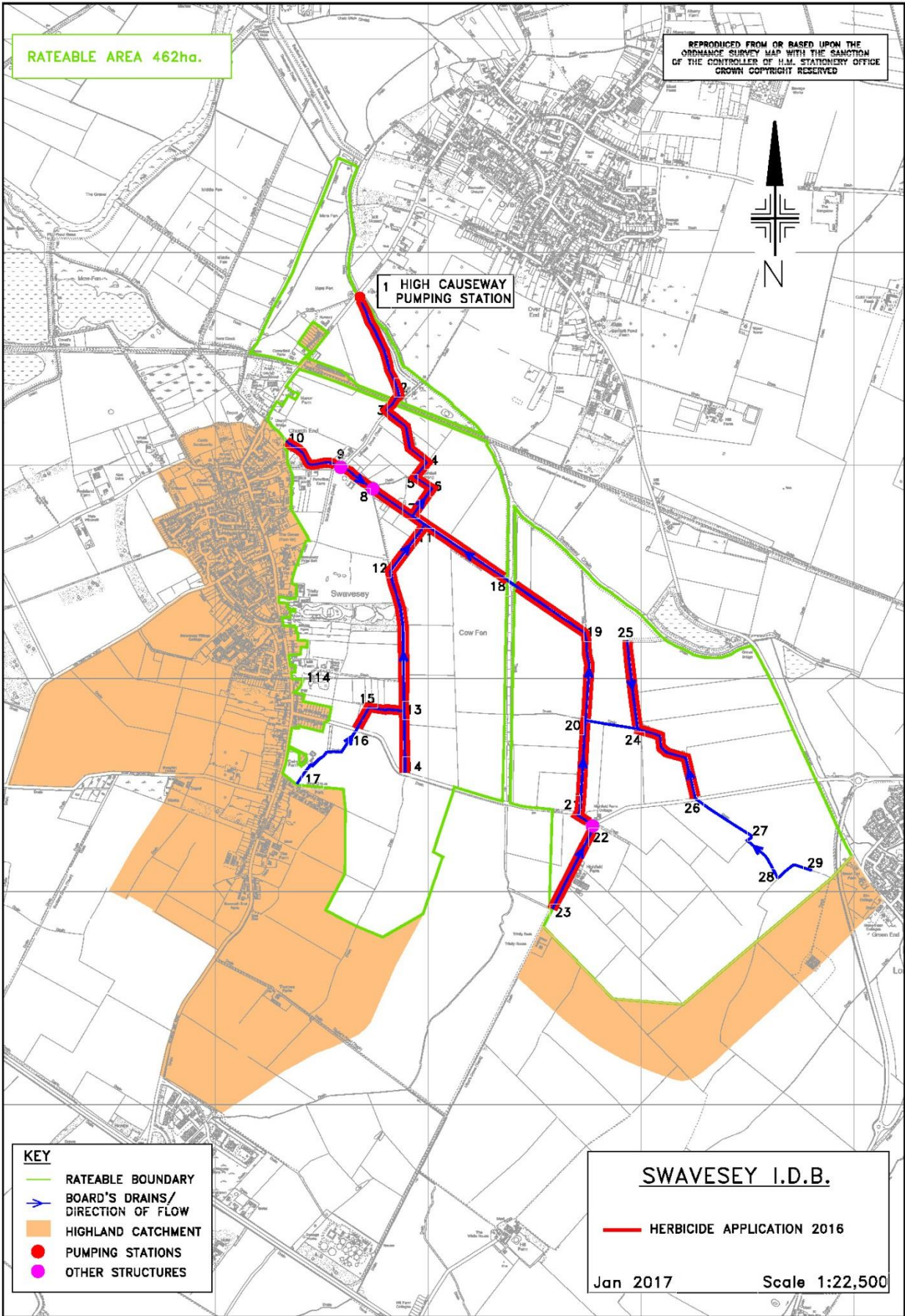
A Roundup herbicide treatment was applied, where required within the Board's district drains to control stands of emergent aquatic weed and vegetation growing within the semi-dry drain beds. Please refer to the site plan on the following page for treatment locations. A sum has been included within the estimated costs to undertake herbicide applications throughout the district again this year.

The Board's flail mowing requirements were successfully undertaken by Lattenbury Services Ltd. At the Chairman/Superintendent's request, Lattenbury will be approached to undertake the flail mowing of Board's Drains this year. A sum has been included with the estimated costs to cover this work.

At the Chairman/Superintendent's request, last year's machine cleansing works have been carried forward to be completed this year, in conjunction with the bank piling and culvert headwall repair works also mentioned in last year's report.

A late spring/early summer joint inspection of the Board's drains will be undertaken. The inspection should highlight herbicide application requirements, and any other works required to maintain the Board's drains to a satisfactory standard

Provisional sums based on previous year's machine cleansing expenditure and culvert cleansing/piling works, have been allocated within this report.



The estimated cost of this year's anticipated Drain maintenance and weed control programme is as follows.

			£
1)	Roundup applications to control emergent aquatic vegetation in District drains	Item	Sum 1000.00
2)	Provisional Item Allow sum for machine cleansing work to Board's drains as required	Item	Sum 2500.00
3)	Provisional sum Allow sum for emergency works including bank piling or culvert headwall repair works	Item	Sum 1500.00
4)	Allow sum for flail mowing of District Drains and hedge cutting	Item	Sum 3200.00
5)	Fees for preparation and submission of report to the Board, arrangement and supervision of herbicide applications and maintenance works.	Item	Sum 650.00
			650.00
TOTAL			£8850.00
			8850.00

Orders for the application of herbicides by the Middle Level Commissioners are accepted on condition that they will not be held responsible for the efficacy of any treatment.

