

SUTTON AND MEPAL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

At a Meeting of the Sutton and Mepal Internal Drainage Board
held at Chatteris Cricket Club on Tuesday 28th June 2022

PRESENT

M R R Latta Esq (Chairman)	M Heading Esq
C P K Lee Esq (Vice-Chairman)	R J Angood Esq
Cllr S Criswell	M Jackson Esq
T Edgley Esq	R H Smith Esq
J Sole Esq	

Mr David Thomas (Clerk to the Board) was in attendance.

Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from P W Allpress Esq, M George Esq, R Lee Esq, P E Sole Esq and A Allan Esq.

B.2267 Declarations of Interest

The Clerk 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 (as a Member of the Middle Level Board) in any matters relating to the Middle Level Commissioners.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman declared an interest in minute no. B.2281.

The Vice Chairman declared interest in the planning applications (MLC Ref Nos. 072, 148, 236, 237, 335, & 355) received for P J Lee & Sons.

Mr P Sole declared an interest in planning applications (MLC Ref No. 354) received for A Sole & Son and Mr P Sole.

B.2268 Confirmation of Minutes

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board held on the 13th January 2022 are recorded correctly and that they be confirmed and signed.

B.2269 Potential Amalgamation Discussions – Sutton and Mepal IDB, Manea and Welney DDC and Upwell IDB

Further to minute B.2249, the Clerk reported that the possibility of amalgamating with neighbouring Boards was not being currently considered, but this may be revisited if shared interests, such as joint IDB arrangements being made for taking on the maintenance of the Old Bedford (under a PSCA) came to fruition.

RESOLVED

To keep this matter under review and it be revisited at a later date.

B.2270 Water Levels in the Counter Drain System

Further to minute B.2250, the Chairman reported that he was extremely pleased with the progress made on addressing the leakage from the Environment Agency watercourses (Counter Drain) and that only around 500m of improvements were left to complete now. The quantity of the water seeping through from the Counter Drain was now vastly diminished and he felt that this was an excellent example of partnership working.

It was agreed that as this problem had been largely addressed, this item could be dropped from future agendas.

(NB) – The Chairman declared an interest when this item was discussed.

B.2271 Ouse Washes Section 10 Reservoir Inspection Middle Level and South Level Barrier Bank works

Further to minute B.2251, The Clerk noted that the works were nearing completion and that regular updates were being passed on to the Board's Chairman, viz;

Ouse Washes: Middle Level Barrier Bank raising works

Year 6 works

March 2022

The Middle Level Barrier Bank is the bank of the Ouse Washes reservoir extending from Earith to Welmore Lake Sluice. The work we are doing is to comply with recommendations made by the reservoir Inspecting Engineer to complete the works under the Reservoirs Act 1975.

Welney demountable flood barrier

As part of the bank raising work, we are doing to comply with the Reservoirs Act, we need to provide a more robust barrier on the Welney Wash Road where it intersects the Middle Level Barrier Bank. We have sourced a demountable barrier option that will provide the robust flood protection solution and will be bespoke to Welney.

We will build a short concrete support wall on each side of the road to connect the temporary barrier to. We will also build a concrete slab across the road to attach the barrier to while it's in use. To enable us to do this work we will need to close the road for approximately 5 weeks. We have submitted our application and are waiting for approval of the road closure from Norfolk County Council.

In the meantime, please see the dates below that have been included in the road closure application.

Work start date: 13/06/2022

13/06/2022 to 19/07/2022 - 2-way traffic lights

20/07/2022 to 25/08/2022 - Full road closure

26/08/2022 to 16/09/2022 - 2-way traffic lights

We will only use the temporary traffic lights if we need to use them before the road closure. This will depend on the work activity and room that is available, they will only be used if necessary. However, they will be required after the road closure to provide enough space to work safely to complete the works.

During construction there will not be access to the Middle Level Barrier Bank at Welney. We need to use all the space available to tie the foundations into the embankment either side of the road. Access to the Middle Level Barrier Bank from Welmore Lake Sluice at Salters Lode will not be restricted.

We understand that the Welney barrier works will be inconvenient, and we are grateful to everyone that has engaged with us to help reduce the inconvenience. We would like to thank you for your co-operation and patience, and we will continue to work with you and the community to continue to minimise disruption.

Bank raising and haul road works

We still have some work to finish which we couldn't complete last summer because of the wet weather.

We will complete the bank raising work between Welches Dam and the railway bridge and the haul road improvement works between Mepal and Welney. This will take approximately 5 weeks to complete.

During late autumn and winter, the haul road floods, which restricts access for maintenance vehicles. When we carry out the haul road works, we will bring in some material to raise the haul road in sections to help alleviate the problem in the future.

In order to finish all the construction work this summer as planned, we may have to change how we deliver the work this year.



We are currently working out how best to sequence the work at Welney and we may need to bring some material deliveries through Welney village to complete the haul road improvements. Once our contractor has finalised their plan, we will have more information to share with you.

Programme

- April – June Ecological surveys and grass cuts full length of the Middle Level Barrier Bank
- June Start construction of the demountable flood barrier in Welney
- June – July Haul road repairs
- July - Oct Repair any flood damage sustained during the winter
- July – Oct Finish bank raising work and install final bird hide at Ouse Washes RSPB Reserve
- September Finish barrier construction work
- October Full project completion with grass maintenance to continue for 2 years

Public footpath and bridleway access

We still have a full closure of Middle Level Barrier Bank in place. The following footpaths will remain closed whilst we finish the work and wait for the grass to grow. Closures and diversions are clearly signposted.

- Sutton Gault to A142, Mepal
- A142, Mepal to Welches Dam
- Welches Dam to railway bridge
- Railway bridge to Welney
- Welney to Welmore Lake Sluice access restricted at Welney from June

The grass will continue to be monitored throughout the spring and we will aim to open as many of the areas above as we can this year. We will keep you updated as to when we can open these areas.

Public drop-in event

We would like to invite you to attend our drop-in event where you will have the opportunity to talk to the project team and view the progress to date and the plan of work for this year. The event will be held at:

William Marshall Centre, Welney, PE14 9SD

On Saturday 23 April between 10.00am and 2.00pm

Contact us

Stay up to date and visit our information page for the most up to date information

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/east-anqlia-c-e/ouse-washes-section-10-works/>

If you have any questions or concerns about this project, please contact our Public Liaison Officer:

Monica Stonham via email ousewashesprojectea@gmail.com or call 07534 457348.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list to receive future updates about this scheme, please contact us through the email address.

The project is being carried out by JacksonHyder on behalf of the Environment Agency with support from:



Floodline 0345 988 1188

Incident Hotline 0800 80 70 60

Ouse Washes

Middle Level Barrier Bank raising works

April 2022

The Middle Level Barrier Bank is the bank of the Ouse Washes reservoir extending from Earith to Welmore Lake Sluice. The work we are doing is to comply with recommendations made by the reservoir Inspecting Engineer to complete the works under the Reservoirs Act 1975.

Public drop-in event

We would like to invite you to a drop-in event to find out more about the Welney Wash Road barrier and bank raising works. You will have the opportunity to see details of the barrier and this year's bank works.

**23 April, 10am-2pm at the
William Marshall Centre
Hurn Road, Welney
Wisbech, PE14 9SD**

Covid-19 preventative measures: we will be maintaining social distance and good hygiene measures on the day to prevent covid infections. If you experience symptoms of Covid-19 we ask you to refrain from visiting us. We will be providing a link to a virtual exhibition area, that will be open for a few weeks, for the public that do not or cannot join us to view the project.

Welney demountable flood barrier update

The Welney Wash Road crosses the Ouse Washes Flood Storage Reservoir and creates a low point in the Middle Level Barrier Bank. This low point increases the flood risk to the local community and the chance of a breach in the bank if water levels were to overtop it.

As part of the bank raising work, we are doing to comply with the Reservoirs Act, we need to provide a more robust barrier on the Welney Wash Road where it intersects the Middle Level Barrier Bank. We have sourced a demountable barrier option that will provide the robust flood protection solution and will be bespoke to Welney.

Please see the dates below that have been included in the road closure application to Norfolk County Council.

Work start date: 13/06/2022

13/06/2022 to 19/07/2022 - 2-way traffic lights

20/07/2022 to 25/08/2022 - Full road closure

26/08/2022 to 16/09/2022 - 2-way traffic lights for footpath reinstatement works

We will only use the temporary traffic lights if we need to use them before the road closure depending on the work activity and room that is available, they will only be used if necessary. However, they will be required after the road closure to provide enough space to work safely to complete the works.

As stated above these dates are not yet confirmed and may be subject to change.



Floodline 0345 988 1188

Incident Hotline 0800 80 70 60

Year 6 works programme

We still have some bank raising and haul road improvement works to finish which we couldn't complete last summer because of the wet weather. This will take approximately 5 weeks to complete.

We are currently working out how best to do this work and in what sequence, but we may have to bring some material deliveries through Welney. Once our contractor has finalised their plan, we will have more information to share with you. We know this isn't ideal, but in order to finish all the construction work this summer as planned, we may have to change how we deliver the work this year. We will keep you updated.

Due to the environmental constraints on the Ouse Washes, we can only work between 15 July and 31 October. However, we are currently working with Natural England to agree on early start and extend the working window for this year. We will use this time to do winter repairs and haul road work before the main works start in July.

- April – June Ecological surveys and grass cuts full length of the Middle Level Barrier Bank
- June Start construction of the demountable flood barrier in Welney
- June – July Haul road repairs
- July – Oct Repair any flood damage sustained during the winter
- July – Oct Finish bank raising work between Welches Dam and the railway bridge and install the final bird hide at the Ouse Washes RSPB Reserve
- October Full project completion with grass maintenance to continue for 2 years

During late autumn and winter, the haul road floods, which restricts access for maintenance vehicles. When we carry out the haul road works, we will bring in some material to raise the haul road in sections to help alleviate the problem in the future.

