

MARCH THIRD DISTRICT DRAINAGE COMMISSIONERS

At a Meeting of the March Third District Drainage Commissioners
held at the Middle Level Offices, March on Thursday the 3rd May 2018

PRESENT

R F Manchett Esq (Chairman) D W Dunham Esq
S R Court Esq Mrs G A M Siggee
M A Wilkinson Esq

Mr Robert Hill (representing the Clerk to the Commissioners) and Mr Morgan Lakey (representing the Consulting Engineers) were in attendance.

Apology for absence

An apology for absence was received from M Cornwell Esq.

C.1023 Declarations of Interest

Mr Hill reminded the Commissioners of the importance of declaring an interest in any matter included in today's agenda that involved or was likely to affect any one of them.

Mr Wilkinson declared an interest in District Officer matters.

Councillor Court declared an interest in all planning matters as a member of Fenland District Council's Planning Committee.

C.1024 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Commissioners held on the 4th May 2017 are recorded correctly and that they be confirmed and signed.

C.1025 Appointment of Chairman

RESOLVED

That R F Manchett Esq be appointed Chairman of the Commissioners.

C.1026 Land Drainage Act 1991 Fenland District Council

Mr Hill reported that Fenland District Council had re- appointed Councillors M Cornwell and S R Court to be Commissioners under the provisions of the Land Drainage Act 1991.

C.1027 Amalgamation

Further to minute C.988, Mr Hill reported that the matter had been discussed at the March Sixth and March Fifth DDC meetings last year and both had approved to discuss the matter further, with March Fifth DDC proposing at their recent meeting that a meeting be arranged between the Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of each Board to discuss the matter and to report back at their next meeting.

The District Officer considered that the March Third Commissioners were operating efficiently and could not see any benefit from an amalgamation at this point.

The Chairman supported these views and considered that the position had changed from the meeting two years ago and he could see no benefit at this time from an amalgamation.

The District Officer suggested that with recent changes in tenancy agreements the Commissioners could approach Creek Farms Ltd and Pashler Farms to nominate a representative to become a Commissioner.

RESOLVED

- i) That no further action be taken at this time concerning giving consideration to the Commissioners amalgamating with neighbouring drainage authorities.
- ii) That the Clerk write to Creek Farms Ltd and Pashler Farms to ascertain if they wished to nominate a representative to become a Commissioner.

C.1028 Water Transfer Licences

Further to minute C.990, Mr Hill referred to a letter received from ADA dated the 27th October 2017 and to the Clerk's response to Defra and also to the fact that licencing of water transfers came into force on the 1st January 2018. He advised that, as a licence is only required for transfers from EA main river and no inter-IDB transfers require licencing, this new arrangement will not directly impact the Commissioners.

C.1029 Cannon Kirk

Further to minute C.992, Mr Hill reported that the developer had recently been in contact with the Middle Level Commissioners' Planning Engineer and it was likely that works would be commencing in the near future. He referred to the update that the Consulting Engineers had included in their report which was considered by the Commissioners and tabled some plans received from the developer showing how the works would be phased.

Mr Hill referred to minute B.919(iv), and the resolution made at that time, which the Commissioners approved to review in the light of works likely to commence.

Mr Hill tabled costings drawn up by the Consulting Engineers for likely maintenance costs of the lagoon and for the commuted sum that would be required to fund these works over a 100 year period.

Mr Lakey reported that, at a recent meeting with Cannon Kirk, it was indicated that it was now likely that the developer would not be considering proposals concerning the transfer of land ownership of the remainder of the lagoon area.

RESOLVED

- i) That the Commissioners would not adopt or accept future maintenance responsibilities for the culvert under the A141 or the culvert from 'ditch 6' to the Commissioners existing watercourse under Gaul Road West.
- ii) That the Commissioners agree in principle, subject to the approval of the Consulting Engineers, to relinquish the sections of District watercourses as indicated on the plans and to adopt the new sections of watercourse as referred to.
- iii) That the Commissioners agree in principle to adopt the proposed attenuation lagoon as detailed on the plans, subject to a suitable commuted sum being received from the developer for its future maintenance.
- iv) That the Commissioners request the sum of £250,000 as a commuted sum for the future maintenance of the attenuation lagoon, and that the Chairman and Clerk be authorised to negotiate this matter with the developer.
- v) That the Chairman and District Officer be authorised to deal with this matter and take any further action as they consider appropriate.

C.1030 Rentals of Pillards Corner, March

- a) Further to minute B.993(b), Mr Hill reported that Maxey Grounds & Co had been instructed to proceed with tendering for the land and upon completion of the process the Chairman had approved for the land to be let to Creek Farms Ltd for an annual rent of £11,420.00.

RESOLVED

That the actions of the Chairman be approved.

- b) Consideration was given to whether any change was appropriate in the levels of rental obtained for the Commissioners' land.

RESOLVED

That rent review notices be served on the Commissioners' agricultural tenants and advice be sought as to the appropriate rental for the Commissioners' land for discussion at the next meeting.

C.1031 Association of Drainage Authorities Further Research on Eels

Further to minute C.1004, the Commissioners considered making a further contribution towards the research on eels.

RESOLVED

That the Commissioners approve to contribute an additional £100 towards further research on eels for 2018/2019.

C.1032 Consulting Engineers' Report

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

March Third D.D.C.

Consulting Engineers Report – April 2018

Weed Control and Drain Maintenance

The maintenance works carried out last year generally accorded with the recommendations approved by the Commissioners at their last annual meeting.

A Roundup herbicide application was made to reaches in advance of the programmed machine cleansing works, and to other district drains where it was required to control dense reed stands and emergent aquatic vegetation.

The Commissioners' flail mowing requirements were undertaken by Messrs Ashman last year. They have indicated that they are available to undertake the Commissioners' flail mowing requirements again this year. A sum has therefore been included within the estimated costs for flail mowing of district drains to be undertaken this year.

It is understood the Cannon Kirk residential development site at Gaul Road, will recommence works on site to deliver the next phase of housing. With this in mind, and with the Chairman and District Officer's approval, machine cleansing works have recently been undertaken along reaches 22-23-24-31-32 and 24-25-26-27-28-29 to remove siltation from the Commissioners' adjacent district drains prior to any further development works taking place on site. It was felt that the works were justified as both cost effective and convenient for the Commissioners at this time. The cost of these works fell within last year's budget estimate. The Commissioners' Environmental Officer was happy with this.

A recent inspection of the district drains has been undertaken with the District Officer and shows the majority are being maintained to a good standard and are in a generally satisfactory condition.

Drains to the West of the Bypass

The inspection highlighted that the drains to the west of the bypass are in a satisfactory condition. At this early time in the growing season there is some evidence of *filamentous algae* (cott) growth along reach 2-3-4 and it is recommended they are included within this year's machine cleansing programme once the adjacent crop has been harvested.

Further inspections will be carried out later in the year to identify any other areas that may need to be included in the machine cleansing



Reach 3-4

programme. Historically late occurring algal blooms have been problematic and required clearing from the Commissioners' drains to the west of the bypass later in the season. A provisional sum has been included within the estimated costs to allow for any cott cleansing work that may be required.

The inspection also revealed sporadic stands of common reed and *typha* (bulrush) colonising reach 13-12-39-14. It is recommended the aforementioned reaches are treated with an application of Roundup herbicide followed by machine cleansing, to remove the emergent vegetation and any accumulations of silt that may be present.