Pumping Station

Other than the matters described below, only routine maintenance has been carried out since the last meeting and the pumping plant is mechanically and electrically in a satisfactory condition.

The Board is again reminded that the new impeller casting for the no 2 pump, which was reported on in 2012, is still being held at Bedford Pumps' works, the pump needs to be returned to the company to enable the impeller to be machined and the existing shroud re-machined to suit. However, as there is no evidence of any current problem with either of the pumpsets, the Board may again wish to postpone fitting of the new impeller.

Bedford Pumps have been consulted and they confirm that they are happy to continue to store the new impeller until such time that it is to be fitted.

At its last meeting the Board wished to consider the installation of a telemetry system at High Causeway Pumping Station therefore the following specification was prepared and issued to our

telemetry provider Oriel Systems whose outstation could of course be integrated into the MLC system and provide remote control functions, voice alarms and status. Access to a web viewer on a PC, Tablet or a Smartphone could also be made available, together with piping alarms to the pump attendant's phone.

Telemetry System Specification

This specification is for the supply and installation of an Oriel Systems Awax telemetry outstation. The unit is to be wall mounted adjacent to the existing control system enclosure and shall be arranged to remotely monitor the status of the pumping plant and the automatic weedscreen cleaner via GPRS communications. It shall be fitted with control algorithms and the necessary output relays to provide automatic control of the pumps from the 4-20 mA output of the existing upstream Pulsar ultrasonic weedscreen cleaner device. Remote manual override and adjustment of the start and stop set points and time control bands shall also be included.

An optional cost for the supply and installation of an additional ultrasonic device to monitor the downstream river level and a rain gauge with the necessary alarm handling is also to be included in the quotation.

The contractor is also to include for connection to the Middle Level Masterstation and satellite systems, together with updated schematics and voice alarm handling.

The following parameters shall be monitored and incorporated into the outstation:

Three Phase Mains Failure	Digital Alarm
Pump 1 Operating	Digital Status
Pump 1 Hours Run	Analogue Status
Pump 1 Mode	Digital Status (Auto/Off/Hand)
Pump 1 Failed	Digital Alarm
Pump 2 Operating	Digital Status
Pump 2 Hours Run	Analogue Status
Pump 2 Mode	Digital Status (Auto/Off/Hand)
Pump 2 Failed	Digital Alarm
Low Level Tripped	Digital Alarm
Upstream Drain High Level	Digital Alarm
Upstream Drain Level	Analogue Status (metres)
Weedscreen Cleaner Running	Digital Status
Weedscreen Cleaner Hours Run	Analogue Status
Weedscreen Cleaner Failed	Digital Alarm

Oriel Systems have now provided the following quotation:



**ORIEL
SYSTEMS**

Proposal and Quotation

Project: High Causeway Pumping Station

Quote Reference Number	TP1843/C4
Document Author	Matthew Sidnell
Quote Date	13/01/2017
Validity Period	30 Days
Client Name	MLCIDB
Client Contact	Malcolm Downes
Terms and Conditions	TC-FIX-3

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Introduction

This document (ref: TP1843/C4) constitutes an offer to supply, to the named Client, goods, materials and/or services described herein. For execution of the work and supply of the contract deliverables, the Client is invited to submit a purchase order quoting the reference number TP1843/C4.

Background

This quote is made in response to detailed conversations and correspondence between the client and Oriel Systems engineers, technical staff and representatives.

General Requirements

We have been asked to provide a quotation for the design, supply, installation and commissioning of a remote telemetry unit as per the specification received from Malcolm Downes regarding Project: High Causeway Pumping Station. The system will link to the MLCIDB Master Station and satellite stations, communicating via GPRS.

Specification

The system to be supplied consists of the following specification:

Products

QTY	DESCRIPTION	NOTES
1	4000 Series Remote Telemetry Unit (RTU)	As per spec
3	8 x Analogue Input Modules	As per spec
1	16 x Digital Input Module	As per spec
1	GPRS Modem	As per spec
1	Misc Materials	As per site survey

Engineer Allocation

Engineers will be allocated for software development and configuration and installation and commissioning according to the following schedule:

DESCRIPTION	QTY (DAYS)
Software Development and Configuration	2
Installation and Commissioning	6

This is a fixed price quote.

Please note that travel and subsistence are not included with the above price and will be billed separately.

Options

The following optional extras are available, and are not included in the price section below.

Hardware and Installation

QTY	DESCRIPTION	COST AND NOTES
1	Ultrasonic Sensor 8m Span	£993.75 + ½ Day (£325)
1	Cassella Rain Gauge	£897.63 + ½ Day (£325)

Post Year 1 Monthly / Annual Costs

DESCRIPTION	FREQUENCY	COST
RTU Data SIM	Annual	£32.00

Schedules

Delivery Schedule

Whilst time shall not form the essence of the project, the Company will endeavour to deliver according to the following schedule:

90 Days from Receipt of Official PO or signed Sales Order.

Please do not accept deliveries without the accompanying formal delivery note (or Q number in the case of e-mail deliveries).

Testing Schedule

The following schedule of testing shall apply to the project:

TBC

Payment Schedule

The following payment schedule shall apply to the project:

50% on order placement and 50% on completion

Price

The price for the supply of contract deliverables is:

£9,639.50 excluding VAT @ 20%, delivery and import duty if applicable.

Please note that this price is valid for 30 days from the date of this quote.

Terms and Conditions

Oriel Systems Limited draws your attention to its standard terms and conditions of supply, detailed in document reference TC-FIX-3 (available on request), which shall apply to any contract formed on the basis of this document. No other document, or variation thereon, carries the same reference.