We will continue to keep you updated on the progress of the project.

Thank you

We understand that these works will be inconvenient, and we would like to thank everyone that has engaged with us to help reduce the inconvenience. We would like to thank you for your co-operation and patience, and we will continue to work with you and the community to continue to minimise disruption.

Contact us

For questions or concerns or to be added to our mailing list about this project, please contact our Public Liaison Officer: Monica Stonham via email ousewashesprojectea@gmail.com or call 07534 457348.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update.

The project is being carried out by JacksonHyder on behalf of the Environment Agency with support from partners

Stay up to date through our information page

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/east-anglia-c-e/ouse-washes-section-10-works/>



B.2272 Low Level Restoration at Block Fen Account (Redland Aggregates) Limited

Further to minute B.2252, The Clerk advised there was little to report on this item.

B.2273 Meter Readings – Lafarge and Tarmac

Further to minute B.2253, The Clerk apologised for not having an update to hand on this item and promised to check the latest position and email members with an update.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk would check the latest position with Solicitor and Assistant Clerk and email members with this information.

B.2274 Clerk's Report

The Clerk advised;

i) COVID-19 Actions

That the majority of control measures have been removed now and normal office working has resumed (with the exception of trialling a degree of flexible working, which has been shown to be effective following the previous periods of enforced home working). Impacts now are largely confined to the high rates of COVID-19 illness cases in the UK.

ii) Middle Level Commissioners and Administered Boards Chairs Meeting

That an eighth Chair's Meeting was held on the 12th April 2022.

The meeting covered a wide variety of matters likely to affect IDBs. A summary of the key points and resolutions follows;

It was recorded that there had been a number of MLC staff changes over the period. These included the retirement of Deb Watts, Katie Hunt and Malcolm Downes. Also, Sarah Lemmon and Richard Lloyd had handed in their notice. New members of staff replacing them and linked with some restructuring of the finances and admin departments were Dave Bantoft (M&E Engineer), Sarah Bowd (Accounts Assistant), Polly Tombleson (PA Secretarial) and Claire Collings (Secretarial).

It was reported that following the successful telemetry grant bid for Local Levy £125K in grant had been secured and consequently an order had been placed for in excess of 45 new telemetry outstations. The MLC have tested the new system with the six stations they commissioned and were satisfied with its operation.

Training for Board members was covered and it was noted that ADA provide online training videos. Various methods for delivering these and recording attendance was discussed and it was finally resolved that the best way forward would be to ask all members to watch one or two videos a year and to record when they had been viewed. A record of who had watched

which video would be retained and this information recorded at Board meetings and used to support DEFRA IDB1 returns.

A proposal to move from time charges to lump sum annual fees for planning and consenting matters was discussed and it was agreed that a proposal to move to this more efficient and effective way of working would be put to each Board. For similar reasons it was resolved that a proposal should be put forward which would reduce the scale of content reported to Boards under planning matters.

Inflationary pressures were touched upon and it was recognised that if this continues there will be pressure placed upon Boards to raise their rates more than has occurred in recent years. It was also recognised that along with these inflationary pressures there were increasing demands (with legal backing) evolving in relation to environmental gains and Boards should be aware of the costs of delivering on these. Examples are the government's commitment to protect 30% of all land by 2030 for the environment and of the Doubling Nature initiative in Cambridgeshire.

An update on work in relation to climate change and carbon reduction was given. Work currently in hand comprises of production of a carbon baseline for the MLC. Once complete the scale of the challenge to target carbon neutrality will be known and work will be undertaken to identify possible opportunities for reduction and mitigation, prior to production of a policy statement. During these next stages it is expected that Boards associated with the MLC will be similarly assessed and plan proposals made for them.

iii) Association of Drainage Authorities

a) Annual Conference

That the 84th Annual Conference of the Association was held on Wednesday the 10th November 2021.

The Conference was once again held virtually and was split into two parts; the Conference in the morning and AGM in the afternoon. It is expected that, whilst in future years it is hoped to return to a face-to-face format, the clear separation between conference and AGM is likely to be retained.

Speakers this year included Rebecca Row MP (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State – Defra), Dieter Helm (economist) and Lord De Ramsey (then President of ADA).

Topics covered included the challenges of climate change and the need to step up to the plate in delivering on the aim to achieve a net zero target as soon as possible, the importance of partnership working and the importance of agriculture in feeding the nation. The latter included the need to better educate the population, who clearly desire to move forward on delivering climate change and ecological objectives, but do not fully appreciate the role of agriculture, its real impacts or even properly understood where and how food is sourced. One example given that challenged a common assumption that agriculture was bad for the environment was that recent monitoring of CO² release had shown that a well irrigated peat field of onions released less CO² than adjacent dry grassland.

In his speech Lord De Ramsey announced that he was stepping down as President and that his place would be taken by Henry Cator. He was warmly thanked by ADA for his many years of service and was presented with a painting by an artist which it is known he admires. Henry spoke about how pleased he had been to be invited to take over the

role and that he looked forward to working with ADA to meet the future challenges of the industry.

The AGM that followed gave an update on the work of ADA, noting the likelihood that, despite vigorous lobbying, the expectation was that from 1st April 2022 IDBs would no longer be able to use red diesel for anything other than heating or to run generators. This will impact on costs and will provide challenges to the continued use of agricultural contractors. The passing of the Environment Bill was touched upon which will release barriers to the formation of new IDBs and will also provide opportunities for IDBs to explore extending their boundaries if it was clearly beneficial to do so. Innes Thomason spoke on the work of ADA and the consultations ADA had responded to, including proposals to extend beaver introduction and a water abstraction licencing charging review amongst other things. Finally, it was reported that the ADA Board had agreed to a 1% rise in subscriptions for the 2022/23 year and noted that with inflationary pressures a higher increase should be expected next year.

b) Annual Conference

That the Annual Conference of the Association of Drainage Authorities will be held on Wednesday the 9th November 2022, venue yet to be announced.

c) Meeting of the River Great Ouse Branch

That the Annual Conference of the River Great Ouse branch of the Association was held on Tuesday the 1st March 2022.

This was the first face to face meeting held since the COVID-19 outbreak but the format was restricted to the AGM only. It is planned however to reintroduce the popular and useful morning workshops for 2023.

Marc Heading was reappointed as chair with Councillor Doug McMurdo as vice chair. Topics covered included unsurprisingly red diesel, and water resources/the work of WRE.

Sofi Lloyd announced that Brian Stewart and Ian Hodge from the EA had recently joined the ADA Board and that DEFRA had asked ADA to liaise with them on the implementation of schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act. She was also pleased to be able to report that ADA had been instrumental in initiating an all-party parliamentary group with a remit to discuss and consider Sustainable Flood and Drainage Management.

Phil Hulme and Amanda Macloughlan spoke on behalf of the EA covering the challenging associated with significant staff changes at the EA and noted that with the capital program for this six-year cycle being double that of the previous one this would be generating considerable additional work load.

It was advised that this coming years revenue (maintenance) budget was £5.3M which was more than the previous year but what could be delivered within this budget could be impacted by inflation.

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 7th March 2023.

iv) Water Resources East (WRE)

A draft WRE plan went out for public consultation and responses to it were to be received by 28th February 2022. The latest news can be found by visiting www.wre.org.uk.

v) Planning and Consenting Fees

Proposed changes to planning and consenting service supply charging.

Two changes are proposed. The current arrangements and the proposed changes are outlined below.

1. The current arrangements for charging for Technical Services advice and support, for planning and consenting matters, is based upon a direct cost recovery arrangement. To achieve this all time spent on every item of work undertaken has to be logged and recorded in detail. This information is then pulled together and invoices prepared and checked before being passed to the Board Chairs for sign-off. This requires a considerable amount of time and effort and this time is of course included in the eventual fees paid. It is considered that a more efficient model would be to mirror the one used for charging for Clerking services which is based upon a lump sum annual fee. This has a number of advantages. It reduces internal workload which in turn releases time to carry out productive work. It also allows Boards to budget for the fees knowing at the time of rate setting what the annual fees will be.

To ensure that a fair assessment is made it is suggested that the last five years of fees are looked at and an average taken. If there is clearly one or two years where one or two planning matters have impacted heavily upon the figures then an appropriate adjustment will be made. The final fee will be converted into a fraction of the costs of overall cost of supplying planning and consenting services for all Boards including the MLC and this percentage will become fixed until such time that a review is called for.

In addition, we will still actively encourage developers and their agents to enter into Pre/Post application contracts. This will help keep the overall planning costs to a minimum. We will also be looking to move more and more to lump sum charges for developers for the same reasons outlined above, ie to reduce internal administration work and costs where possible.

It is not proposed that this change will extend to other Technical Services work, such as surveys, catchment analysis, and refurbishment/replacement/improvement scheme work or associated advice which will continue to be logged and charged on a “hours spent” basis.

RESOLVED

That a lump sum fee arrangement be agreed in principle, and figures presented to the Board at their January 2023 meeting.

2. Many members have noted that the reporting in relation to planning application comments and responses is comprehensive. Again, it often takes many hours to produce such detailed reports for which the Board is charged. This time could be spent in dealing with and taking action on planning and consenting matters. There is also the issue of the potential time lapse between any planning/byelaw issue raising its head and the meeting of the Board. It is of course normally advantageous to take action as soon as possible after any issue had become apparent. It is therefore proposed that going forward the Board nominate who they wish to be copied in on all planning correspondence, for example the Chair and Vice-Chair. They will

then be able to liaise with the Planning Engineer if they wish to and will be conversant with discussions being undertaken. The Board may also wish to delegate decision making for initial actions for bylaw infringements to the Board nominee/s.