Reach 12-13

Drains to the East of the Bypass

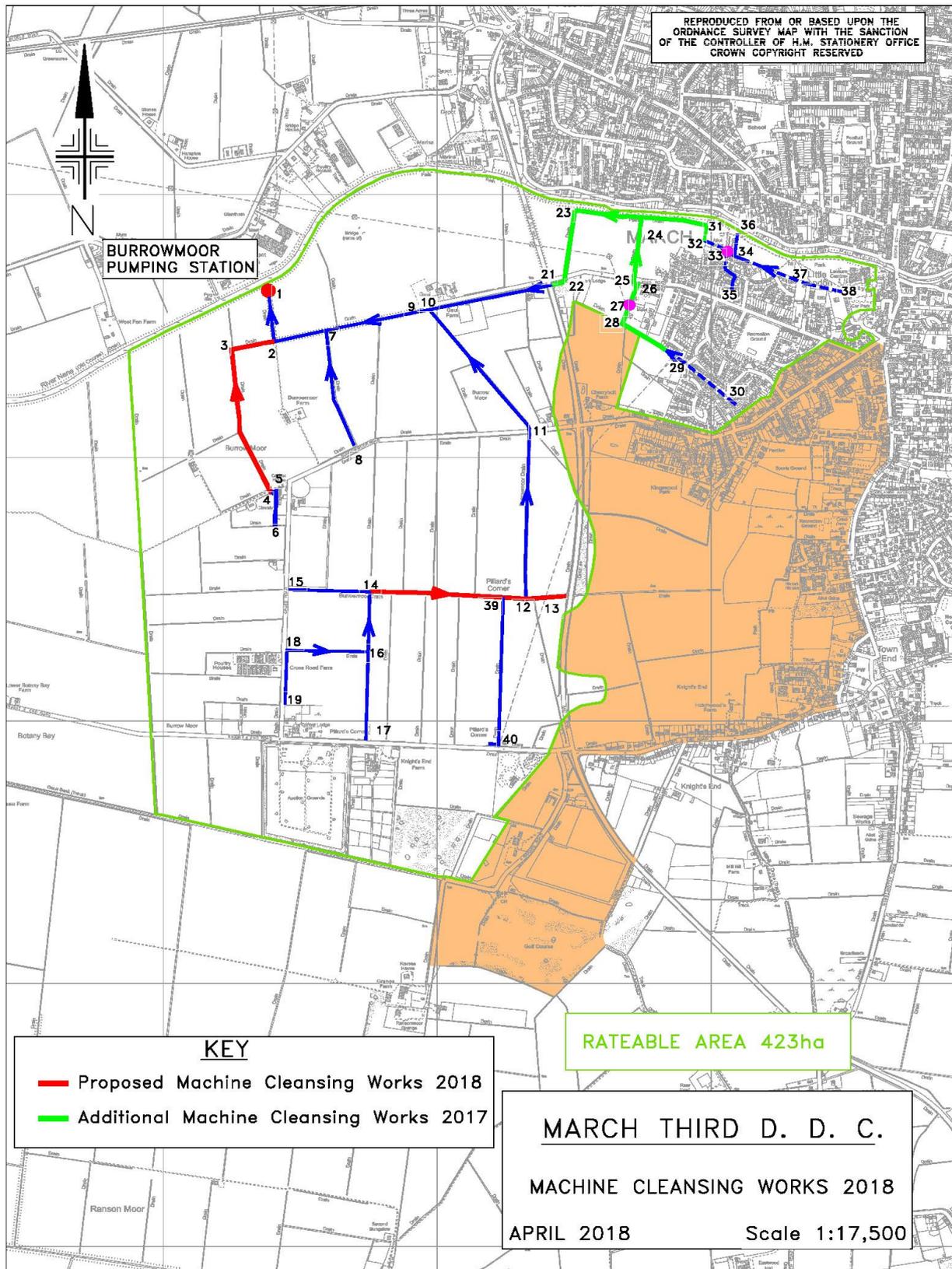
The district drains to the east of the bypass remain in a very good condition as they were machine cleansed the week prior to the District inspection. Further inspections will be carried out later in the year to ensure the satisfactory standard is maintained and identify any areas that may require a herbicide application.

A further provisional sum has also been included to allow for any emergency bank repair, culvert clearance or debris removal and disposal works that may be necessary later in the year.

The estimated cost of this year's recommended Weed Control and Drain Maintenance works is as follows. Please refer to the site plan on the following page for locations.

<u>Machine Cleansing</u>			£	£
1. Reaches 2-3-4	720	m @	1.20	864.00
2. Reaches 13-12-39-14	650	m @	1.20	780.00
3. <u>Provisional Sum</u>				
Allow sum for cott clearance or emergency machine cleansing works	Item	Sum		2000.00
4. Flail mowing district drains	Item	Sum		2000.00
5. <u>Provisional Sum</u>				
Allowance for emergency bank repair, culvert cleansing works or debris removal/disposal works	Item	Sum		750.00
6. Allow sum for Roundup application to reed and emergent weed	Item	Sum		500.00
7. Fees for inspection, preparation and submission of report to the Commissioners, arrangement and supervision of chemical applications and maintenance works	Item	Sum		850.00
TOTAL				£ 7,744.00

Orders for the application of herbicides by the MLC are accepted on condition that they are weather dependant and will not be held responsible for the efficacy of any treatments applied.



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.

Weedscreen Cleaner.

During January 2018 the weedscreen cleaner hydraulic pump failed and required replacement.

The no 2 pumpset motor winding resistance dropped to a low value but has improved somewhat since being set to be the duty pump. The situation will be monitored.

Telemetry

In accordance with the Commissioners' instructions at their last meeting, an Oriel Systems telemetry outstation has been installed and connected to the Middle Level Masterstation.

Pumping Hours

No 1 Hours Run April 2017-April 2018 = 69

No 2 Hours Run April 2017-April 2018 = 206

No 1 Hours Run April 2016-April 2017 = 63

No 2 Hours Run April 2016-April 2017 = 126

No 1 Hours Run April 2015-April 2016 = 140

No 2 Hours Run April 2015-April 2016 = 127

No 1 Hours Run April 2014-April 2015 = 113

No 2 Hours Run April 2014-April 2015 = 505

No 1 Hours Run March 2013-April 2014 = 235

No 2 Hours Run March 2013-April 2014 = 173

Eel Regulations

Following sustained pressure from the IDB sector, notification has been received that a paper was presented to the EA Executive Directors' Team proposing some changes to their current regulatory process. It is understood that Executive Directors supported the recommendations in the paper and that work is now underway to establish how the EA will transition the changes and what this means in the interim for operators such as IDBs.

In line with what IDBs have been calling for, there is to be a new approach identifying the best achievable eel protection (BAEP), in terms of what is technically feasible and generally affordable. The EA also proposes to change when and where it applies its eel cost benefit analysis tool; how it considers affordability of eel protection at individual sites; and how it balances costs with risk to eel at individual sites. The EA will also investigate where there are opportunities to revise its current

programming approach to optimise outcomes for eel. Finally, it will work with sector leads in developing new guidance and processes.

However, it is important to note that the EA will not be in a position to introduce its new regulatory approach until it has developed all of the new, interdependent, components of the process which the EA advise will take up to 12 months.

Internal Consultation with the Commissioners

The process of “internal consultation” between the Middle Level Commissioners and the Commissioners (usually, but not always, with the Chairman and/or District Officer) to seek the Commissioners’ comments and thus aid the decision-making process, is generally working well and will be continued and reviewed at a later date.

Planning Procedures Update

Informatives on Decision Notices

Despite positive steps being taken, a review of the decisions that have recently been made has identified that very few informatives are being added to Decision Notices advising the applicants of their separate legal obligation to comply with the requirements of the Commissioners’ Byelaws and the Land Drainage Act.