Pumping Hours

Pump 1 Hours Run - 11 January 2016 - 12 January 2017 = 101

Pump 2 Hours Run - 11 January 2016 - 12 January 2017 = 71

Pump 1 Hours Run - 21 January 2015 - 11 January 2016 = 2
Pump 2 Hours Run - 21 January 2015 - 11 January 2016 = 173

Pump 1 Hours Run - 6 January 2014 - 21 January 2015 = 227
Pump 2 Hours Run - 6 January 2014 - 21 January 2015 = 801

Pump 1 Hours Run - 28 January 2013 - 6 January 2014 = 3
Pump 2 Hours Run - 28 January 2013 - 6 January 2014 = 295

Eel Regulations

The latest guidance suggests that spending of FCRM money on schemes just to facilitate eel movements will not be required. However, plans for improvements, modifications or replacement of structures which have been identified as a barrier to movement should be seen as a trigger for considering such works. There is a further test to be included and that is one of proportionately, ie the additional cost of eel passage should not be disproportionate to the overall scheme cost.

The IDBs and ADA have been pushing for further research to better understand eel movement and explore all options in relation to providing methods which would allow the mature (silver) eels to escape closed systems and hence travel to their breeding sites in the most cost effective manner. ADA has asked if IDBs would join with the EA in funding this project and so far the response has been positive. The Board is therefore asked if it would wish to offer some financial support over one or two years. Other Boards have committed between £50 and £1000 for either one or two years.

Development within the Floodplain

The floodplain, its definition, derivation and extents have been an issue not only for the Commissioners and associated Boards but other IDBs since its introduction. This has become of more concern since the elevated importance of the Sequential Test in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

The matter of development within the floodplain has been discussed at several sites within our areas of interest, and the, now, former Clerk to the Commissioners/Boards has previously advised that the definition and extents of a "floodplain" are matters for the planning authority to resolve with the relevant authority who prepared the hazard map, be it the Environment Agency (EA) for its various flood maps, the Local Planning Authority (LPA), for its SFRA, and/or the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for its SWMPs. It is acknowledged that whilst there may be specific issues relating to future proposed aspects of development within our areas of interest we will not oppose it simply because it is within the floodplain. The Commissioners/Boards have policy statements, available on the Middle Level website, which set out the Standard of Protection (SoP) that they will seek to provide, floodplain or not.

In short, the Commissioners and associated Boards do not agree with the generic content of the NPPF and argue that “The Fens” is a special case and should be considered as such.

The main purpose of an IDB is to aim to manage flood risk up to an appropriate SoP. Above this SoP there will be a residual flood risk which must be accounted for.

Changes to Planning Procedures Update

The responses from these procedures have been positive and will continue for the foreseeable future, to be reviewed at a later date.

Pre- and Post-Application Consultation

Despite an increase in the number of planning applications being processed and planning enquiries received it appears that the number of Pre- and Post- Application Consultation discussion requests has reduced over previous years. The reason for this is unknown but as detailed later in this report “developers” are failing to maximise the benefits of this procedure and some Boards are failing to encourage its use and thus are incurring unnecessary additional costs which could be paid by the developer.

Notes/Informatives on planning decision notices

Following a concern raised by one of the Boards administered by the Commissioners, a brief review of a random, yet representative, sample of planning application Decision Notices made by the Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) that have primarily been granted in the last two years has been undertaken.

Many of the relevant decisions within HDC’s area made during 2016 and to a lesser degree during 2015 relate to the Prior Approval of agricultural building to dwellings or Prior Notification applications which, on the whole, do not include conditions or refer to notes/informatives possibly because of the nature of the application. In a similar manner most of the other decision notices found did not, with a few exceptions, include notes/informatives either.

As a result a letter was sent during December to all the planning authorities that the Commissioners deal with, both directly and on behalf of its administered Boards, requesting that the use of informatives could be (re-) introduced on future notices “in order to make applicants aware of other consents which may be required in addition to Planning Consent and prevent them being in breach of the Boards’ Byelaws”

It is understood that the principle of using Notes/Informatives on Planning Decision Notices is based on the Court of Appeal which remarked following the case of Slough Borough Council v Secretary of State for the Environment and Oury [1995] "The general rule is that, in construing a

planning permission, regard may only be had to the permission itself, including the reasons stated for it."

The decision and its reason(s) is the primary document, with the Informatives no more than non-binding additional information which lack a statutory basis. Planning Conditions, on the other hand, may impose mandatory requirements for the carrying out of development and have statutory authority.

The purpose of a note in respect of a condition is to provide the applicant with further information and an Informative is to provide relevant guidance to the applicant without having to impose relevant conditions. The Planning Circular 11/95: use of conditions in planning permission advises how these can be used to bring the applicants' attention to certain matters, such as, reminding an applicant to obtain further planning approvals and other consents but should not establish mandatory requirements with which an authorised development must comply.

However, it is further understood that there are a limited number of exceptions to this rule which could lead to a challenge to the permission which may result in a decision being "quashed" but this is outside of our interest on this occasion.

Local Land Charges Register (LLCR)

As previously advised requests are made to the LPAs, when relevant, to make an entry on the LLCR to highlight that the requirements of the relevant authority have not been met. This process is providing results, particularly within the Fenland District Council (FDC) area, but enquiries from other LPAs are low; however these areas of interest are smaller than that of FDC and feature smaller urban areas.

Previously enquiries were only received from local Solicitors but more recently enquiries are also being sought from independent search providers who offer specialist conveyancing services, such as Index Property Information, who undertake local authority searches, drainage and water reports, environmental reports etc.

Whilst researching and processing such enquiries have cost and time implications it protects the parties involved and is believed to have been a significant contributing factor in moving forward a long standing issue associated with the Cardea development at Stanground to the west of the Commissioners' catchment.