To ensure that the Board is consulted on the most important matters it is proposed that when it is wished for a matter to be raised within the Board report then a request from the Chair can be made and a detailed report would follow. This would normally be the case where significant costs might be associated with enforcement, including perhaps incurring legal fees or where an unusually large or significant development is proposed.

Should the above change be agreed to, then going forward the Engineer's report will provide a list of all planning applications of interest to the Board and consents applied for/approved but unless requested by the Chair no detail will be provided.

RESOLVED

That no further detailed reports on individual planning matters be included in the Consulting Engineer's Report unless requested by the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

vi) Anglia Farmers

The Clerk reported that following the last meeting of each Board/Commissioners the Anglia Farmers electricity contract was renewed in October 2021 for a shorter period of 6 months to 31st March 2022 and this was due to the volatile energy market at the time. As there remains an enormous amount of volatility and uncertainty surrounding energy prices and as competition is very limited, it was decided that the Commissioners and Boards should remain within the Anglia Farmers buying group at the moment as there is likely to be little scope for us to negotiate better deals. The Clerk will also report a new contract has been signed for a 12-month period to 31st March 2023 with EDF Energy through Anglian Farmers.

The Anglia Farmers Energy team does not have to commit to buying energy for years ahead at the current price levels and the flexible contract that they have to buy energy from 1st April 2022 allows them to risk manage the portfolio for their Members, which means they will be well positioned to take advantage of any energy market normalisation ahead. When market conditions have settled down/normalised the Board/Commissioners will be asked whether they wish to remain with Anglia Farmers. But this may not be for several years based upon current market assessments.

vii) Fens Biosphere

The Clerk reported that this project is on hold and will remain so unless and until Fenland District Council is prepared to engage with a redefined brief and vision for it.

B.2275 Consulting Engineers' Report, including planning and consenting matters

The Board considered the report of the Consulting Engineers, viz;

Sutton & Mepal I.D.B.

Consulting Engineers Report – May 2022

Pumping Station

Pumps

In September 2021 a fault in pump 1 causing tripping on 'stator over temperature' was traced to a faulty thermal switch in the motor. Additionally, water was found to be coming up inside the control cable. This is almost certainly down to a break in the control cable outer sheath and although the water does not seem to have penetrated the motor cavity, as the winding resistance to earth is still satisfactory, it is probable that it will do so soon and so bearing this in mind along with pump 2 being an original pump, the Board should consider purchasing a new pump. Prices and lead times for pumps have increased considerably so it is important to order early, estimated cost £35k.

The guide rails on pump 4 are corroding and should be replaced with stainless steel alternatives, estimated cost £600.

The cable protection on pumps 1 and 3 has corroded and needs repairing.

Weedscreen Cleaner

Whilst the cleaner worked well over the period and an inspection of the wheels showed that they were in a satisfactory condition it is proposed that the worn trolley wheels be replaced in 2022.

Running Hours 21/22 = 12 (1480)

Pumping hours

(note pumping hours are a close estimate derived from available data to show comparable pumping hours for like periods)

Total Hours Run	May 21 – May 22	May 20 – May 21	May 19 – May 20	May 18 – May 19	April 17 – May 18
No 1	800 (29082)	1468 (28282)	981 (26814)	395 (25833)	569 (25438)
No 2	846 (28758)	1156 (27912)	818 (26756)	608 (25938)	863 (25330)
No 3	741 (29086)	1464 (28345)	1194 (26881)	81 (25687)	1191 (25606)
No 4	56 (3049)	0 (2993)	143 (2993)	0 (2850)	38 (2850)

Total Hours Run	April 16 - April 17	April 15 - April 16	May 14 - April 15
No 1	1094	773	1065
No 2	808	762	1146
No 3	699	668	1110
No 4	833	1	28

Planning Applications

In addition to matters concerning previous applications, the following 9 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
354	CCC/21/121/FUL + F/YR21/2007/CCC	A Sole & Sons Ltd	Mineral extraction for agricultural use (Two Irrigation reservoirs)	Langwood Fen Drove, Chatteris*
355	CCC/21/129/FUL + E/21/01555/CCA	P J Lee & Son	Mineral extraction for agricultural use (Processing area and plant)	Blaby's Drove, Sutton Gault*
356	E/21/01536/FUL	Mr E Veal	Residence	Low Bank, Mepal
357	Discharge consent	Mr C Lam	Residence (Treatment plant)	Chatteris Road, Mepal*
358	E/19/00364/DISA	1st Sutton Scout Group	Replacement Scout Hut	The Gault, Sutton
359	F/YR22/0006/F	Mr & Mrs L & A Fox	Residential (Extension)	Eastwood, Chatteris
360	F/YR22/0094/F	Mr Sculthorpe	Residence (Extension)	Langwood Fen Drove, Chatteris
361	F/YR22/0293/O	Mrs J Fuller-Gray	Residence	London Road, Chatteris
362	H/22/00680/AGDET	Mr J Pomfret	Agricultural (Store)	Somersham Road, Colne

Planning applications ending 'CCC' relate to Cambridgeshire County Council

Planning applications ending 'CCA' relate to County Council applications

Planning applications ending 'COND' or 'DISC' relate to the discharge of relevant planning conditions

Planning applications ending 'AGDET' relate to Agricultural Determination

From the information provided it is understood that all the developments propose to discharge surface water to soakaways, infiltration devices and/or Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). The applicants have been notified of the Board's requirements.

No applications for Infiltration Device Self Certification or the Checking Service have been received since the last meeting report.

Further to the entry in the "Planning Updates & Consultations" document entitled "Long-term Ownership, Funding and Maintenance of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)" it is presumed that the Board will require its interests to be protected by ensuring the provision of adequate arrangements for the long-term ownership funding, management and maintenance arrangements for the upkeep of any water level and flood risk management system, whether on or off site, in perpetuity.

In order to assist further discussion when dealing with development related matters, the Board is asked to consider the proposal, advise on any requirements it may have and provide instruction on how it would wish us to proceed.

Developments outside the Block Fen/Langwood Fen Masterplan area

Developments within the Block Fen/Langwood Fen Masterplan area are dealt with later in this report.

No further correspondence has been received from the applicants or the applicants' agents in respect of the following:

- *Developments at Cromwell Community College, Wenny Road, Chatteris – Cromwell Community College (MLC Ref Nos 173, 174, 175, 186, 189, 197 & 310)*
- *Agricultural development at Lees Packhouse, The Gault, Sutton – P J Lee & Sons (MLC Ref No 072, 148, 236, 237 & 335)*
- *Extraction and processing of sand and gravel and construction of access onto Chatteris Road (B1050), and associated works in connection with the construction of agricultural reservoirs on land at Bridge Farm, Holme Fen Drove, Colne - R Latta (Farms) Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 179, 188, 199, 226, 228, 232 & 258) + Mick George Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 296, 297 & 300)*
- *Developments associated with the Anaerobic Digester (AD) plant facility, surface water reservoir and associated works on land east of Greys Farm, Iretons Way, Chatteris – Pretoria Energy Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 227, 231 & 240); Little Green Consulting Ltd (MLC Ref No 245); Pretoria Energy Ltd (MLC Ref No 246); Pretoria Energy Company (Mepal) Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 305, 309, 326 & 334)*
- *Mixed Use Development on land at Tithe Barn Farm and south east of London Road, Chatteris - Hallam Land Management Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 184, & 190)*

Further to Item b) Mixed Use Development on Land at Tithe Barn Farm of Minute B.2256 Consulting Engineers' Report, including planning and consenting matters, a copy of the entry in the last Engineers' Report together with the relevant extract from the Board's Meeting Minutes were forwarded to the applicant and its Consulting Engineer. No further correspondence has been received from either party.

Formation of an irrigation reservoir involving extraction processing, the export of sand and gravel and other works at Short North Fen Drove/Blabys Drove, Sutton - P J Lee & Sons (MLC Ref Nos 177, 182, 298, 301, 338 & 355)

Further to previous Meeting Reports, a planning application has been submitted to the County Council, in its role as the Minerals & Waste planning authority, for the use of existing mineral processing area and plant for the proposed new eastern reservoir development.

Proposed construction of a crematorium and associated service and administration building, function building, memorial garden, natural burial areas, pet cemetery, car parking, new vehicular access from the A142 to the north of the site and landscaping at the Mepal Outdoor Centre, Chatteris Road, Mepal - East Cambs Trading Co Ltd (MLC Ref No 347) and East Cambridgeshire District Council (MLC Ref No 351)

At the time of writing the application was "Pending Decision".

Erection of an agricultural building, for the storage of agricultural machinery and produce from the surrounding land at LMC Nurseries Ltd, Somersham Road, Colne - Mr J Pomfret (MLC Ref No 362)

A phone call was received from the applicant, advising that he proposed to discharge surface water to soakaways. Due to the size of the development, a checking service soakaway form was forwarded to the applicant and further details are awaited.