It is left to the Commissioners’ discretion whether they wish the Middle Level Commissioners to make a formal response to the Councils concerned directly on their behalf, or whether they request their Council representatives ensure that such informatives are requested.

Planning Agents Training Day

Having identified engagement issues between “Developers” and the Middle Level Commissioners and Associated Boards, a Training Day was held in late October. Approximately 50 invitations were sent out to a cross section of interested parties representing developers, agents and consultants and including all the LPA areas that we deal regularly with. Council Officers were also invited. The event was oversubscribed with twenty-five people attending but several others are on a ‘short list’ if another similar event is held. The feedback suggests the event was well received.

The format of the event was to inform those attending of the unique nature of the area; where the IDBs fit into the development process; what the issues are; and how the Middle Level Commissioners deal with them.

Analysing the figures very crudely 46% of attendees were agents; 34% consultants; 18% developers and less than 1% Council Officers. The areas covered were 37%, predominantly consultants, all the LPAs; 45% Fenland and 18% West Norfolk. There was no specific

representation from Huntingdonshire District, East Cambs District, South Cambs District or Peterborough City Councils.

Planning Applications

In addition to matters concerning previous applications, the following 23 new applications have been received and dealt with since the last meeting:

MLC Ref.	Council Ref.	Applicant	Type of Development	Location
318	F/YR17/0219/F	Mr & Mrs Lombardo	Residence (Extension)	Gaul Road, March
319	F/YR17/0272/F	Mr T Fink	Residence (Extension)	Kingswood Road, March
320	F/YR17/0292/O	Mr R Purser	Residence	Ravenhill Drive, March
321	F/YR17/0297/F	Mr & Mrs Miller	Residence (Extension)	Chestnut Crescent, March
322	F/YR17/0286/F	Mr M Burry	Residential (2 plots)	Gaul Road, March
323	F/YR17/0307/O	Mrs B Jude	Residence	St Thomas Drive, March
324	F/YR17/0392/VOC	Mr T Bayes	Agricultural	Burrowmoor Road, March
325	F/YR17/0399/O	Mr & Mrs Pettingill	Residential (Up to 2 plots)	The Avenue, March
326	F/YR17/0407/F	Mr & Mrs R Brown	Residence	Knights End Road, March
327	F/YR17/0412/F	Mr T Bayes	Agricultural	Burrowmoor Road, March
328	F/YR17/0616/F	Kewmark Ltd	Residential (15 plots)	Gas Road, March*
329	F/YR17/0656/F	Mr Watters	Equine	Knights End Road, March
330	F/YR17/0673/F	Mr & Mrs Bayes	Agricultural	Burrowmoor Road, March
331	F/YR17/0739/O	Mr & Mrs Pettingill	Residential (Up to 2 plots)	The Avenue, March
332	F/YR17/0853/F	Mr & Mrs A Brewer	Residence (Extension)	Knights End Road, March
333	F/YR17/0860/F	Mr & Mrs Petersen	Residence (Extension)	Gaul Road, March
334	F/YR17/1060/F	Mr D Tinsley	Residence	Burrowmoor Road, March
335	F/YR17/1183/F	Mr & Mrs S Crown	Residence (Extension)	Church Street, March
336	F/YR17/1171/F	Cannon Kirk (UK) Ltd	Surface water lagoon & associated drainage works	Isle of Ely Way/Gaul Road, March*
337	F/YR17/3159/COND	Cannon Kirk (UK) Ltd	Residential (135 plots)	Gaul Road, March*
338	F/YR18/0021/F	Construct Reason	Residential (5 plots)	Gaul Road, March
339	Enquiry	UK Power Networks	Works at 132KV Substation	Gaul Road, March
340	F/YR18/0068/F	Mr P Setchfield	Residence (Extension)	Beck Close, March

***Planning Applications ending 'VOC' relate to variation of condition
Planning applications ending 'COND' relate to the discharge of relevant planning conditions***

Developments that propose direct discharge to the Commissioners' 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 applicants have chosen to use the soakaway self-certifying process and, in doing so, agreed that if the soakaway was to fail in the future they would be liable for discharge consent.

- (i) Mr & Mrs Lombardo – Residential (extension) at Gaul Road, March (MLC Ref No 318)
- (ii) Mr T Bayes – Agricultural storage building at Burrowmoor Road, March (MLC Ref No 327)
- (iii) Mr Watters – Erection of machine/tack store and stable block at Knight's End Road, March (MLC Ref No 329)

The following sites are either partly or wholly within the St Thomas' Cut catchment:

- (a) Mr & Mrs Miller (MLC Ref No 321)
- (b) Mr M Burry (MLC Ref No 322)
- (c) Mrs B Jude (MLC Ref Nos 323)
- (d) Mr & Mrs Pettingill (MLC Ref No 325 & 331)
- (e) Mr & Mrs R Brown (MLC Ref No 326)
- (f) Kewmark Ltd (MLC Ref No 328)
- (g) Mr & Mrs A Brewer (MLC Ref No 332)
- (h) Mr & Mrs Petersen (MLC Ref No 333)
- (i) Mr D Tinsley (MLC Ref No 334)
- (j) Mr & Mrs S Crown (MLC Ref No 335)

No further correspondence has been received from the applicants or the applicants' agents concerning the following developments and no further action has been taken in respect of the Commissioners' interests.

- *Proposed re-development of the former Old Dairy Buildings, Grange Road, March - HR Property Development (MLC Ref Nos 156 & 165); Mr B Sutton (MLC Ref Nos 170 & 178); Mr G Harradine (MLC Ref Nos 209 & 221) & Mr M Reynolds (MLC Ref Nos 251 & 253)*
- *Residential development at 125 Burrowmoor Road, March – Mrs H Butler (MLC Ref No 200) & Mason Homes (March) Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 242 & 245)*
- *Residential development on land west of 12 Knights End Road, March - Cannon Kirk Homes Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 204, 207 & 252) and Construct Reason (MLC Ref No 291)*
- *Residential development to the north-west of Turnbull Road, off Gaul Road, March – Ashley King Developments (MLC Ref Nos 211, 226, 256 & 266)*
- *Erection of 8 dwellings – Anglian Regional Co-Op Society (MLC Ref No 227) & Erection of a single-storey building comprising of 2 no units for retail (A1) and retail (A1)/financial and professional services (A2), including installation of 4 no air conditioning units, ATM, formation of a new vehicular access and associated*

works, involving demolition of existing building at site of 43 to 47 The Causeway, March - GCC Investments (UK) Ltd (MLC Ref No 261)

- *Residential development on the southern side of Gaul Road to the east of York Lodge and west of the Commissioners' Drain 25-26-27-28 – Partner Construction (MLC Ref No 279)*

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

Change of use of agricultural land to Riverside Park including pedestrian/cycle bridge, ponds, anglers' car park and landscaping on land south of River Nene, Gaul Road, March – Cannon Kirk UK Ltd (MLC Ref No 124) and residential development on land west of Old Council Depot, Gaul Road, March – Cannon Kirk UK Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 139, 193 & 296) & Signalised Junction Improvement Works to Gaul Road/A141 Junction - Cannon Kirk UK Ltd (MLC Ref No 193)

Further to the last meeting discussions have continued with the applicant and associated consultants, Pegasus Planning Group Ltd, for the extension to West End Park; WSP UK Limited, who are dealing with the Gaul Road/A141 junction improvements; and Pick Everard, who are acting for the remainder of the development. This is as part of the on-going post-application consultation process.