Treated effluent discharges from Anglian Water Services (AWS) Water Recycling Centres (WRC) or from the Public Sewerage System

Developers are becoming increasingly aware of the Supreme Court's decision that any connection to a public sewer under Section 106 of the Water Industry Act 1991 or agreement to construct a public sewer under Section 104 of that Act also requires our consent where our systems would be affected. Therefore, in addition to any permission from the LPA, the EA and AWS, the consent of the Board/Commissioners is also required for the acceptance of any increased flows or volumes to our system. Such consent will not be given unless we consider that the discharge can be properly dealt with within our system and the costs of accommodating that discharge are met.

Planning Applications

In addition to matters concerning previous applications, the following 26 new development related matters have been received and, where appropriate, dealt with since the last meeting:

MLC Ref.	Council Ref.	Applicant	Type of Development	Location
283	S/2730/15/PA	Ms H Britland	Residence (Extension)	Gibraltar Lane, Swavesey
284	Enquiry	Client of Wormald Burrows Partnership	Residential (99 dwellings)	Fen Drayton Road, Swavesey*
285	S/0303/16/E1	Pegasus Group	Residential (99 dwellings)	Fen Drayton Road, Swavesey*
286	S/0293/16/FL	Mr & Mrs Harvey	Residence (Extension)	Station Road, Swavesey
287	S/0662/16/FL	Mrs Scott	Residential (2 dwellings)	Boxworth End, Swavesey
288	S/0685/16/FL	BP2015 (Cambridge) LLP	Business/Industrial/Storage (4 units)	Anderson Road, Swavesey*
289	S/0687/16/FL	Mr K Unwin	Residence (Extension)	Boxworth End, Swavesey
290	S/0714/16/FL	Mr A Loades	Residence	Middle Watch, Swavesey
291	S/1027/16/OL	Bloor Homes (Eastern) & Mr A Johnson	Residential (99 dwellings)	Fen Drayton Road, Swavesey*
292	S/1158/16/PA	Mr P Sycamore	Residence (Summer house)	Ramper Road, Swavesey
293	Pre-app	Client of L K Group	Residential (TBC)	Boxworth End, Swavesey*
294	S/1605/16/OL	Swavesey Ventures Ltd	Residential (70 dwellings)	Middle Watch, Swavesey*
295	S/2126/16/FL	Mrs O Harcourt	Residence (Extension)	Whitegate Close, Swavesey
296	S/2128/16/FL	Mr M Harvey	Residence (Extension & garage)	Middle Watch, Swavesey
297	S/2362/16/FL	Mr M Harvey	Residence	Middle Watch, Swavesey
298	S/2500/16/FL	Mr & Mrs Edwards	Residence (Extension)	Station Road, Swavesey
299	S/2523/16/FL	Turnwood Ltd	Residential (2 units)	Middle Watch, Swavesey*
300	S/2623/16/FL	Mr & Mrs J Blake	Residence (Extension)	Uttons Drove, Swavesey
301	S/2624/16/FL	Mr J Garner	Residence	Middle Watch, Swavesey*
302	S/2643/16/FL	Mrs S Jennings	Residence (Extension & garage conversion)	Thistle Green, Swavesey
303	S/2675/16/FL	Mr & Mrs M Taylor	Residence (Extension)	Boxworth End, Swavesey*
304	S/2625/16/FL	Mr S Patel	Residence (Extension)	School Lane, Swavesey*
305	S/1556/16/DC	Starburst Property Ltd	Residential (12 units)	Middle Watch, Swavesey
306	S/2922/16/FL	Mr M Parker	Residence	Station Road, Swavesey
307	S/3185/16/FL	Mr S Hodson	Residence	Boxworth End, Swavesey
308	S/3383/16/FL	Mrs L Potter	Residence (Extensions)	Station Road, Swavesey

Developments that propose direct discharge to the Board's system are indicated with an asterisk. The remainder propose, where applicable and where known, surface water disposal to soakaways/infiltration systems or sustainable drainage systems.

The following applications are outside the Board's area but discharges may increase flows in the Turn Bridge, Church End Drain, Swavesey Drain system:

(a) Bloor Homes (Eastern) & Mr A Johnson (MLC Ref Nos 284 & 291)
and The Pegasus Group (MLC Ref No 285)

(b) BP 2015 (Cambridge) LLP (MLC Ref No 288)

Proposed development to the rear of Cygnus Business Park (Mill Farm), Middlewatch, Swavesey - Nationwide Ltd (MLC Ref No 123) and Starburst Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 182 & 243) and Starburst Property Ltd (MLC Ref No 305)

Following reports that work had commenced on site, "advisory" letters were sent to the applicant's agent.

Following some initial resistance relevant documents have been submitted and are currently being considered as part of a post-application consultation.

Erection of stables, a tack room, a hay barn and associated hard standing and access track between Lairstall Drove and Cow Fen, Swavesey – Mr T Smith (MLC Ref Nos 213 & 216) and Change of use of an Agricultural Field to allow horses to graze the land in connection with personal recreation on land to the north of the Cambridgeshire Guided Busway, Lairstall Drove Swavesey – Mr T Smith (MLC Ref No 218) & Proposed ménage at Lairstall Drove – Client of John Martin & Associates (MLC Ref No 222) & Mr T Smith (MLC Ref No 229)

No further correspondence has been received from the applicant or the applicant's agent concerning this site and no further action has been taken in respect of the Board's interests.

In view of the absence of recent correspondence and any subsequent instruction from the Board it will be presumed, unless otherwise recorded, that the Board is content with any development that has occurred and that no further action is required at this time.