Current Planning Matters within the Master Plan area

No further correspondence has been received from the applicants or the applicants' agents in respect of the following:

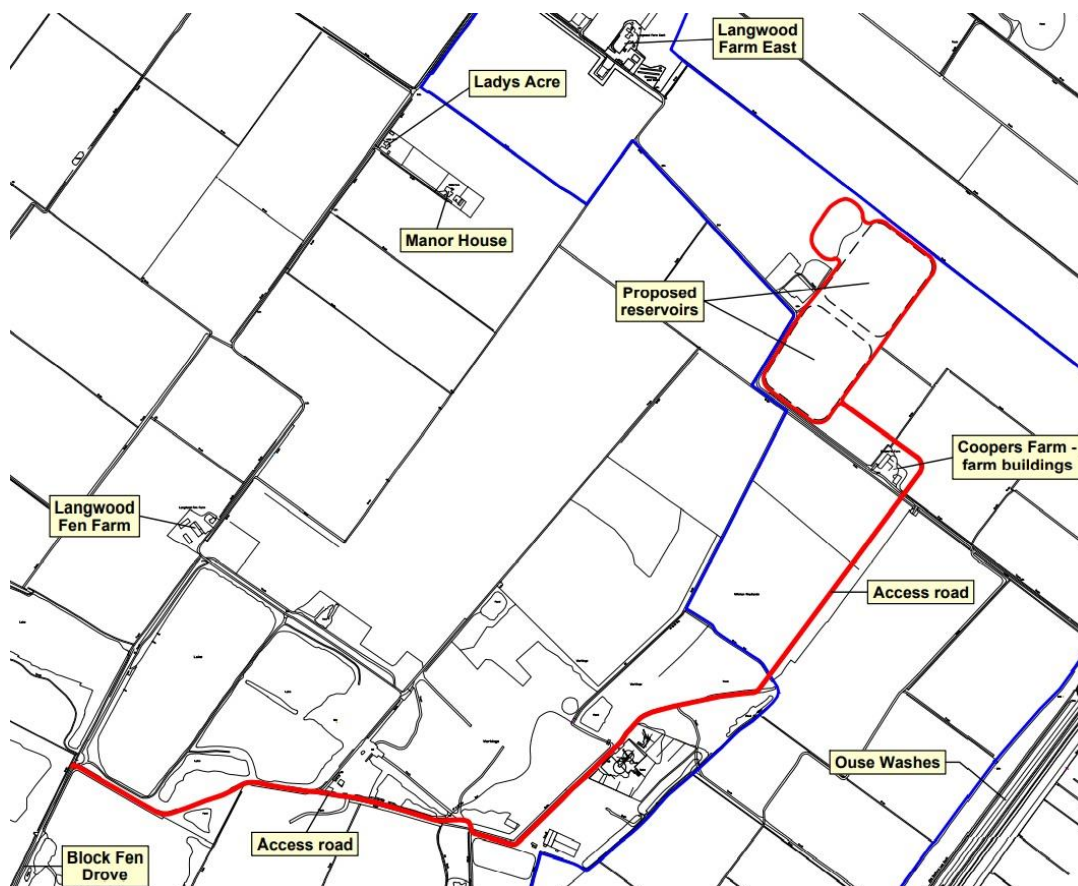
- *Developments at Wenny House, Iretons Way, Chatteris – Mr Jackson (MLC Ref No 078); Mr & Mrs Jackson (MLC Ref No 143); Mrs Jackson (MLC Ref No 275); D M Jackson & Son (MLC Ref Nos 164 & 318)*

Extraction of sand and gravel with restoration to agricultural use both at low level and existing level using waste silt and imported inert waste at land off Block Fen Drove, Mepal – Redland Aggregates Ltd (MLC Ref No 350/8), Aggregate Industries UK Ltd + Larfarge Aggregates Ltd trading as Larfarge Tarmac & Tarmac Trading Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 50, 87, 88, 192 & 196)

Further to Item c) Tarmac Site of Minute B.2256 Consulting Engineers' Report, including planning and consenting matters, the Site Operator has been advised of the Board's resolution, "That, subject to a suitable gradient being available, the Board's favoured option would be the 'new channel' between upstream of Point 19 to Point 7, providing compensatory water storage is provided to that lost with the removal of the channel."

Developments at Hundreds Farm, Langwood Fen Drove, Chatteris – A Sole & Son (MLC Ref No 091), Mr P Sole (MLC Ref No 319) & A Sole & Sons Ltd (MLC Ref No 354)

Further to previous Meeting Reports, a planning application has been submitted to the County Council, in its role as the Minerals & Waste planning authority, for the creation of two irrigation reservoirs by the extraction and export of sand and gravel and the extraction of clay and the infilling of a redundant irrigation reservoir with imported inert material.



Extract from Mick George Ltd's Drawing No. M4/1/21/01 Rev. A showing the site boundaries

Soils and Mineral processing; plant washing and stock pile area etc at Witcham Meadlands Quarry, Block Fen Drove, Mepal – Mick George (Haulage) Ltd (MLC Ref No 156); Mick George Ltd (MLC Ref Nos 207, 211, 213, 286, 289 & 303); Langwood Fen (Cambridgeshire Aggregates Ltd) (MLC Ref No 316)

Further to the discussion as the last Board Meeting, as recorded in the Minutes, it is presumed that the Quickbridge (MLC Ref No 289) has been removed from the Board's District Drain.

No further correspondence has been received from the applicants or the applicants' agents concerning the extension of Witcham Meadlands Quarry (MLC Ref No 303) or

the extraction of sand and gravel and importation of inert waste to create wet grasslands (MLC Ref No 316). The current position is being ascertained.

Planning Updates & Consultations

To reduce the size of this consultant's report and to increase public transparency the section of this report which provides information on the various strategic consultations and issues that may affect the Middle Level Commissioners and administered/associated Internal Drainage Board has been relocated to our website and can be found on www.middlelevel.gov.uk towards the bottom of the page under "Strategic Planning Consultation Responses".

General Advice

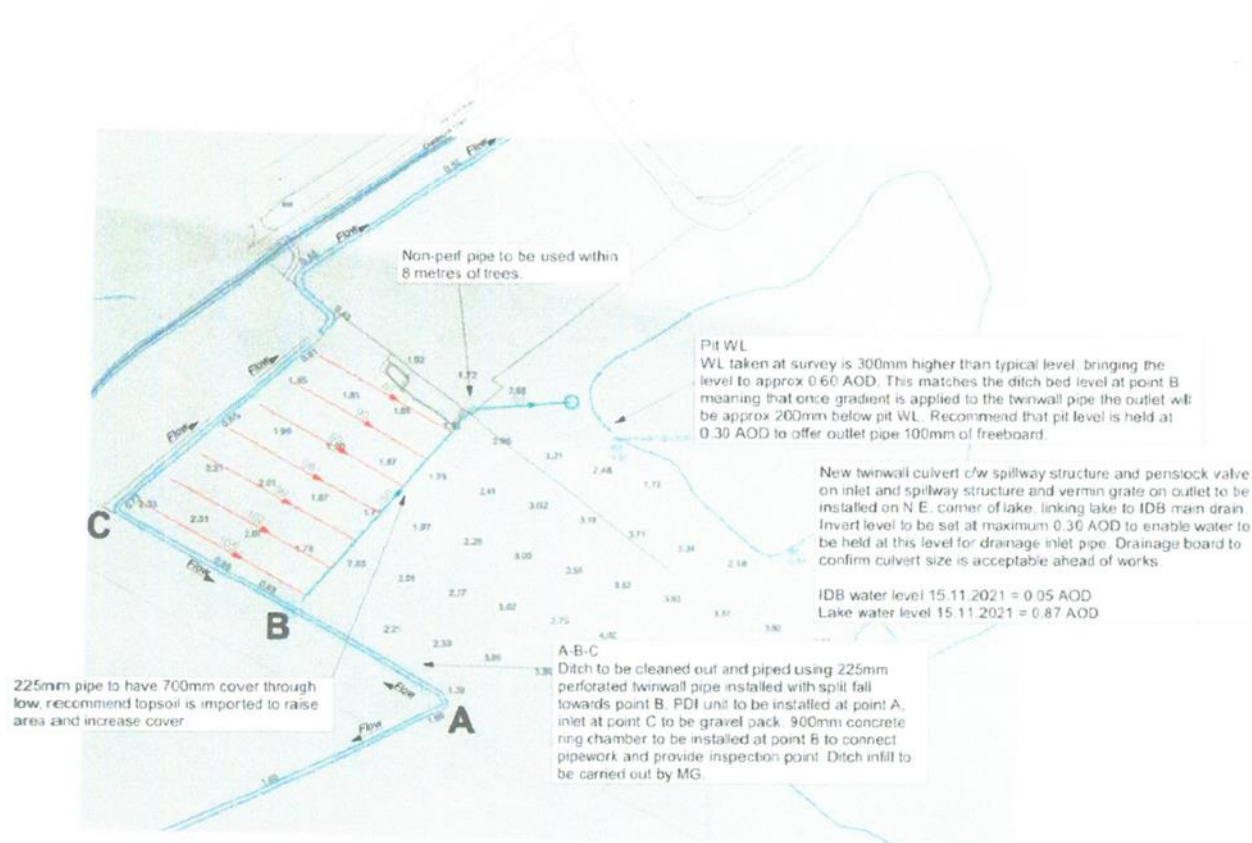
Assistance has been given, on the Board's behalf, in respect of the following:

- a) Mr D M Newman – An application for byelaw consent to fill in a section of Board's watercourse between C6 and C7 in the Somersham area, including a length of private watercourse upstream of C7 has been received. A similar application was considered last year and rejected. However, a number of variations have been made and these will be outlined at the meeting. See map below. The applicant seeks the approval of the Board.