Signalised Junction Improvements to Gaul Road/A141 junction

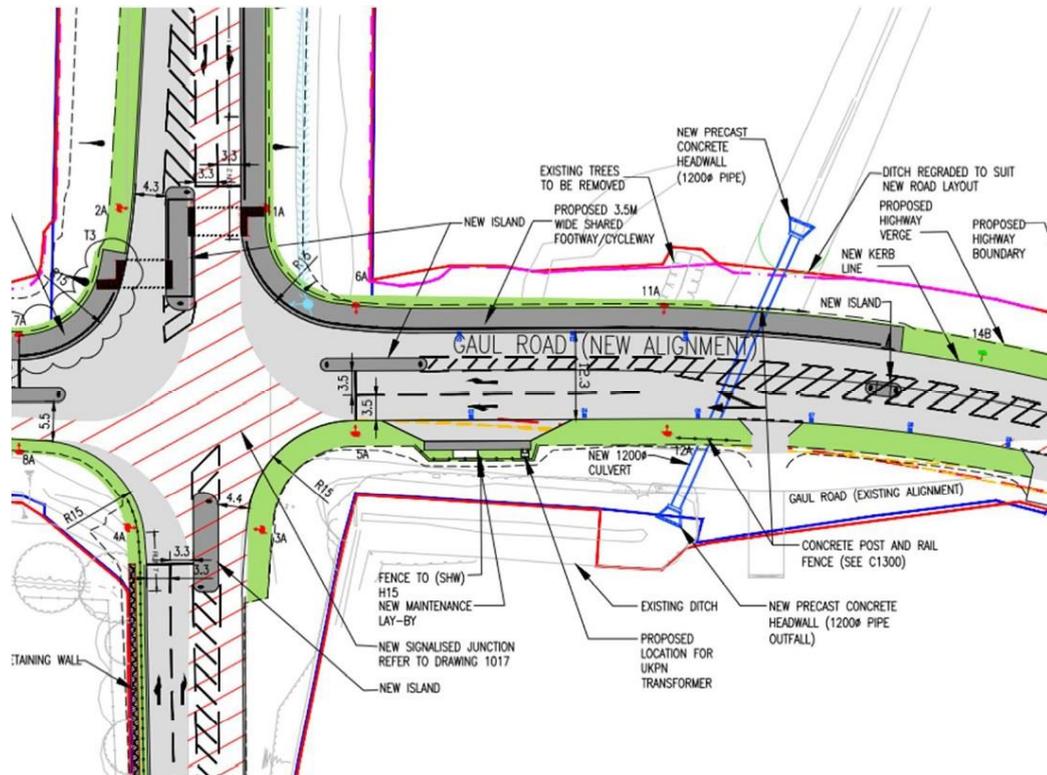
Members will recall that this proposal forms a key part of the larger “diversion works”, which will, when complete, remove a section of the Commissioners' system in the vicinity of Points 21-22 which is currently difficult to maintain.

It was requested and subsequently agreed that the contractor undertaking the works will cleanse the existing section of Commissioners' Drain between Points 21-22 as part of the works. Further cleansing of the section of channel will not be required for about three years and it is hoped that the remaining parts of the diversion works, ie the culvert under the A141, storage lagoon and associated drain works will have been completed by this time.

Following receipt of further information, the byelaw application associated with this temporary aspect of the development has been processed and recommended for approval.

It is understood that the works are due to form part of a larger road closure along Gaul Road that commences at the beginning of July.

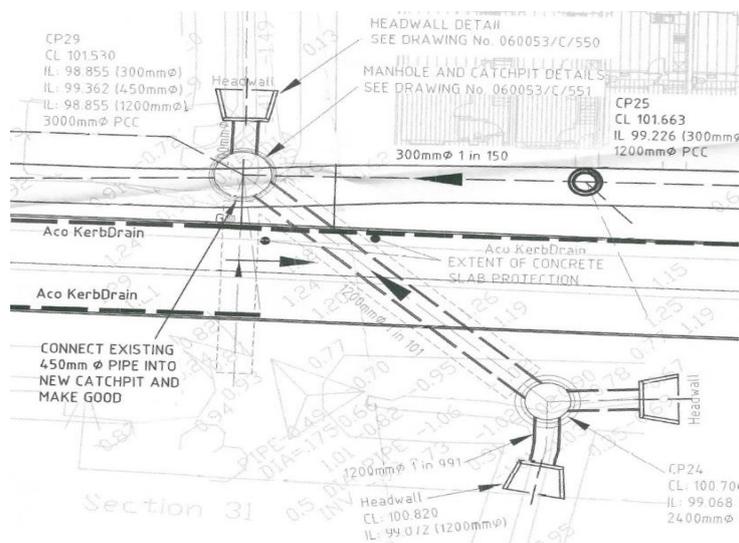
The discharge consent associated with this element of the scheme is currently being processed.



Extract from WSP UK Limiteds Culvert Replacement Risk Assessment document

The installation of a new uprated culvert under Gaul Road at Points 25-26

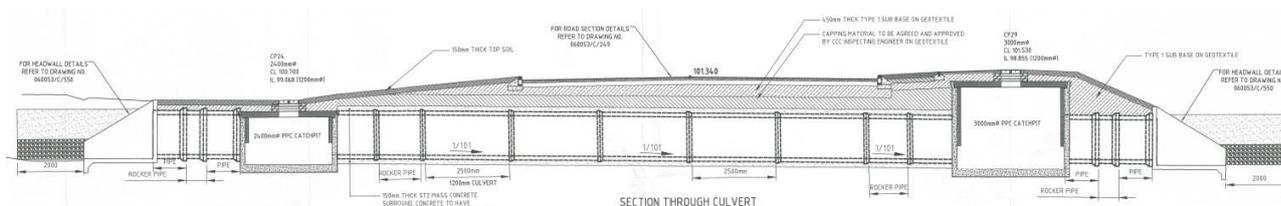
A revised byelaw application was received in November 2017 incorporating amendments as the residential developments proposals have evolved.



Extract from Pick Everards' Drawing No 060053/C/557 Rev Q

Following further discussions, particularly with respect to environmental issues, and the submission of information including the provision of a signed Approval in Principle (AiP) document it was possible to recommend approval for this culvert.

In order to continue the drainage of the adjacent land the existing 450mm diameter culvert will be retained but a new 1200mm diameter culvert is to be laid which will remove the existing “dog leg” and a field access culvert thus aiding flows.



Extract from Pick Everards' Drawing No 060053/C/599 Rev D

The works will be undertaken as part of the larger Gaul Road closure beginning in July.

Culvert under the A141, storage lagoon and associated drain works

Following discussions with the Highway Authority, the previously proposed box culvert, which would require installation using the cut and cover technique, has been changed to a 1800mm diameter culvert which can be pipe jacked, thus not requiring a road closure and thus avoiding further disruption.

A planning application was submitted in November for this phase of the development and consideration is currently being given to the proposal. It is understood that the Planning Officer would like to take this application to the Planning Committee for decision at its May meeting.

Details are currently being discussed with the applicant's consultant concerning boundary treatments and access to the lagoon to undertake maintenance works.

The issue of the provision of “a suitable commuted sum being received from the developer for its future maintenance” and ownership of the field, as discussed and agreed at the Commissioners' 2015 meeting has yet to be finalised.

The extension to West End Park

Comments have been provided on the Commissioners' behalf in respect of an Illustrative Landscape Masterplan related to the current phase of development, Points 24-31-32.