Residential development including demolition of a section of existing workshop at land to the rear of, 18, Gibraltar Lane, Swavesey - Mrs M E Richardson (MLC Ref No 214) & M M Developers (MLC Ref Nos 262 & 263)

No further correspondence has been received from the applicants or the applicants' agent concerning this site and no further action has been taken in respect of the Board's interests.

Proposed residential development to the south west of Moat Way/Fen Drayton Lane, Swavesey - Laragh House Developments Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 226, 246, 248 & 257)

No further correspondence has been received from the applicant or the applicant's agent concerning this site and no further action has been taken in respect of the Board's interests.

Erection of a one & a half storey 3 bed dwelling & a single separate garage & Application for approval of details in respect of Condition 3 (External Materials), Condition 7 (Surface Water Drainage) and Condition 9 (Archaeology) of planning consent S/0111/14/FL land at 19 Wallmans Lane, Swavesey - Sue Ellington (MLC Ref No 258 & 267)

The developments' treated effluent discharges outside the Board's system and the development is not near any managed watercourse, hence these two criteria were deemed not to be of concern to the Board. The surface water, however, discharges to soakaway and the ground conditions in Swavesey normally limit the effectiveness of such arrangements.

Mr Rich, the agent, was asked to demonstrate that the soakaway was designed to the 1% AEP plus climate change and BRE 365 standard. A design was received and reviewed under the normal process. Unfortunately the testing supporting the design was not carried out in accordance with BRE 365, as the pit was only filled and tested once, which does not show the degradation of the infiltration rate for repeated use. Usually in cases like this the test that was completed is assessed and a sensitivity check carried out to see whether or not this will have an effect on the overall design. In this case the rate from the one test was low and degradation would be likely to have an effect.

As the site development had been completed the matter was passed to the Chairman who wrote to Mr Rich and spoke with Mrs Ellington about the issue. Consent has subsequently been issued.

Swavesey to Buckingway Business Park – Foot & Cycle Way – Cambridgeshire County Council (MLC Ref No 264)

No further correspondence has been received from the applicant or the applicant's agent concerning this site and no further action has been taken in respect of the Board's interests.

Replace existing mobile classrooms with new 3 classroom extension, extension to pre-school and extension to school hall including discharge of conditions at Swavesey Primary School, Middle Watch, Swavesey - Cambridgeshire County Council (MLC Ref Nos 265 & 266)

No further correspondence has been received from the applicant or the applicant's agent concerning this site and no further action has been taken in respect of the Board's interests.

Residential development with associated access, infrastructure and open spaces at land south of Fen Drayton Road, Swavesey – Bloor Homes (Eastern) & Mr A Johnson (MLC Ref Nos 284 & 291) and Pegasus Group (MLC Ref No 285)

Following the provision of a Screening Opinion (MLC 285) in February, an outline planning application for this Small Major development was submitted to the District Council in April for ninety nine dwellings.

Rather belatedly an "Acceptability of Surface Water and Sewage Effluent Discharge" enquiry was submitted. The applicants' engineering consultant, The Wormald Burrows Partnership (WBP), was advised that an unregulated discharge to the Board's system would not be consented by the Board.

According to the District Council's webpage, the planning application was refused on 11 January. The reason for refusal was:

"The proposed development is considered to represent unsustainable development by virtue of the cumulative impact of the additional population growth on the capacity of services and facilities in the village. The level of trips generated by additional traffic and the number of primary and secondary school age children occupying the development would have an adverse impact on the capacity of each of these services and there is also considered insufficient capacity at the doctor's surgery. In addition, the proposal does not make adequate provision for the mitigation of foul sewage drainage. The proposal is therefore considered to fail to meet the definition of sustainable development due to the detrimental social and environmental impact of the development. The harm resulting from the proposal is considered to significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits and as result, the proposals are contrary to paragraph 7 of the National Planning Policy Framework and policy DP/1 of the adopted South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework."

No further correspondence has been received from the applicants or the applicants' agent concerning this development and no further action has been taken in respect of the Board's interests.

Further involvement will be required if development of the proposal is progressed and the Board's consent may be required.

NB. A Screening Opinion application is a planning process where the applicant asks the relevant Local Planning Authority for its formal opinion as to whether there are likely to be significant effects on the environment and requirement of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

In a similar manner a Scoping Opinion application is a planning process where the applicant asks the relevant Local Planning Authority for its formal opinion as to what information should be included within an Environmental Statement to accompany an application for planning permission for the related proposal.

The intention of these processes is to enable developers to obtain a clear view from the LPA on its requirements before they reach the stage of lodging a formal planning application, thus minimising the possibility of delay or uncertainty.

Demolition of farm outbuildings and the erection of up to 90 dwellings with public open space, landscaping and sustainable drainage system (SuDS) and vehicular access point from Boxworth End with all other matters reserved except for means of access on land off Boxworth End, Swavesey - Client of L K Group /Gladman Developments Ltd & Burgess (MLC Ref No 293)

The submission of an "Acceptability of Surface Water and Sewage Effluent Discharge" enquiry in June was followed by a more detailed pre-application consultation, with the applicants' engineering consultant, the L K Group, in late October/early November. This is the first time that this has occurred.

An outline planning application for this Small Major development, for ninety dwellings, was submitted to the District Council in December. This matter is currently being considered by the District Council.



Illustrative layout taken from the IBI Groups Design & Access Statement

No further correspondence has been received from the applicants or the applicants' agent concerning this development and no further action has been taken in respect of the Board's interests.

Further involvement will be required if development of the proposal is progressed and the Board's consent may be required.