Consulting Engineer

20 May 2022

S&M(350)\Reports\May 22



LineStyle	Description
	Proposed 80mm perforated land drain to be installed using a gps guided trencher at an average depth of 900mm.
	Permeable fill to be placed over all 80mm land drains to within an average of 350mm of the surface.
	Total 80mm pipe = 672 metres
	Proposed 225mm perforated twinwall pipe to be installed at an average depth of 1.20 metres. PDI unit to be installed on inlet
	Total 225mm pipe = 420 metres
	Proposed outfall pipe
	Proposed inspection chamber
	Proposed 900mm dia sub surface chamber
BL	Ditch bed level
CLFL	Culvert invert level
WL	Water level



Client
Mr D. Newman

Location
Somersham, Cambs

Project
Proposed Land Drainage R3

Scale: 1:250 (A3) Date: 01.01.2022 Rev: 001

Drawing No: 1946103/02/003

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The Board discussed the possibility of purchasing an additional pump now but on balance considered that it made more sense to only replace a pump if another one fails. It was noted that the spare pump is currently being refurbished.

RESOLVED

Not to order a new pump at this time but to do so should one of the existing pumps fail.

On planning matters it was generally felt that any decisions on planning matters could be left to the Chairman/Vice Chairman and Planning Officer. The Board only to be involved if the Chairman considers it necessary for this to happen.

The Chairman invited Geoff Beel and Mr Newman to speak regarding Mr Newman's request for consent to infill a length of IDB controlled watercourse. Mr Beel outlined the reasoning behind the request and stated what he considered to be the benefits of implementing the scheme. He noted that the sand and gravel abstraction in this location had changed the local situation and hence the need for the watercourse in question and he noted that it only now drained his clients land and possibly one small piece of adjacent land (in his words, just a couple of paddocks). The proposal outlined was to installed perforated pipes and then to link this with a drain out falling into the adjacent pit. The pit to have an overspill pump added to maintain levels. He also confirmed that following feedback from the Board, a meter would be included with the pump so that any surplus water entering into the Board's system could be monitored and paid for. Whilst he did not suggest there were not benefits for his client, he also pointed out plans to upgrade the footpath to a bridleway and suggested that the filling of the channel would improve the safety of the new bridleway. He concluded by noting that there were no properties or arable land now being serviced by this watercourse.

Questions from the members included whether or not all land owners were aware and in agreement with the proposals, also that this could set a precedent and that on the face of it this proposal was contrary to the Board's policy to resist infilling of watercourses for conservation reasons. Additionally, there was a question over the potential for the adjacent land to need improved drainage in the future and finally how would the future maintenance of the system be secured?

The responses were that yes this could set a precedent and yes it was contrary to the Board's policy, hence there would need to be a strong case for this to be considered and to support it as a one-off, that a clause could be added to any consent stating that there would be a future right to connect into the piped system held by the Board and that the consent could include a clear requirement to maintain the system.

Mr Beel noted that he believed that the proposals would actually improve drainage in the area.

The Board moved into closed session to discuss the matter further.

RESOLVED

That the infilling of the ditch be approved in principle subject to the following items being included as part of any consent granted;

- a) There is to be an environmental net gain requirement and to achieve this the applicant must undertake an environmental survey of the ditch to be infilled and present his proposals to mitigate the loss of habitat linked to the infilling.

- b) There shall be a maintenance obligation in perpetuity linked to the consent.
- c) There is to be an implicit right for the adjacent landowner to connect into the piped lengths of watercourse subject to this application should he wish to for the drainage of his land.
- d) That the length of drain shown on the plan between points A and C shall be piped with a perforated pipe to a suitable design.
- e) That the cost of all work associated with the consent be born solely by the applicant.

NB The Vice Chairman declared interest in the planning applications (MLC Ref Nos. 072, 148, 236, 237, 335, & 355) received for P J Lee & Sons

NB Mr P Sole declared an interest in planning applications (MLC Ref No. 354) received for A Sole & Son and Mr P Sole.

B.2276 Capital Improvement Programme

Members considered and noted the Board's future Capital Improvement Programme, viz;

Sutton & Mepal Internal Drainage Board

Capital Improvement Programme (2022/2023)

		PREVIOUS YEARS	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	FUTURE YEARS	ALL YEARS
		Pre Yr 0	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Post Year 10	Total Expenditure
Mepal p/s	Pumping station replacement	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,707.0	0.0	1707.0
	Pumping station pumping and control equipment replacement	0	0	40.0	40.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	90.0
	Pumping station automatic weedscreen cleaning equipmet	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0
	Pumping station Control building refurbishment/replacement	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	5.0
	Pumping station compound/surrounds improvements	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Plant & Vehicles	Toyota Hilux Pick up	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.0
	Case Tractor	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
	Spearhead Twiga flail mower	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.0
	Conver Weedcutting Boat C480F	0	0	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0
	Atlas 140w wheeled excavator	0	0	130.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	130.0
	Piling hammer	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0
Drainage Channels	Cranbrook improvement scheme	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
		0	0	170	40	60	20	45	0	0	100	1,707	5	2,147

Identified on PAFS 2020 submission

Plant & Vehicles.

Replacement strategy

Last reviewed May 2021 - approved

Next review May 2022

Asset	Purchased	Replaceme	Est. cost
Toyota Hilux Pick up	2015/2016	10 years	15
Case Tractor	2019/20	10 years	100
Spearhead Twiga flail mower	2016/2017	10 years	32
Conver Weedcutting Boat C480F		9 Years	50
Atlas 140w wheeled excavator	2011/12	10 years	130
Piling hammer (new purchase)	2016/2017	10 years	10

The Board considered the Plant and Vehicle Replacement Strategy and its value in allowing for forward cash flow planning and rating requirement noted. The timing of purchase of the replacement truck as considered.

RESOLVED

That the purchase of a replacement truck be delayed for at least one year.

B.2277 District Officer's Report

In the absence of the District Officer, the Chairman reported on the actions undertaken over the last year and plans for this coming year. The report was noted by Members, viz;

SUTTON AND MEPAL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

RUSTON ENGINE AND NO 2 PUMP 0 RUNNING HOURS PUMPING.

11 HOURS TEST RUN AFTER REPAIRS.

AUXILLARY ENGINES BOTH IN WORKING ORDER BOTH HAVE OIL AND DIESEL LEAKS.

ELECTRIC PUMPS FROM 8/5/21 TO 19/5/22.

	RUNNING HOURS 11/5/20-7/5/21	RUNNING HOURS 8/5/21-19/5/22	TOTAL RUNNING
NO.1	1468	800	29082
NO.2	1156	846	28758
NO.3	1464	741	29086

WEED CLEANER 1480 HOURS.

10" PUMP 3049 HOURS. RUNNING HOURS 56 FROM 8/5/21-19/5/22.

RAINFALL MAY 11TH 2020 TO MAY 7TH 2021 = 681 mm.

RAINFALL MAY 8TH 2021 TO MAY 19TH 2022 = 544 mm.

TRACTOR & FLAIL MOWER GOOD WORKING ORDER. HOURS 951.

2011. ATLAS 140W. HOURS 6772. NEW BRAKE VALVES+ACCUMULATORS.

NEW RADIATOR ON ENGINE. NEW CHECK VALVES TO STOP BOOM DROPPING.

2015. TOYOTA TRUCK IN GOOD WORKING ORDER. AE65 NMM.

1995. WEED CUTTING BOAT HAS BEEN REPAIRED AND PAINTED.

D. STIMSON

(DISTRICT OFFICER)

Members considered and approved the most recent BAP report, viz;

Sutton & Mepal IDB

Biodiversity Action Plan Report 2021-22

Environment Act (2021) and note on 2021-22 BAP report



The new Environment Act recognises the key roles IDBs play in nature conservation (Photo: PB)

The Environment Act (2021) passed into UK law in November 2021 with the aim of protecting and enhancing our environment for future generations. The Act includes bold aims to 'halt the decline in species by 2030', improve air quality, natural habitats and how look at how resources may be better used. For Internal Drainage Boards ADA describes the Act as bringing 'impacts and opportunities' which recognise the important role IDBs have to play in some of these targets. Areas of particular interest to IDBs are:

- Biodiversity Assessment and Reporting
- Species Conservation Strategies and Protected Sites Strategies
- An Office for Environmental Protection (OEP) to uphold environmental law

Following the note in the 2020-21 report, work is underway to update IDB Biodiversity Action Plans in line with the newly available ADA guidelines. As part of this process voluntary submissions for an IDB 'Biometrics survey' were issued by ADA in autumn 2021 and were submitted on behalf of the Board by the Conservation Officer. This survey aims to gather data relevant to key targets of the Biodiversity Action Plan with a view to putting IDBs 'on the front foot' with regards future Biodiversity reporting and assessment, like that laid out in the Environment Act above.

The Conservation Officer is happy to field any questions on the subject and will continue to work with Boards on existing and future plans.

For ease of use the BAP table has been omitted from this report but is available upon request.

Sutton & Mepal IDB Report Summary

Invasive Species

None noted during surveys. Azolla has been present across much of the Levels this spring, care should be taken when moving machinery between drains/catchments.

Water Voles

As always, Boards are reminded to contact the Conservation Officer *before* any bank reprofiling or other works that may impact water voles take place. If unsure, please contact the Conservation Officer regardless.

The Board's District Officer has been proactive in discussing works in advance with the Conservation Officer who has undertaken visits and surveys of several locations. The district has a uniformly excellent and varied ditch network with water voles present in most.



Mink

At least 4 mink were trapped in the district in the last year – interestingly these were largely mature animals suggesting strong local territories. The proximity of the Ouse Washes and abundant ditch habitat makes the district an important one for this species.

Other species/issues

The District Officer has lent support to a nature reserve in the district by digging a new pond.

Training

No training opportunities possible in 2021 due to Covid-19 guidelines. New sessions are planned in 2022 covering two important areas of our work; it is hoped that IDBs will be able to use the opportunities to refresh their knowledge on the subjects and/or enhance the skills of contractors/staff who may not have received such training before.