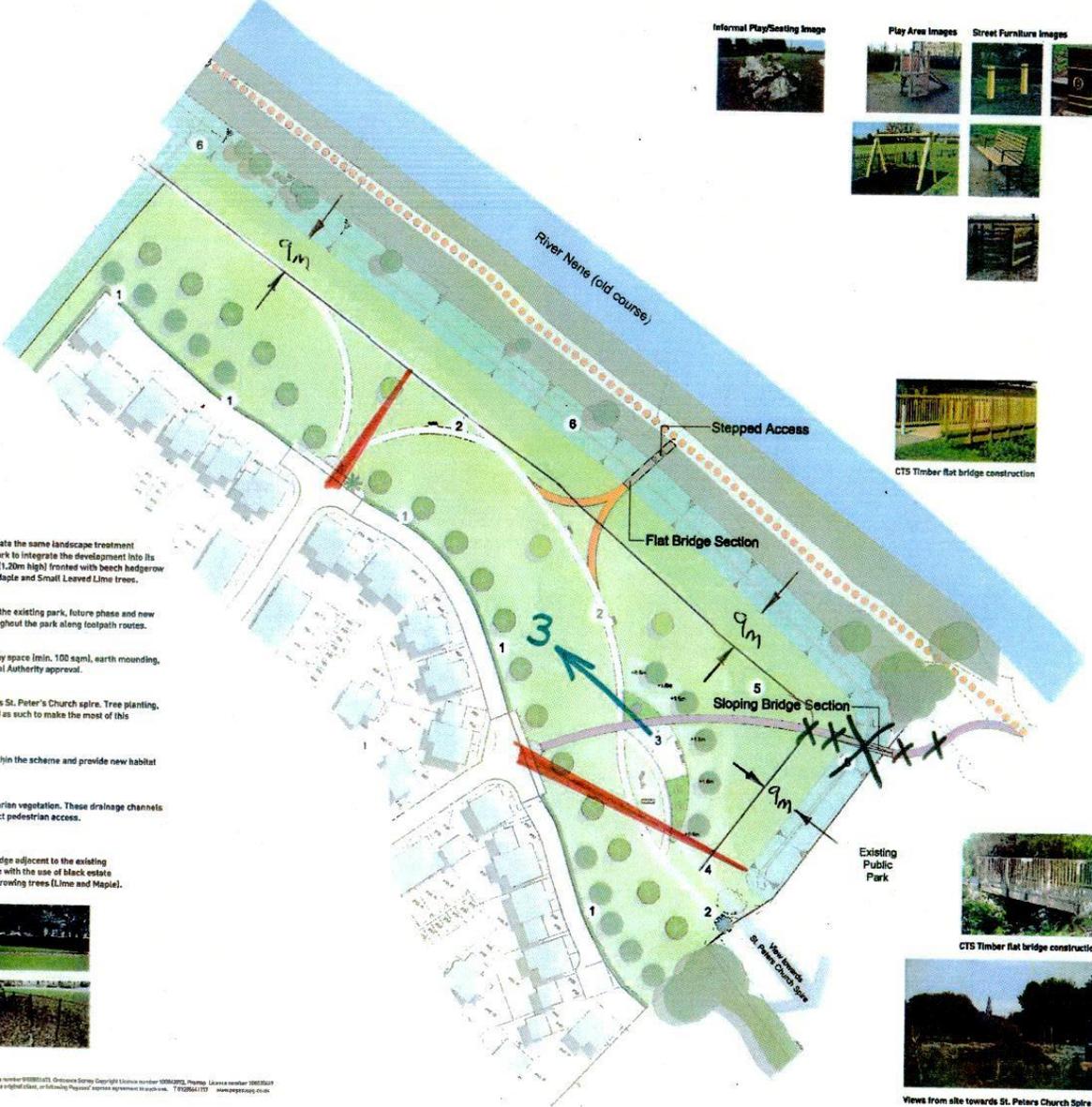
LANDSCAPE STRATEGY

- 1. Residential Edge**
The residential edge of the country park will seek to replicate the same landscape treatment existing along the residential edge of the existing public park to integrate the development into its context. The treatment will consist of black estate railings (1.20m high) fronted with beech hedgerow and the planting of large growing parkland trees Norway Maple and Small Leaved Lime trees.
- 2. Footpath/Seating**
Surfaced footpath routes will connect the open space with the existing park, future phase and new residential dwellings. Bench seating to be positioned throughout the park along footpath routes.
- 3. Play Space**
The country park design includes the provision of a LAP play space (min. 100 sqm), earth mounding, informal play and seating opportunities. LAP design to Local Authority approval.
- 4. Spire View**
A key design feature is to emphasis and open views towards St. Peter's Church spire. Tree planting, footpath routes, seating and mounding has been positioned as such to make the most of this opportunity.
- 5. Meadow Grassland**
New wildflower meadow with increase species diversity within the scheme and provide new habitat along existing watercourses.
- 6. Drainage channels**
Existing ditch/drainage channel to be seeded with local riparian vegetation. These drainage channels will be fenced with 1.50m high post and rail fencing to restrict pedestrian access.

Residential Edge - Example images of existing residential edge adjacent to the existing public park. This approach will be extended into our scheme with the use of black estate railings fronted with beech hedgerow and lined with large growing trees (Lime and Maple).



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- KEY**
- Existing ditch/drainage channel to be seeded with local riparian vegetation
 - Public right of way
 - Proposed surfaced footpath routes and bench seating opportunities
 - Proposed footpath link, Option 1
 - Proposed footpath link, Option 2
 - Play area adjacent to surf footpath link
 - Proposed timber footbridge
 - Proposed timber steps
 - Proposed timber ramp



**Gaul Road, March
Country Park - Illustrative
Landscape Masterplan -
BRIDGE OPTIONS**

Drawing Ref: P17-1903_02
Client: CANNON KIRK DEVELOPMENTS LTD
Date: 18/12/2017
Drawn by: AL
Checked by: AP
Scale: 1:500 @ A1

This has included giving advice on access requirements for the Commissioners' system through the development; need to provide maintenance access strips, the Commissioners' maintenance procedures and the re-positioning of a "play space" away from the Commissioners' drain. The need for access bridges was questioned and where possible the provision of an access culvert was sought.

Discussions are on-going.

Residential development involving the demolition of existing outbuildings and sheds on land north of 33 Gaul Road fronting Oxbow Crescent, March - Mr F Grounds (MLC Ref Nos 168, 183 & 214), Gaul Developments LLP (MLC Ref No 240), Construct Reason Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 256, 306, 316 & 338) and Wisbech Homes (MLC Ref Nos 270 & 276)

Planning permission for the six plot layout was granted in October. However, a revised planning application for five plots was submitted to the District Council in the New Year and was subsequently granted permission in the March.

It is understood that surface water disposal will be via soakaways.

Planning Application for Affordable Rent and Shared Ownership at the site of the former Kingswood Park Care Home, Kingswood Road, March - Sanctuary Group (MLC Ref Nos 244, 249 & 259)

Further to the last report a meeting with the applicant's engineering consultant, Peter Dann & Partners, was held to discuss surface water related issues in the area.

More recently a meeting was held with other stakeholders, including both the District and County Council, and it is anticipated that the re-development of this site could assist in resolving the flooding that has been experienced.

Both meetings were held as part the pre-application consultation discussion.

Erection of agricultural buildings at land to the south east of Clevely, Burrowmoor Road, March – Mr & Mrs Bayes (MLC Ref Nos 278, 285, 324, 327 & 330)

Further to the last meeting a Variation of Condition planning application (MLC Ref No 324) was submitted to the District Council in April 2017 for the alteration to size and

position of a building. However, this was withdrawn in October being replaced by a retrospective application for a cattle shed (MLC Ref No 330).

An application for an agricultural storage building (MLC Ref Nos 327) has also been submitted.

Both applications were subsequently approved by the District Council.