Residential development on land to the rear of 130 Middlewatch, Swavesey - Swavesey Ventures Ltd (MLC Ref No 294)

The outline planning application for this Small Major development, for seventy dwellings, was submitted to the District Council in June and subsequently refused permission in November on the same grounds as referred to above for Bloor Homes (Eastern) & Mr A Johnson (MLC Ref Nos 284 & 291).

No further correspondence has been received from the applicant or the applicant's agent concerning this development and no further action has been taken in respect of the Board's interests.

Further involvement will be required if development of the proposal is progressed and the Board's consent may be required.

Development Contributions

Contributions received in respect of discharge consent will be reported under the Agenda Item – '*Contributions from Developers.*'

Northstowe

In respect of Northstowe no further planning applications have been considered and dealt with on the Board's behalf.

Northstowe and the issues associated with it will be reported, under a separate agenda item, by the Clerk.

South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) Local Planning Policy

South Cambs Local Plan (SCLP) Public Consultation

Further to the last Board meeting, a report was considered by the Planning Portfolio Holder on 8 November in respect of a number of further proposed modifications to the submitted Local Plan. The recommendations from this meeting were agreed at Full Council on 17 November 2016. Most of the recommendations will not directly affect the Board.

Updated Hearings Programme

An updated Hearings Programme has been published giving details, including dates where available, on future hearings blocks for both the Cambridge Local Plan and SCLP examinations. Inspectors' Matters and Issues for Matters SC3 Delivering High Quality Places, SC4 Protecting and Enhancing the Natural and Historic Environment & Building a strong and competitive economy have also been published.

Local Development Scheme (LDS)

The LDS which sets out the timetable for plan making in the district was due to be reviewed in December 2016.

Swavesey Neighbourhood Area

An application to SCDC submitted by Swavesey Parish Council to have their parish designated as a neighbourhood area has been approved.

Unlike other LPAs the proposal does not appear to have been the subject of a public consultation. It is left to the Board whether it wishes to make a formal response to SCDC.

South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City SFRA

No further progress has been made concerning an update of the SFRA.

Cambridgeshire Flood and Water Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

Note. A Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is a document that provides further details and/or guidance with reference to policies and proposals contained in a Development Plan Document (DPD) or Local Plan.

The SPD was endorsed by the County Council and the completed document was circulated to the relevant planning authorities and risk management authorities (RMAs) for adoption where appropriate.

The SPD was adopted by South Cambridgeshire District Council on 8 November 2016

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution Deal

All councils in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, as well as the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), have now signed up to the devolution deal with government. The deal will secure an additional £770 million of investment for the area, including a £600 million transport fund and money for affordable housing.

Consulting Engineer

23 January 2017

Swavesey(360)\Reports\January 17

The Chairman reported that maintenance works not completed last year had been carried forward to this year and confirmed that the pump basin and Lairstall Pond should be attended to this year as part of the programmed works.

The Chairman confirmed that repairs to the pumping station door frame and gate post were still outstanding.

Members considered the proposal and quotation supplied by Oriel Systems for the provision of telemetry at the pumping station and, in view of the costs involved, raised concerns over the actual benefit this would provide.

The Chairman asked Members if they would be interested in a visit to the Middle Level Commissioners' St Germans Pumping Station.

Members discussed the position with regards to the developments between Lairstall Drove and Cow Fen, Swavesey. The Vice Chairman considered that there should have been works to attenuate the water from the site. Members gave consideration to requesting South Cambridgeshire District Council's Enforcement Officer to check that all planning conditions had been met.

RESOLVED

i) That the Report and the actions referred to therein be approved.

ii) Weed Control and Drain Maintenance

That the maintenance works contained in the Report be undertaken.

iii) That the Chairman be authorised to take any action he considers necessary concerning the pumping station door and gate post.

iv) That the new impellor casting for the no 2 pump continue to be stored at Bedford Pumps' works.

v) That the Chairman arrange a site visit to the Middle Level Commissioners' St Germans Pumping Station, and that the provision of telemetry equipment be discussed further as part of this visit.

vi) That the Consulting Engineers be requested to enquire if there was a possibility of receiving local level funding towards the provision of telemetry equipment at the Board's pumping station.

vii) That the Chairman and the Middle Level Commissioners' Planning Engineer review the position regarding planning applications (MLC Ref Nos 213, 216, 218, 222 and 229 for Mr T Smith and John Martin & Associates) to see if there was a 'local solution' that could be adopted to resolve any outstanding issues.

viii) That the Chairman contact the Middle Level Commissioners' Planning Engineer to review all planning applications and planning matters.

(NB) – The Vice Chairman declared an interest in the planning applications (MLC Ref Nos 213, 216, 218, 222 and 229 for Mr T Smith and John Martin & Associates).

B.879 Capital Improvement Programme

Members considered the Board's future capital improvement programme and noted the Consulting Engineers' report on assets.

RESOLVED

- i) That the Capital Programme be approved in principle and kept under review.
- ii) That the Chairman be authorised to contact the Consulting Engineers to discuss matters concerning District assets and to take any further action as he considers necessary.

B.880 National Flood Resilience Review

Mr Hill referred to the publication of the above review by the Government in September 2016 and to the response from ADA and drew attention to the lack of reference to the SUDS issue, which still remained unsatisfactory.

B.881 District Superintendent's Report

The District Superintendent considered that the Consulting Engineers' Report had covered all matters of importance within the District.

B.882 Environmental Officer's Newsletter and BAP Report

Mr Hill referred to the Environmental Officer's Newsletter dated December 2016, previously circulated to Members.

Members considered and approved the most recent BAP report.

B.883 District Superintendent

The Vice Chairman referred to the District Superintendent being injured during the year and the possible exposure this highlighted.