~~Tuesday 22nd March 2022: Non-native species workshop. Venue: Oliver Cromwell Hotel, March. 10-1pm.~~

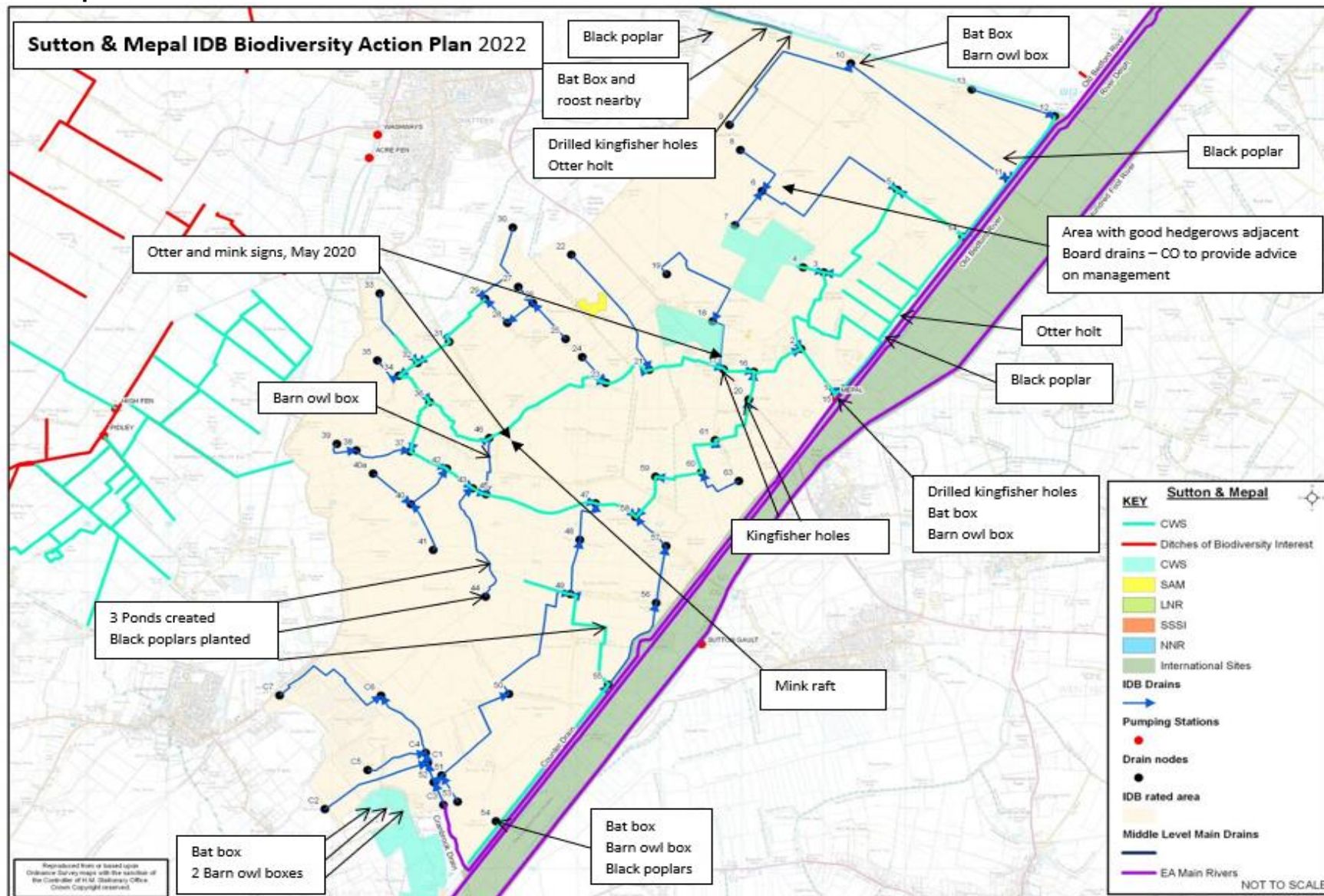
The culmination of our Floating Pennywort awareness project, this training morning will provide an up-to-date summary of invasive species, both flora and fauna, to look out for in the Middle Level. Guest speakers: Cliff Carson and Mike Foley. *This event has passed but the CO is happy to discuss or share presentations from it with Boards upon request.*

June date TBC: Water voles - ecology, legislation and mitigation: a guide for IDBs. Venue: Middle Level Offices, March (followed by visit to local drain)

This training will be led by Julia Massey CEnv MCIEEM a Principal Ecologist with many years of experience working with water voles in the fens. It will cover the key elements of the species' ecology and how it relates to the work of IDBs. Joining instructions to be sent shortly.

Peter Beckenham, Conservation Officer for Middle Level Commissioners

IDB Map 2021-22



B.2279 State-aided Schemes

The Board members noted that any State-aided Scheme which might come forward, would be linked to future catchment changes and the possible replacement/reconfiguration of the Board's pumping station.

B.2280 District Labour

- a) The Clerk reported that during the financial year 2021/202 overtime payments had been made as indicated on the Supplementary Schedule.
- b) The Board gave consideration to the District Officer's salary for 2022/2023.

RESOLVED

That the salary of the District Officer be increased by 3% for 2022/2023

B.2281 Expenses Allowances

The Board gave consideration to the appropriate reimbursement of proper out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Chairman and Vice Chairman on the Board's behalf.

RESOLVED

That the sums of £500 and £250 be available to the Chairman and Vice Chairman respectively to draw upon for out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the Board for 2022/2023 and if any additional expenses were incurred by the Chairman and Vice Chairman the Board would approve any reasonable expenses incurred.

(NB) – The Chairman and Vice Chairman declared a financial interest when this item was discussed.

B.2282 Charges for hire of plant when engaged on private work

The Board considered whether any revisions were necessary in their charges for hiring of plant for private work (last reviewed in 2021).

Members discussed the plant rates and noted that both fuel, labour and parts costs had increased and were likely to continue to do so for the foreseeable future, hence an increase in rates charged for plant hire would be appropriate.

Previous charges

i) Atlas 140W Excavator

Present charge - £40 per hour in the District) (inclusive of operator's wages).
- £45 per hour outside the District)

ii) Flail mower

Present charge - £40.00 per hour (inclusive of operator's wages)
£45.00 per hour for work carried out for the Environment Agency

iii) Weed boat

Present charge - £40 per hour (inclusive of operator's wages)

iv) Piling Hammer

Present charge - £40 per hour (inclusive of operator's wages)

(NB) – Travelling time being charged in addition to working time.

RESOLVED

That the hire charges be increased as follows:-

i) Atlas 140W Excavator

- £45 per hour in the District (inclusive of operator's wages).
- £50 per hour outside the District

ii) Flail mower

- £45 per hour (inclusive of operator's wages)
- £50 per hour for work carried out for the Environment Agency

iii) Weed boat

£45 per hour (inclusive of operator's wages) plus the addition of travel time by the District Officer

iv) Piling Hammer

£45 per hour (inclusive of operator's wages)

The Board noted that travelling time was to be charged in addition to working time.

NB. The Chairman declared an interest in this item and a party that hired in the Board's plant.

B.2283 Environment Agency – Precepts

The Clerk reported that at the Environment Agency Flood Defence Committee meeting the Committee voted to adopt an indicative 2% increase in the precepts on Internal Drainage Boards for the next 6 years commencing from 2022/23, with the ability to revisit annually should exceptional circumstances indicate this is required. The Committee voted for a 0% increase (for exceptional circumstances) above the indicative 2% increase for the year ending 31st March 2023 - total of a 2% increase on the level of precept on Internal Drainage Boards for the year ending 31st March 2023.

The precept for 2021/2022 was £113,104.

B.2284 Determination of annual value for rating purposes

The Board considered the recommendation for the determination of annual value for rating purposes, but a question was raised as to why there was no balance figure for the movement of rates for the item in the confidential paper. The Clerk considered that it may simply have been a correction but would investigate further.

RESOLVED

- i) That the determination recommended be adopted by the Board.
- ii) That the Clerk be empowered to serve notices and to take such other action as may be necessary to comply with statutory requirements.
- iii) That the Chairman and the Clerk be empowered to authorise appropriate action on behalf of the Board in connection with any appeal against the determination.

B.2285 Contributions from Developers

The Clerk reported that a contribution towards the cost of dealing with the increased flow or volume of surface water run-off and treated effluent volume has/have been received.

B.2286 Health and Safety

Further to minute B.2261, The Chairman advised that all recommendations presented in the Cope Health & Safety report had been actioned. The Clerk reported that Cope's contract had been renewed and that going forward there would be a slight reduction in fees as the initial hurdle of getting IDBs up to an acceptable position in terms of safety matters had been achieved and that it was now a question of an annual audit to ensure this remained the position.

B.2287 Review of Internal Controls

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

B.2288 Risk Management Assessment

The Board reviewed its position in relation to valuations for insurance purposes and considered that there was a case for review but felt that next year would be the appropriate time to undertake this, viz;

SUTTON & MEPAL IDB
INSURED VALUE OF FIXED ASSETS

PUMPING STATIONS AND BUNGALOW

	As At 31st March 2022
Fortrey Hall Pumping Station Electric	1,300,000.00
Fortrey Hall Pumping Station Diesel	1,500,000.00
	2,800,000.00
Mepal Pumping Station Bungalow	180,000.00
	<u>2,980,000.00</u>

RESOLVED

That the Board undertake a review of insured values next year.

