

HADDENHAM LEVEL DRAINAGE COMMISSIONERS

At a Meeting of the Haddenham Level Drainage Commissioners
held at the Baptist Hall, Station Road, Haddenham on Thursday the 14th June 2018

PRESENT

M Church (Chairman)	R J Darby Esq
G L P Wilson Esq (Vice Chairman)	J Dennis Esq
C H Bidwell Esq	K J Furness Esq
T B Chambers Esq	T Hughes Esq
S G Cheetham Esq	P Mappedoram Esq
A W J Darby Esq	N E Tebbitt Esq
Mrs M E Darby	R B Waddelow Esq
A R Yarrow Esq	

Miss Samantha Ablett (representing the Clerk to the Commissioners) and Mr David Jordan (District Engineer) were in attendance.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from D Gillett Esq, H Hurrell Esq, R Lee Esq, N Wright Esq and G R W Wright Esq.

C.222 Declarations of Interest

Miss Ablett 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 of them.

C.223 Repair/Replacement of Terex 130W Excavator

Further to minute C.187, the Chairman distributed a report on the condition of the Atlas Excavator engine received from TDL Equipment, a quote from Alan Bacon Engineering in the sum of £10,500 + VAT and a quote from TDL Equipment in the sum of £15,202.27 +VAT for the supply and fit of a Deutz service exchange engine.

The Chairman advised that if the Excavator was repaired with a factory rebuilt engine and the Commissioners were to sell it, he had been offered between £18,000-£20,000 by TDL Equipment and £18,000 from JCB.

Mr Waddelow enquired whether Deutz had been contacted direct as they supply reconditioned factory built engines which are also guaranteed for 3 years and they have a branch at Cannock. He advised that the Commissioners could arrange for a local company to fit it, however it would probably need to be collected. The Chairman confirmed that he had contacted various companies but had not contacted Deutz directly.

Mr Yarrow suggested that the Chairman and Mr Waddelow make enquiries to ascertain whether buying direct from Deutz and arranging for it to be fitted locally would be more cost effective than the existing quotes obtained to which the Commissioners agreed.

The Chairman advised the Commissioners that he had also made several enquiries regarding the purchase of a new machine. Hitachi had confirmed that they would quote for a new machine and source a second hand machine, but as yet he had not received a response from them. JCB did not have any machines that could be inspected locally and Atlas had 3 machines that could be inspected locally at a cost in the region of £122,000. He considered that should a new machine were to be purchased it would be better to buy another Atlas machine as this type of machine was the most suitable for the purposes of the Commissioners.

Mr R Darby enquired why a second hand machine could not be purchased and Mr Waddelow asked whether any quotes for a second hand Excavator had been received. The Chairman advised that he had found that there were not many Atlas Excavators available which had not operated for numerous hours so he had not obtained any quotes. He also advised that a second hand machine would be of concern if it had more than 6,000 hours of operation and the Commissioners were not aware of how well it would have been maintained.

The Commissioners reminded the Chairman that the current machine had been purchased second hand and enquired of the costs to date in maintaining the plant. The Chairman advised that the Excavator had been purchased in 2014 for £36,000 with approximately £13,000 spent on repairs to date. In his opinion a new machine would be more beneficial in the long run rather than a second hand one. The Vice Chairman stated that if the current Excavator was repaired and sold for the amounts discussed earlier the Commissioners would have additional funds to contribute towards a new machine.

Mr Waddelow reminded the Commissioners that the pump at the Sutton Gault pumping station may need some work so funds should be retained.

Miss Ablett reminded the Commissioners of its' financial position regarding funds and monies at the bank.

Mr Bidwell agreed with Mr Yarrow's earlier comments and proposed that, once the Chairman and Mr Waddelow had made enquiries to Deutz, the details be forwarded to the Commissioners, and the Chairman be authorised to take appropriate action. Mr Tebbitt advised that if Alan Bacon Engineering were requested to replace the engine a guarantee must be obtained from them in writing.

Mr Chambers proposed that in the meantime the Commissioners should liaise with the Chairman should they come across any good second hand machines or competitive prices for the purchase of a new one.

RESOLVED

- i) That the Chairman and Mr Waddelow make enquiries to ascertain whether buying a reconditioned factory built engine direct from Deutz and arranging for it to be fitted locally would be more cost effective than the existing quotes obtained and the Commissioners be informed by email of the outcome.
- ii) That the Chairman be authorised to arrange the repair of the Excavator at the most competitive price received and to ensure that a guarantee is obtained.