- a) Record of hours worked

Mr Hill reported that due to a dry late summer/autumn and together with the injury he had sustained, Mr K Wilderspin had worked 53 hours as District Superintendent between February 2016 and January 2017.

Mr Hill outlined the hours worked in the five previous years as 87, 85, 92, 93 and 90

- b) Fee

The Board gave consideration to the District Superintendent's fee for 2017/2018.

RESOLVED

- (i) That the Board agree that the sum of £1,650 be allowed for the services of the District Superintendent for 2017/2018.
- (ii) That the Board's thanks to the District Superintendent for his work over the last 12 months be recorded in the minutes.
- (iii) That the Chairman issue keys for the pumping station to the Vice Chairman, Ms Parish and Mr Stroude and to instruct them on the operation of the pumping station.

c) Telephone Expenses

The Board gave consideration to the appropriate reimbursement of telephone expenses incurred on the Board's behalf.

RESOLVED

That the Board agree that the sum of up to £80 be allowed for telephone expenses incurred on behalf of the Board by Mr Wilderspin.

d) Casual Labour

The Board gave consideration to the use of casual labour that may be required during the year.

RESOLVED

That the Chairman and Vice Chairman be authorised to engage such casual labour as they consider appropriate.

(NB) – Mr Wilderspin declared an interest in all items save f) and left the room when these items were discussed.

B.884 State-aided Schemes

Consideration was given to the desirability of undertaking further State-aided Schemes in the District and whether any future proposals should be included in the capital forecasts provided to the Environment Agency.

RESOLVED

That no proposals be formulated at the present time.

B.885 Environment Agency – Precepts

- a) Mr Hill reported that the Environment Agency's Regional Flood and Coastal Committee had recommended an increase of 1.5% on last year's precept of £1,620, and that this was likely to be approved by the Environment Agency Board.

b) Local Choices Precept

Further to minute B.844(a), Mr Hill referred to the Environment Agency's newsletter dated October 2016.

b) Chain Ditch

Further to minute B.844(b), Mr Smith reported that, prior to his departure, he had spoken to Sadia Moeed at the Environment Agency to seek to agree a Public Sector Co-operation Agreement, which would cover future works required to Chain Ditch. However, although Sadia had asked her staff for details of the likely works' programme, he had heard nothing further from her or Ian Russell concerning the agreement.

Mr Smith reported that the proposed works have been completed but that a Public Sector Co-operation Agreement had not yet been put in place for future works, which the Board could carry out on behalf of the Environment Agency.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk contact the Environment Agency with a view to getting a Public Sector Co-operation Agreement in place for future works.

B.886 Claims for Highland Water Contributions – Section 57 Land Drainage Act 1991

a) Mr Hill reported that following his submission of claims for contributions the gross sum of £420.59 (£4,135.58 less £3,714.99 paid on account) (inclusive of supervision) had been received from the Environment Agency for the financial year 2015/2016 based on the Board's actual expenditure on maintenance work for that financial year and the sum of £4,061.10 in respect of 80% of the Board's estimated expenditure for the financial year 2016/2017.

b) Further to minute B.845(b), Mr Hill referred to the discussions with the Environment Agency over the monies likely to be available to fund highland water claims.

RESOLVED

That the position be noted and the situation kept under review.

B.887 Contribution from Developers

With reference to minute B.303, Mr Hill reported that the following contribution towards the cost of dealing with the increased flow or volume of surface water run-off and treated effluent volume had been received, viz:-

<u>Contributor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mrs S Ellington	£300.00 (gross) £270.00 (net)

B.888 Association of Drainage Authorities

a) Annual Conference

Mr Hill reported that the Annual Conference of the Association of Drainage Authorities would be held in London on Thursday the 16th November 2017.

RESOLVED

RESOLVED

That the Clerk be authorised to obtain a ticket for the Annual Conference of the Association if a Member wishes to attend.

b) Annual Conference of the River Great Ouse Branch

Mr Hill reported that the Annual Conference of the River Great Ouse branch of the Association would be held in Prickwillow, Ely on Tuesday the 7th March 2017.

c) Subscriptions

Mr Hill referred to minute B.848(c) and to an e-mail received from ADA dated the 16th December 2016 and reported that the Board last paid a subscription of £490 in 2014 and that the Clerk has been advised that the subscription for 2017 will be £536.

Members discussed the e-mail and Mr Hill detailed some of the work currently being carried out by ADA.

RESOLVED

That, in view of previous concerns over increases in subscriptions and disproportionate cost to small Boards, the 2014 fee (£490) be paid and if this is not acceptable, the Board do not join ADA for 2017.

d) Floodex 2017

Mr Hill reported that Floodex 2017 will be held at The Peterborough Arena on the 17th and 18th May 2017.

e) Further Research on Eels

Mr Hill referred to an e-mail received from ADA dated the 15th November 2016 and the research specification from the Environment Agency regarding the eel research proposed over the next 2 years

The Board discussed the ongoing eel research and the request from ADA seeking contributions.

RESOLVED

That the Board contribute £50 towards further research on eels and review in 2018.

B.889 Health and Safety Audits

Mr Hill drew attention to the continuing need to ensure that the Board complied with Health and Safety Requirements and reminded Members of the arrangements with Croner and if the Board had any issues they could seek advice from Croner via the Middle Level Commissioners.