B.2289 Exercise of Public Rights

The Clerk 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.2290 Annual Governance Statement – 2021/2022

The Board considered and approved the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended on the 31st March 2022, viz;

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2021/22

We acknowledge as the members of:

SUTTON & MEPAL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022, that:

	Agreed			
	Yes	No*		
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		‘Yes’ means that this authority: prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.	
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	✓		has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.	
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors’ rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority’s accounts.	
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.	
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	✓		arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.	
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.	
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	✓		disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.	
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A	has met all of its responsibilities where, as a body corporate, it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.

*Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

DD/MM/YY

and recorded as minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by the Chairman and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chairman

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Clerk

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

ENTER PUBLIC ADDRESS WWW.MIDDLELEVEL.GOV.UK OR ADDRESS

RESOLVED

That the Chairman be authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement, on behalf of the Board, for the financial year ending 31st March 2022.

B.2291 Payments 2021/2022

The Board considered and approved payments amounting to £286,565.79 which had been made during the financial year 2021/2022, viz;

SUTTON AND MEPAL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

Payments 2021/2022 (1st April 2021 - 31st March 2022)

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Middle Level Commissioners - Administration charge, postages, telephone charges, stationery and Health and Safety contract	10,437.83
Middle Level Commissioners - Pumping station maintenance	493.92
Middle Level Commissioners - Fees (Production of Board reports, planning and development applications)	718.80
Maxey Grounds - Professional valuation of pumping station bungalow	720.00
British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	50.03
EE - Mobile telephone charges	23.82
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	71.52
L R Boon & Sons Ltd - Hand sanitiser and face masks	38.18
Fenland Fire Appliances - Service of fire extinguishers and renovation of dry powder extinguisher	91.80
Environment Agency - Precept	56,551.92
Middle Level Commissioners - Preparation of highland water claims	240.40
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	0.13
EE - Mobile telephone charges	23.82
Wave - Water charges	48.92
TDL Equipment Ltd - 1,000 hour service of Atlas 140W Excavator	1,414.68
British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	51.11
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	76.06
TDL Equipment Ltd - Repairs to Atlas 140W Excavator	1,724.20
L R Boon & Sons Ltd - Screenwash, coach bolts, washers, paint brush, wooden post and lawn mower adjustment	95.58
Chatteris Cricket Club - Expenses in connection with Board meeting	95.00
L R Boon & Sons Ltd - Paint brush, 2.5 litres of Hammerite paint and a filter	69.10
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	19.48
EE - Mobile telephone charges	23.82
British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	49.14
Engineering and Hire Ltd. - Parts for weed cutting bucket	769.50
Heatflo Plumbing & Heating Services - Supply and installation of Mira Excel cartridge assembly	344.70
Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd - Hydraulic filter	32.20
Anglian Compressors - Service of air compressors	334.71
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	76.08
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	16.24
British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	49.14
EE - Mobile telephone charges	23.82
Middle Level Commissioners - Pumping station maintenance	895.68
Middle Level Commissioners - Supply of piles, toeboard, repairs to Conver boat cutter drive and 2,144 litres of gas oil (Account from Watson)	1,857.51
Middle Level Commissioners - Repairs to pump 3 panel to include fitting of new power capacitor (Accounts from Johnson Phillips and RS Components)	2,175.39
L R Boon & Sons Ltd - Bolts with lock nuts, washers, galvanised spray, 6 ft length of flat steel and pins cut out of bucket	76.23
A.R.C. Welding Limited - 2.4 metres of bucket pin steel	117.60
Ernest Doe - Annual service of New Holland tractor AE19 DHK	2,430.70
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	83.40
Wave - Water charges	53.93
Cole & Day - Repairs to Atlas 140W Excavator tyre	264.00
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	70.97
EE - Mobile telephone charges	23.82
British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	53.32
Richard Yardy (2002) Ltd - Installation of lighting at Mepal pumping station	500.83
Certas Energy UK Limited - Supply of 3,000 litres of gas oil	2,030.40
L R Boon & Sons Ltd - Bolts with lock nuts and washers, galvanised mop bucket and mop, rolls of hand paper and an Inner of 4mm welding rods	92.41
David Lowe Plumbing and Heating Ltd - Replacement of 2 x automatic air vents in loft at pumping station bungalow	82.80
Ernest Doe - 1 pair of black safety boots	36.00
EE - Mobile telephone charges	23.82
British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	49.78
PKF Littlejohn LLP - Audit Fees (2020-2021 accounts)	720.00
L R Boon & Sons Ltd - 80 litres of Adblue, 2 tins of fly spray and 1 x 3 ton 4 metre lifting strip	118.73
Middle Level Commissioners - Renewal of insurances	4,731.06
Middle Level Commissioners - Fees (Production of Board reports, planning and development applications)	1,311.34
Middle Level Commissioners - Administration charge, postages, and telephone charges	8,666.65
Middle Level Commissioners - Repairs to pump 1, 3 and 4	78.16
Middle Level Commissioners - Road tax, service and MOT of AE65 NMM, together with supply of drill press (Accounts from Steven Eagell Toyota and Machine Mart)	975.65
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	0.13
TDL Equipment Ltd - Repairs to Atlas 140W Excavator	6,734.03
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd - Box of 36 Qualube lithium complex grease cartridges and a box of 36 Qualube lithium EP2 grease cartridges	189.22

Environment Agency - Precept	56,551.92
Bank charges (Refunded)	3.00
British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	49.62
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	56.63
EE - Mobile telephone charges	23.82
Ernest Doe - Repairs to New Holland tractor AE19 DHK	2,870.66
Middle Level Commissioners - Pumping station maintenance	215.23
Certas Energy UK Limited - Supply of 3,000 litres of gas oil	2,699.64
L R Boon & Sons Ltd - LED light, face masks, green gloves, disposable gloves, cap head bolts and lock nuts, 20 litres of Adblue, repairs and welding of roller	1,072.44
Cole & Day - Call out to remove and fit new tyre	120.00
N L Hydraulics - Hydraulic pipe for Atlas 140W excavator	71.48
EE - Mobile telephone charges	23.82
British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	49.14
Middle Level Commissioners - Fees (Planning and development applications)	467.10
L R Boon & Sons Ltd - Tek screws and washers, 25 litres of anti-freeze and 24 volt bulbs	73.52
Middle Level Commissioners - Internal audit fees (Whiting & Partners 2020-2021 accounts)	1,506.00
Middle Level Commissioners - Pumping station maintenance	720.70
Wave - Water charges	49.43
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	72.56
Ernest Doe - Repairs to New Holland tractor AE19 DHK	153.90
British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	49.14
Middle Level Commissioners - Supply of road tax - YN61 FYU and waste carrier licence	275.00
Middle Level Commissioners - Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaner and penstock activator (Account from March Electrical)	256.56
Middle Level Commissioners - Supply of parts to repair cover boat (Account from Mastenbroek)	174.77
Middle Level Commissioners - Repairs to Ruston engine (Account from Rand)	3,854.38
Engineering and Hire Ltd. - Knife assembly 2.5m searred sections and rubber cover	566.11
L R Boon & Sons Ltd - 20 litres of Adblue	28.15
Richard Yardy (2002) Ltd - PAT testing, provision of log of items passed and repairs to appliances as required	154.80
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	50.14
EE - Mobile telephone charges	23.82
FJS Services Ltd - Manufacture of fuel pipe and guards and fitting new fuel line to engine and guards	1,280.33
Middle Level Commissioners - Pumping station maintenance	503.52
Association of Drainage Authorities - Subscription 2021	865.20
L R Boon & Sons Ltd - 24 volt bulb	7.80
Water Resources East - Contribution to operating costs	150.00
Geoff Bell Consultancy - Refund of consent application fee	50.00
G Fowler - Emptying of cesspit	100.00
EE - Mobile telephone charges	25.72
British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	50.78
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	61.00
David Lowe Plumbing and Heating Ltd - Service of boiler at bungalow	108.00
Chatteris Cricket Club - Expenses in connection with Board meeting	120.00
ADC (East Anglia) Ltd - Installation of temporary dam across inlet headwall, remove and replace inlet penstock, extend outfall pipe 6 metres downstream and reline the existing 9m 225mm pipe	7,260.00
PJ Lee & Sons - Health & Safety Work to include asbestos survey, signage for weedscreen and anti slip strips for steps outside pump house	3,068.34
Richard Yardy (2002) Ltd - Call out and replace pull switch at bungalow	103.39
Middle Level Commissioners - Supply of 3,200 litres of gas oil (Account from Watson Fuels)	2,722.56
Middle Level Commissioners - Preparation of highland water claims	243.41
Wave - Water charges	52.42
Information Commissioner - Data Protection Registration renewal	40.00
Association of Drainage Authorities (River Great Ouse branch) - Subscription 2020-2021	36.00
EE - Mobile telephone charges	23.82
British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	49.14
Cole & Day - Puncture repair	26.40
TDL Equipment Ltd - Repairs to Atlas 140W Excavator re fuel leak	546.30
Middle Level Commissioners - Contribution (Environmental Officer)	672.50
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	61.12
Middle Level Commissioners - Health and Safety re-charges for 2021-2022	720.00
TDL Equipment Ltd - Repairs to Atlas 140W Excavator re valve balancing	6,487.20
Middle Level Commissioners - Fees (Production of Board report, site visit to investigate report from EA, planning and development applications)	756.64

British Telecommunications PLC - Telephone charges	49.14
EE - Mobile telephone charges	32.00
TDL Equipment Ltd - Repairs to Atlas 140W Excavator	1,092.79
TDL Equipment Ltd - 500 hour service to Atlas 140W Excavator	1,621.44
L R Boon & Sons Ltd - Coach screws and pins	13.63
Certas Energy UK Limited - Supply of 209 litres of Tellus S2 MX 46 hydraulic oil	677.16
BE Fuelcards - Diesel	29.83
Middle Level Commissioners - Pumping station maintenance	503.52
Anglia Farmers - Electricity supply to pumping station	38,752.07
Anglia Farmers - Electricity metering charges	212.03
Anglia Farmers - Electricity data collection charges	132.62
District labour	34,158.12
	284,968.63

LABOUR ACCOUNT

District labour	1,597.16
	286,565.79

(NB - Amounts shown include Value Added Tax)

(NB) – The Chairman declared an interest (as a Member of the Middle Level Board) in the payments made to the Middle Level Commissioners.