Fenland District Council (FDC)

No further correspondence has been received from FDC concerning the Neighbourhood Strategy and no progress has occurred with its District Wide Level 2 SFRA.

No further action has been taken in respect of the Commissioners' interests.

FDC Liaison Meeting

A meeting attended by representatives from the Middle Level Commissioners and FDC was held in November to improve working relations between the two authorities.

The actions arising from the meeting included:

- Development of a joint protocol/leaflet to clarify the inter-relationship between FDC, CCC (in its role as the LLFA), the Commissioners & associated IDBs and the EA in relation to flooding and surface water drainage for developers.
- The Middle Level Commissioners to offer a seminar for "planners".
- The Middle Level Commissioners to review their approach to responding to planning applications with a focus on major schemes/Broad Concept Plans (BCP's).
- Meeting to discuss the potential tourism opportunities on our waterways perhaps initially focusing on March.
- Communication opportunities for FDC to promote/signpost the Middle Level Commissioners' information and pre-application process or to join this up with its own processes.
- Investigate whether the FDC Local Validation List review can include requirements to benefit the Middle Level Commissioners or drainage in general.

Another meeting is to be held in May this year.

Fenland Flooding Issues Sub-Group

Following the extreme rainfall event experienced within March during August 2014, a March Flood Investigation Sub-Group was formed. The meetings associated with this investigation have proven beneficial to all the stakeholders involved and may lead to the resolution of many historical issues and, as a result, the responsibilities of the Sub-Group were extended to cover any local flooding issues within the District Council's area. There are currently no issues within the Commissioners' rateable catchment.

March Neighbourhood Plan 2015-2030

The March Neighbourhood Plan was formally adopted by the District Council on 2 November 2017 following a successful examination, subject to some modifications, and referendum.

Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Partnership (CFRMP)

The Commissioners' Planning Engineer has represented both the Middle Level Commissioners and their associated Boards since the Commissioners last board meeting. The main matters that may be of interest to the Commissioners are as follows:

The Great Ouse Tidal River Baseline report

This EA document is complete and available in PDF format. The report sets out the status of flood risk management on the tidal River Ouse. One of the most critical/important maps highlights cost benefits in terms of GiA and other funding sources. The report also sets out issues going forward with regard to long term funding of managing the catchment.

The Future Fenland Project

Phase 1 of this EA project, which concerns all of the Fens, has commenced. This will take a couple of years to complete and will include Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire. A workshops for stakeholders were held in January and March 2018. One of the aims of this phase is to outline the total cost benefit analysis of maintaining the Fens.

Phase 2 will assess how the Fens may change in the future based on information from phase 1. This may include considering changes in land use and funding streams.

There are varying views on the future of the Fens and the development of the project. One of the concerns raised was the source of future funding for the management of the Fens and the conflicting views on how it should be managed.

Programme Development Unit (PDU)

This EA team will focus on helping partners deliver projects more efficiently. There are a number of large EA projects that the PDU will be involved with, therefore a hierarchy of projects will need to be established to ensure clarity of their involvement.

Flood risk activities: environmental permits (formerly flood defence consents)

There is currently a proposal by the EA to raise the costs of permitting in stages from the current £170 minimum potentially up to £1441.

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) has advised that the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) has also been involved in a similar process with ADA. A response has been prepared by ADA and for more detail see item 29 on the Agenda.

Members will be aware that the statutory fee for obtaining consent stated within the Land Drainage Act has, for many years, been only £50.00 which does not cover the real costs of processing such a consent.

Cambridgeshire County Council – Flood and Water Team – Ordinary watercourse consents have been considered and issued when required.

The Bedford Group of IDBs has advised that Ordinary watercourse consents in its area were not originally considered with protected provisions in the Development Control Order (DCO), a planning document. A legal agreement was subsequently agreed that reflects IDBs' byelaws and protected provisions.

It is understood that the EA had a similar situation at Peterborough on a Main River, even though it was a stakeholder in the project.

IDBs are reminded that they are not Statutory Consultees in such consultations but do need to be aware of forthcoming schemes in order to protect their interests.

Rain Gauges Project

Note. *The Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU - previously called OJEC, the Official Journal of the European Community) is the publication in which all tenders from the public sector which are valued above a certain financial threshold according to EU legislation, must be published. The legislation covers organisations and projects that receive public money, such as Local Authorities, NHS Trusts, MOD, Central Government Departments and Educational Establishments.*

The Eastern Regional Flood & Coastal Committee (RFCC) area (largely Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex) will be joining this Central RFCC project which is likely to be Project Managed by the EA.

The gauges will be located on secure and accessible EA or Anglian Water Services Ltd (AWSL) structures, such as water recycling centres (WRCs), and the Botanical Gardens in Cambridge.

It is intended that information from the rain gauges will be for the use of all partners for flood investigations etc with all sites available via telemetry using a web interface, possibly with three levels of membership – Administrator, Partners and the Public - and associated viewing rights within the web interface with the latter only seeing “local” information. This interface will be based on the software that AWSL already uses for its existing rain gauges and combined sewer overflows (CSOs). The data will not be directly compatible with EA data however a widget will be developed for this purpose. Discussions/negotiations are ongoing with the Met Office regarding a data swap.

The size of the project is causing delays but draft OJEU tender documents, a business case and inter LLFA and AWSL legal agreements are currently being drafted.

As members of the CFRMP, the Middle Level Commissioners have been asked to comment on the proposed location of rain gauges. The LLFA advises that the proposed new gauges have been chosen because they are adjacent to major areas of population and known “wet spots”. The nearest rain gauges to the Commissioners’ area are at March WRC (EA gauge) and the Middle Level Commissioners’ Office. In respect of the Commissioners’ interests the District Council suggested a rain gauge within the town itself, on Anglian Water’s facility off Creek Road (MRCCSM), near River Down.

Strategic Flood Risk Planning Advisor

Funded by the Local Levy the EA has employed a Strategic Flood Risk Planning Advisor on a two year contract. The role will include providing input to LPA’s Local Plans (most of which, within Cambridgeshire, are approaching completion) and highlighting flood mitigation opportunities within strategic development proposals.

Integrated FRM PhD research project

A PhD researcher at the Flood Hazard Research Centre (FHRC) Middlesex University is working on integrated flood risk management within Cambridgeshire with the aim of understanding the connectivity between different networks (such as the RFCC, CFRMP, catchment partnerships, local resilience forums, enterprise partnerships) and to see how these influence the integration of different FRM objectives (preventing new risk, reducing existing risk and managing residual risk) and other wider sustainable development objectives. An interview attended by the Chief Executive and Planning Engineer was held with the researcher on 5 January to discuss their roles and the role of IDBs and partnership working, amongst other things.

Chief Engineer

23 April 2018

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The District Officer referred to the installation of the telemetry outstation and reported that the initial operation had not been as smooth as would have been anticipated and the system was not operating as was required. He advised that the main issue was that the level sensors were at the pumping station and the levels of water in the Knights End area could take 3-4 hours to reach the station, meaning the pump can switch off when levels at the station are normal, leaving high volumes of water upstream of the station.

The District Officer enquired as to the possibility of having probes at 'remote locations' to be better able to control the operation of the pump.

RESOLVED

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

ii) Weed Control and Drain Maintenance

That the recommended maintenance works be undertaken.

iii) That the Consulting Engineers investigate the possibility of installing probes at a remote location within the District and that the Chairman and District Officer be authorised to take any further action as they consider appropriate.

C.1033 Capital Improvement Programme

The Commissioners considered their future capital improvement programme.

RESOLVED

That the Capital Programme be approved in principle and kept under review.