B.890 Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Partnership Update

Further to minute B.850, Mr Hill reported that the main issues considered by the Partnership were:-

1. During the update on the progress of the A14, concerns were raised by Highways England over the amount of impermeable area of the car park at the Boxworth End's Site Office, this may have an effect on the Swavesey system. Highways England advised that they would look into the issue.
2. The proposal to extend the provision of rain gauges in catchment.
3. Discussions over the maintenance of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS).
4. The provision of Community flood kits. The LLFA are sourcing funds to provide kits to certain groups, i.e. March town council, but certain criteria are having to be met.
5. Work on the A14 project has now commenced.
6. The Supplementary Planning Document on flood risk has now been endorsed by Cambridgeshire County Council.
7. An update on the surface water management plan. Requesting quotes for surveys to be undertaken for property level protection (PLP).
8. Partner projects were discussed including Embankment raising in the Middle Level (MLC) and in the Ouse Washes (EA)

B.891 Authorisation to appear in court to obtain distress warrants

RESOLVED

That under the provisions of section 54 of the Land Drainage Act 1991, in addition to Mr R Hill and Miss S Ablett, Miss Lorna McShane be authorised generally to institute or defend on behalf of the Board proceedings in relation to a drainage rate or to appear on their behalf in any proceedings before a Magistrates' Court for the issue of a warrant of distress for failure to pay a drainage rate.

B.892 Potential Changes in Rating Valuation

Mr Hill reported the consideration presently being given by ADA and Defra to possible changes in the way in which drainage rates and special levies may be calculated in future. He advised that the present system, under the Land Drainage Act 1991 and the Internal Drainage Board (Finance) Regulations, provides for agricultural property to be valued at a notional rental value for that property as at 1st April 1988 with non-agricultural hereditaments being valued at the "average acre" rate, calculated by reference to pre-1988 development within the District of the individual Board. The current legislation does however require that properties that existed before 1st April 1988 are valued according to their old rateable values, records for which may no longer exist and this causes problems for IDBs which are looking to extend their boundaries and particularly where there are proposals to create new IDBs. Mr Hill understood however, that, at present, Defra are unlikely to progress the issue urgently and that some further consideration will have to take place

before any change is proposed. In addition, as a change to primary legislation would be required, Parliamentary time would have to be found for this. At this stage Mr Hill wished therefore to simply alert the Board to these discussions and further reports will no doubt be made to the Board in the future should legislative amendment be proposed.

B.893 Annual Accounts of the Board – 2016/2017

Mr Hill reported that in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations, Internal Drainage Boards' accounts were required to be approved by resolution on or before 30th June.

B.894 Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England

Mr Hill referred to the recently issued Practitioners' guide to proper practices to be applied in the preparation of statutory Annual Accounts and Governance Statements which will apply to Annual Returns commencing on or after 1st April 2017.

B.895 Review of Internal Controls

The Board considered and expressed satisfaction with the current system of Internal Controls.

B.896 Risk Management Assessment

- a) The Board considered and expressed satisfaction with their current Risk Management Policy.
- b) The Board considered and approved the insured value of their buildings.

B.897 Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities

Mr Hill reported that from 2017/2018 smaller public bodies (Boards with income or expenditure less than £25,000) would not be required to undertake a formal audit but would need to have greater publication requirements in place. He advised that it would also be necessary to question the effect of "one off" payments such as development contributions taking the Board above the £25,000 limit, in a particular year.

Mr Hill reported that the income of the Board for 2014/2015 was £45,500 and for 2015/2016 £24,800 so it will be difficult to accurately forecast the likely income/expenditure.

RESOLVED

That the Chairman be authorised to take any action as may be required.

B.898 Exercise of Public Rights

Mr Hill referred to the publishing of the Notice of Public Rights and publication of unaudited Annual Return, Statement of Accounts, Annual Governance Statement and the Notice of Conclusion of the Audit and right to inspect the Annual Return.

B.899 Payments

The Board considered and approved payments amounting to £6,517.12 which had been made during the financial year 2015/2016 (1st February – 31st March 2016) and £19,233.34 made during the financial year 2016/2017 (1st April 2016 – 31st January 2017).

(NB) – The Chairman declared an interest in the payments made to K & P J Wilderspin.

B.900 Expenditure estimates and special levy and drainage rate requirements 2017/2018

The Board considered estimates of expenditure and proposals for special levy and drainage rates in respect of the financial year 2017/2018 and were informed by Mr Hill that under the Land Drainage Act 1991 the proportions of their net expenditure to be met by drainage rates on agricultural hereditaments and by special levy on local billing authorities would be :-

	<u>Drainage rates</u>	<u>Special levy</u>
AREA 1	62.42%	37.58%
AREA 2	70.25%	29.75%
AREA 3	100%	-

RESOLVED

- i) That the estimates be approved.
- ii) That a total sum of £19,389 be raised by drainage rates and special levy.
- iii) That the amounts comprised in the sum referred to in ii) above to be raised by drainage rates and to be met by special levy are £13,091 and £6,298 respectively.
- ii) That drainage rates in the £ be laid and assessed on Agricultural hereditaments in the District as follows:-

AREA 1	-	70.0p
AREA 2	-	30.0p
AREA 3	-	10.0p

- v) That a Special levy of £6,298 be made and issued to South Cambridgeshire District Council for the purpose of meeting such expenditure.
- vi) That the seal of the Board be affixed to the record of drainage rates and special levies and to the special levy referred to in resolution (v).
- vii) That the Clerk be authorised to recover all unpaid rates and levy by such statutory powers as may be available.

B.901 Display of rate notice

RESOLVED

That notice of the rate be affixed within the District in accordance with Section 48(3)(a) of the Land Drainage Act 1991.

B.902 Date of next Meeting

RESOLVED

That the next Meeting of the Board be held on Wednesday the 14th February 2018 and that the Clerk arrange a meeting to approve the Accounts and Annual Return when they have been completed.

B.903 Differential Rating Map

The Chairman referred to the Differential Rating Map.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk supply a copy of the Differential Rating Map to the Chairman.