C.1034 District Officer's Report

The District Officer reported that matters concerning the pumping station and drain maintenance had been fully covered in the Consulting Engineer's report.

Further to minute C.997, the District Officer reported that he had resolved the issue of the disposal of waste at the pumping station and would monitor the position.

With regards to the water quality in the West End area, he understood that Anglian Water had resolved their issues with pumping and that the water in the system remained clear. He raised concerns for the future over the potential development of up to 25 acres of land between Burrowmoor Road and the bypass which he considered the current District system would not be able to cope with.

Mr Lakey commented that if there was future development it would be up to the developer to find an appropriate route for the discharge of the surface water which was acceptable to the Commissioners.

RESOLVED

That the Report and the actions referred to therein be approved and that the Officer be thanked for his services over the preceding year.

C.1035 Environmental Officer's Newsletter and BAP Report

Mr Hill referred to the Environmental Officer's Newsletter, previously circulated to the Commissioners.

The Commissioners considered and approved the most recent BAP report together with the information sheets about floating pennywort.

Mr Hill referred to Cliff Carson's recent health issues and that he was now back at work and had recently filmed a piece on otters which was due to be shown on the BBC Spring Watch programme towards the end of the month. He reported that Cliff was due to retire at the end of June and that the process to find his replacement was in hand.

RESOLVED

That the Commissioners make a donation towards a gift to mark Cliff Carson's retirement and that the Middle Level Commissioners' Treasurer be authorised to make a contribution in line with that of other Boards.

C.1036 District Officer's Fee

The Commissioners gave consideration to the District Officer's fee for 2018/2019.

RESOLVED

That the Commissioners agree that the sum of £1,460 be allowed for the services of the District Officer for 2018/2019.

(NB) – The District Officer declared a financial interest when this item was discussed.

C.1037 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.

C.1038 Applications for byelaw consent

Mr Hill reported that the following applications for consent to undertake works in and around watercourses had been approved and granted since the last general meeting of the Commissioners viz:-

<u>Name of Applicant</u>	<u>Description of Works</u>	<u>Date consent granted</u>
Cannon Kirk (UK) Limited	Re-alignment of Gaul Road and installation of traffic signals at A141/Gaul Road junction	1 st March 2018
Cannon Kirk (UK) Limited	Laying of 1200mm diameter concrete culvert and construction of 3 no. concrete headwalls	5 th March 2018

RESOLVED

That the action taken in granting consents be approved.

C.1039 Environment Agency – Precept

Mr Hill reported that the Environment Agency had issued the precept for 2018/2019 in the sum of £1,762 (the precept for 2017/2018 being £1,736).

C.1040 Claims for Highland Water Contributions – Section 57 Land Drainage Act 1991

- (a) Mr Hill reported that the sum of £84.02 (£1,752.33 less £1,668.31 paid on account) (inclusive of supervision) had been received from the Environment Agency based on the Commissioners' actual expenditure on maintenance work for the financial year 2016/2017 together with the sum of £1,776.29 in respect of 80% of the Commissioners' estimated expenditure for the financial year 2017/2018.
- (b) Further to minute C.1001(b), Mr Hill referred to the discussions with the Environment Agency over the monies available to fund highland water claims.

RESOLVED

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

C.1041 Association of Drainage Authorities

Mr Hill reported:-

a) Annual Conference

That the Annual Conference of the Association of Drainage Authorities would be held in London on Wednesday the 14th November 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk be authorised to obtain a ticket for the Annual Conference of the Association for any Commissioner who wishes to attend.

b) Annual Conference of the River Great Ouse Branch

On the Annual Conference of the River Great Ouse branch of the Association held in Prickwillow, Ely on Tuesday the 6th March 2018 and the fact that the administration of this branch has now been passed to the Middle Level Commissioners.

Mr Hill advised that the new members elected to the Branch's Executive Committee included the Middle Level Commissioners' Operations Engineer, Jonathan Fenn and the Chairman, Marc Heading who was appointed Vice Chairman (with Harry Raby of the Bedford Group being appointed Chairman). He added that the agreed aim of this reworked branch will be to be more pro-active and accordingly it was expected that the Executive Committee will meet periodically to discuss catchment wide issues and will then report back to the Branch at its Annual Conference on what it has achieved over the year.

c) Subscriptions

That it was proposed by ADA to increase subscriptions by approximately 1% in 2018, viz:- from £536 to £542.

RESOLVED

That the increased ADA subscription for 2018 be paid.

d) Liability of Board Members

Mr Hill referred to, and the Commissioners noted, a Guidance Note received from ADA dated the 28th September 2017 which summarised the issue of when Members of an Internal Drainage Board may be held personally liable for actions which they take in that capacity.

Mr Hill advised that the Commissioners had management liability insurance in place, which was in respect of claims made as a result of a wrongful act against Commissioners arising from the management and operations of the Commissioners and that the cover attached was £5,000,000.

e) Updating IDB Byelaws

Mr Hill referred to a letter received from ADA dated the 20th October 2017.

Mr Hill reported that most of the IDBs in the area have a set of Byelaws which were made under Section 34 of the Land Drainage Act 1976 for the secure and efficient working of the drainage system in their area.

Defra have now suggested that the Byelaws which have been adopted by IDBs should be updated to include within their purpose powers in relation to environment matters. To do this it will be necessary to update the current Byelaws in line with the standard model byelaw published in October 2012.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk be requested to draft new Byelaws to include compliance with the environment regulations for consideration by the Board at their next meeting.

f) New Model Policy Statement

Mr Hill referred to the publication of the new model Policy Statement issued in late April 2018 by ADA.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk be requested to draft a new Policy Statement for consideration by the Board at their next meeting.

g) Floodex 2019

That Floodex 2019 will be held at The Peterborough Arena on the 27th and 28th February 2019.

C.1042 Capital Programme Strengthening and Delivery

Mr Hill referred to, and the Commissioners noted, the slides presented by the Environment Agency at the Great Ouse IDB and EA Strategic Group meeting on the 19th April 2017.

C.1043 Middle Level Commissioners and Administered Boards Chairs Meeting

Mr Hill reported that a meeting of the Chairmen of all of the Middle Level Commissioners' administered Boards met on the 8th March 2018 to discuss the challenges facing Boards. Innes Thomson, Chief Executive of ADA, spoke on the arrangements adopted by other Boards around the country.

Matters raised included:-

- 1) Advantages, disadvantages and barriers to amalgamation.
- 2) Future meetings and the opportunity for Boards to request items be added to the agenda.
- 3) Reviewing Board membership numbers.
- 4) Frequency of Board meetings.

C.1044 Member training and the appointment of a Health and Safety Officer

Mr Hill reported that ADA has been encouraging member training for a number of years and Defra will, from 2018, require Boards to report upon any training that has been provided to members. This was to be reported by way of an entry on the IDB1 forms and the listed topics on this form are; Governance, Finance, Environment, Health, safety and welfare, Communications and engagement, amongst others. The Commissioners may wish to pick an area where they consider specific tailored training is pertinent for it in a given year or alternatively might ask that the Middle Level Commissioners arrange some joint training with other Boards which they are happy to do.

On Health and Safety, after reviewing arrangements for a number of Boards, it has become clear that it would be helpful if Boards could appoint a member to be in charge of Health and Safety matters. This person would take overall responsibility for Health and Safety supported by Croner through the Middle Level Commissioners. This will help provide clarity going forward as ultimately it is the Boards' role to ensure that sites, equipment and working practices are as safe as can be reasonably expected. Whilst IDBs have an enviable record on safety and much that is needed is likely to already be in place, the HSE would probe the organisational structure should a reportable accident occur and would take a dim view if clarity on the lines of responsibility were unclear.

RESOLVED

- i) That the District Officer be appointed Health and Safety Officer and the position be reviewed at the next meeting of the Commissioners.
- ii) That the Commissioners participate in any training organised through the Middle Level Commissioners.

C.1045 Defra IDB1 Returns

Mr Hill referred to a letter received from Defra dated the 24th April 2018 and reported on the proposed changes to the Annual Defra IDB1 Returns.

He advised that the IDB1 form is completed each year in accordance with the Land Drainage Act 1991 and is submitted to Defra, the Environment Agency and to each Council which pays an IDB Special Levy. The form provides information on such items as income, expenditure, a policy delivery statement, the bio-diversity action plan, asset management and governance matters.

Mr Hill reported that for the year ended 31st March 2017 the IDB1 return was amended and additional information requested, such as details of board membership, attendance at meetings, whether elections are held and confirmation that the complaints procedure is accessible from the home page on an IDB's website. This information will enable Defra to gather more data in relation to IDBs.

For 2018 the IDB1 form will be further expanded. The additions were developed in co-operation with the Environment Agency, ADA and invited IDB representatives including David Thomas on behalf of the Middle Level Commissioners. The inclusion of items within the form which would either be difficult to report on or provide information which collectively would be of little value have been resisted and the new IDB1 form should, as a result, allow Defra to gain a much clearer insight into what IDBs deliver annually. It is hoped that this in turn will assist with raising further the profile of IDBs.

C.1046 Requirements for a Biosecurity Policy

Mr Hill reported that, from 2018, Board's will be required to advise (through the IDB1 returns) whether they have in place a Biosecurity Policy. This is considered necessary following increased concern over the spread of alien invasive weeds from one waterbody to another, possibly through the use of contracted or shared plant which can carry elements of such plants if not properly cleaned after being moved from contaminated locations. ADA have stated that they support the principle of having a policy in place and, conscious that for most boards the policy requirements will be identical, they are producing a model document. The Commissioners were asked to

confirm that they were content to adopt a policy as long as it is suitable and will not include overly onerous steps which might restrict their activities.

RESOLVED

That the draft policy be reviewed by the Commissioners at their next meeting.

C.1047 The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Mr Hill referred to the Guidance Note on the implementation of the GDPR and that all organisations must become fully compliant by the 25th May 2018.

RESOLVED

That Miss Lorna McShane, Solicitor and Assistant Clerk be appointed the Commissioners' Data Protection Officer.

C.1048 Charging for Environmental Permits

Mr Hill reported on the consultation on charging for Environmental Permits which closed on the 26th January 2018. It is suggested within the consultation that charging should be designed to recover costs and as such there may be significant increases in the charges for obtaining Environment Agency permits for some IDB activities which require such consents. ADA have responded on behalf of the industry and their response is available on their website, www.ada.org.uk/2018/01/ada-responds-environment-agency-charge-proposals-2018.

C.1049 Completion of the Annual Accounts and Annual Return of the Commissioners – 2016/2017

- a) The Commissioners considered and approved the comments of the Auditors on the Annual Return for the year ended on the 31st March 2017.
- b) The Commissioners considered and approved the Audit Report of the Internal Auditor for the year ended on the 31st March 2017.

C.1050 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 2018.

C.1051 Budgeting

Mr Hill referred to the budget comparison of the forecast out-turn and the actual out-turn for the financial year ending 31st March 2018.

C.1052 Review of Internal Controls

- a) The Commissioners considered and expressed satisfaction with the current system of Internal Controls.
- b) The Commissioners considered and approved the appointment of Whiting & Partners as Internal Auditor for the three period 2018/2019 to 2020/2021.
- c) The Commissioners approved the Audit Strategy and Audit Plan.

C.1053 Risk Management Assessment

- a) The Commissioners considered and expressed satisfaction with their current Risk Management system.
- b) The Commissioners reviewed and approved the insured value of their buildings and considered having a revaluation of the Commissioners' real estate assets, as required for audit purposes.

RESOLVED

That no changes be made to the valuation at this time and for the matter to be reviewed again at the next annual meeting.

C.1054 Appointment of External Auditor

Further to minute C.974, Mr Hill referred to the decision by the Commissioners to join the Sector Led Auditor Appointment Body for the appointment of the External Auditor and that the Smaller Authorities' Auditor Appointments (SAAA Ltd) had formed for this purpose. He reported that they had now confirmed the appointment of PKF Littlejohn to carry out the external audit of the Commissioners for a five year period commencing with the financial year 2017/2018.

C.1055 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.

C.1056 Annual Governance Statement – 2017/2018

The Commissioners considered and approved the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended on the 31st March 2018.

RESOLVED

That the Chairman be authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement, on behalf of the Commissioners, for the financial year ending 31st March 2018.

C.1057 Payments

The Commissioners considered and approved payments amounting to £24,539.30 which had been made during the financial year 2017/2018.

The District Officer considered that the payment to Maxey Grounds & Co for works concerning the new tenancy agreement was excessive when compared to those of other land agents and should be brought to the attention of the Clerk to the Middle Level Commissioners.

(NB) – The District Officer declared an interest in the payment made to him.

C.1058 Anglia Farmers

The Commissioners considered their contractual arrangements with Anglia Farmers for the supply of electricity.

Mr Hill reported that the contract with Anglia Farmers ceases on the 30th September 2018 and advised that, in view of the problems encountered over the past 15 months with the operation of the contract, a report had been sent to all Chairmen.

Mr Hill further advised that, although the Clerk was able to recommend to the Commissioners that they remain with Anglia Farmers for a further contract period, usually 18 months to 2 years, during which time the service provided by them will be monitored, it was the Commissioners' decision and should they wish to be removed from the buying group then it would be the Commissioners' responsibility to negotiate its own separate electricity contract with a supplier.

Mr Hill reported that the Chairman had agreed for the Commissioners to remain with Anglia Farmers.

RESOLVED

That the actions of the Chairman be approved and the current arrangements be continued for a further contract period, during which time the service provided by them, in relation to the running of the contract, be monitored.

C.1059 Annual Accounts of the Commissioners – 2017/2018

The Commissioners considered and approved the Annual Accounts and bank reconciliation for the year ended on the 31st March 2018 as required in the Audit Regulations.

RESOLVED

That the Chairman be authorised to sign the Annual Return, on behalf of the Commissioners, for the financial year ending 31st March 2018.

C.1060 Expenditure estimates and special levy and drainage rate requirements 2018/2019

The Commissioners considered estimates of expenditure and proposals for special levy and drainage rates in respect of the financial year 2018/2019 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 respectively 15.96% and 84.04%.

RESOLVED

- i) That the estimates be approved.
- ii) That a total sum of £856 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 £137 and £719 respectively.
- iv) That a rate of 0.25p in the £ be laid and assessed on Agricultural hereditaments in the District.
- v) That a Special levy of £719 be made and issued to Fenland District Council for the purpose of meeting such expenditure.
- vi) That the seal of the Commissioners 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.

C.1061 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.

C.1062 Date of next Meeting

RESOLVED

That the next Meeting of the Commissioners be held on Thursday the 2nd May 2019.

C.1063 Mapping records kept by the Middle Level Commissioners

The District Officer reported that he was disappointed with the quality of the mapping records for ratepayers held by the Middle Level Commissioners. He considered that, having recently identified a number of anomalies with his rating records/maps, the Commissioners needed to improve their records and suggested investigating if public available land records were available to update from.

Mr Hill agreed to raise his concerns with the Clerk to the Middle Level Commissioners.