(NB) – The Vice Chairman declared an interest in the payments made to P J Lee & Sons.

B.2292 Annual Accounts of the Board – 2021/2022

The Board considered and approved the Annual Accounts and bank reconciliation for the year ended on the 31st March 2022 as required in the Audit Regulations, viz;

SUTTON AND MEPAL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2022

GENERAL FUND

2022			2021		
Mar-31	Expenditure during the year		Apr-01	Balance brought forward	378,630.74
	Precept (EA)	113,103.84			
	Rates, insurances, telephones	5,586.80	2022		
	Repairs & Renewals	20,880.52	Mar-31	Rate income & Special levies	236,757.29
	Fuel	44,909.14		Irrecoverable	<u>-11.98</u>
	Drainworks	30,858.03			236,745.31
	District Labour	35,683.67		Interest on Deposit Accounts	19.16
	Administration charge, audit fee,			Highland Water Contributions	6,298.43
	printing, stationery, advertising etc	<u>19,247.96</u>		Development Charges	2,103.00
		157,166.12		Private Works	8,570.00
	<u>Plant replacement</u>			Consent	100.00
	Funds raised in year	25,000.00			0.00
					0.00
	Balance carried forward	<u>337,196.68</u>			
		<u>632,466.64</u>			<u>632,466.64</u>

BALANCE SHEET

Capital Section

Liabilities

Capital Provisions	3,050,000.00
	<u>3,050,000.00</u>

Assets

Bungalow - Pumping Station	250,000.00	
Pumping Stations	2,800,000.00	
Plant and Vehicles etc	49,571.58	
Stock	<u>3,350.00</u>	
		3,102,921.58

Revenue Section

General Fund		Ratepayers' Account - Arrears	1,578.68
- Revenue Balance	337,196.68	Value added tax - Refunds due	7,827.73
- Asset replacement	109,135.98	Advance pay for Workmen	79.75
Low Level Restoration at Block Fen		Sundry Debtors	4,691.25
Account (Redland Aggregates Ltd)	245,436.83	Balance in hand -	
Development Charges Account	40,161.29	Barclays - Treasurer's Account	686,721.08
Sundry Creditors	29,735.11	National Savings-Treasurer's Account	5,666.10
		Labour Account	<u>2,179.72</u>
	<u>3,811,665.89</u>		694,566.90
			<u>3,811,665.89</u>

Sutton & Mepal Internal Drainage Board**Summary of Bank Reconciliations as at 31st March 2022****Barclays - Treasurers Account 2021/2022**

1st April 2021			31st March 2022		
Balance brought forward	691,547.87		Payments made during the year	284,968.63	
31st March 2022			Transfer to Labour Account	2,500.00	
Receipts during the year					287,468.63
Clerk's collection account	282,608.75				
Interest on deposit accounts	33.09	282,641.84	Balance carried forward		686,721.08
		<u>974,189.71</u>			<u>974,189.71</u>

National Savings - Treasurers Account 2021/2022

1st April 2021			31st March 2022		
Balance brought forward	5,665.53		Payments made during the year		0.00
31st March 2022			Balance carried forward		5,666.10
Interest on deposit accounts		0.57			
		<u>5,666.10</u>			<u>5,666.10</u>

Labour Account 2020/2021

1st April 2021			31st March 2022		
Balance brought forward	1,277.59		Payments made during the year		1,597.92
31st March 2022			Balance carried forward		2,179.72
Transfer from Treasurer's Account	2,500.00				
Interest on deposit accounts		0.05			
		<u>3,777.64</u>			<u>3,777.64</u>

Barclays Bank PLC**Clients Premium Account**

Balance per Statement as at 31st March 2022	686,721.08
Less unrepresented cheques	0.00
O/S lodgement	0.00
Balance per Trial Balance	<u>686,721.08</u>

Labour Account

Balance per Statement as at 31st March 2022	2,179.72
Less unrepresented cheques	0.00
O/S lodgement	0.00
Balance per Trial Balance	<u>2,179.72</u>

Cash balances as at 31st March 2022**Barclays Bank PLC**

Clients Premium Account	686,721.08
Clients Labour Account	2,179.72

National Savings

Investment Account per passbook	5,666.10
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<u>Total reconciled cash balances per accounts</u>	<u>694,566.90</u>
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Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2021/22 for

SUTTON & MEPAL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2021 £	31 March 2022 £	
1. Balances brought forward	720,190	700,582	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	229,511	236,745	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	24,050	15,302	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	36,183	35,684	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	236,986	234,586	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cash-book less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	700,582	682,359	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	698,491	694,567	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	3,202,164	3,202,164	The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.
10. Total borrowings	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).
11. (For Local Councils Only) Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)	Yes	No	N/A
			The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee for and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets. N.B. The figures in the accounting statements above do not include any Trust transactions.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2022 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Date

30th APRIL 2022

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

DD/MM/YY

as recorded in minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by Chairman of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Sutton & Mepal IDB**Reconciliation between statement of accounts and Annual Return****Financial year ended 31st March 2022****Per Annual
Return**

Line 1	Balances brought forward General Fund Development charges account Low level fund Asset Replacement Fund	334,530.74 41,962.16 245,424.41 78,664.40 700,581.71	700,582
Line 2	Rates and Special Levies Agricultural rates Special Levies Penalty Costs Write-off	191,533.29 45,199.00 0.00 25.00 -11.98 236,745.31	236,745
Line 3	Total other receipts Interest General fund Development charges account Low level fund Private works Consent applications Insurance claim Highland Water Discharge contributions Metered discharge Sale of Asset Water Transfer - EA Write Back of Provisions	 19.16 2.13 12.42 8,570.00 100.00 0.00 6,298.43 300.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 15,302.14	15,302
Line 4	Staff costs Wages/salaries National insurance contributions Pension costs Travelling expenses	 31,406.82 3,233.29 1,043.56 0.00 35,683.67	35,684
Line 5	Loan repayments PWLB - Principal PWLB - Interest	 0.00 0.00 0.00	0

Sutton & Mepal IDB**Reconciliation between statement of accounts and Annual Return****Financial year ended 31st March 2022****Per Annual
Return**

<u>Line 6</u>	All other payments Precept Rates, insurances, telephones Repairs and renewals Fuel Drainworks Administration Development charges fees Purchase of assets Pump Replacement costs	113,103.84 5,586.80 20,880.52 44,909.14 30,858.03 19,247.96 0.00 0.00 0.00 234,586.29	234,586
<u>Line 7</u>	Balances carried forward General Fund Development charges account Low level fund Asset Replacement Fund	293,096.68 40,161.29 245,436.83 103,664.40 682,359.20	682,359

Reconciliation

Line 1 + Line 2 + Line 3 - Line 4 - Line 5 - Line 6

682,359.20

Reconciliation to Accounts

Balances carried forward per Annual Return - As above

682,359.20

Add Back:-

Adjustments for Prior Years

75,344.48

Depreciation

-25,772.90

Purchase of Asset

0.00

49,571.58

Balances carried forward per Accounts

General Fund

337,196.68

Development charges account

40,161.29

Low level fund

245,436.83

Asset Replacement Fund

109,135.98

731,930.78

RESOLVED

That the Chairman be authorised to sign the Return, on behalf of the Board, for the financial year ending 31st March 2022. And the Board approved the use of the current Internal Auditor for a further year, following which time it is expected that competitive tendering for Internal Auditing will be held.

B.2293 Expenditure estimates and special levy and drainage rate requirements 2022/2023

The Board considered estimates of expenditure and proposals for special levy and drainage rates in respect of the financial year 2021/2022 and were informed by the Clerk 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 81.45% and 18.55%, viz;

SUTTON AND MEPAL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD
BUDGET 2022/2023

	<u>Approved budget</u> <u>2021/2022</u> £	<u>Actual</u> <u>2021/2022</u> £	<u>Budget</u> <u>2022/2023</u> £	<u>Remarks</u>
				A - Includes for:
				Maintenance/general 6,000
				Service/repairs to excavator 3,500
				9,500
1 Rates, telephones and insurances	5,600	5,587	6,000	B - Includes for:
				Maintenance/general 14,025
2 Drainworks, repairs and renewals				Service/repairs to excavator 16,834
(including Environmental measures)	20,000 ^A	51,739 ^B	20,000 ^C	Repairs to Ruston engine 3,212
Drainage channel - Cranbrook	0	0	0	P/S maintenace & w/s/c repairs 3,594
				37,665
3 Oil and electricity	35,000	44,909	59,000 ^D	C - Includes for:
				Maintenance/general 6,000
4 District labour	38,000	35,684	39,000	Service/repairs to excavator 3,500
5 Administration charge, Health and Safety contract, Audit fee, printing, stationery, advertising, Association of Drainage Authorities subscriptions etc	20,500 ^E	19,248 ^E	20,250 ^E	D - Provision based on 5 year average plus 50% for new contract rates
6 Environment Agency - Precept	113,104	113,104	115,366	E - Includes for new Health & Safety arrangements
7 Plant replacement	25,000 ^F	25,000 ^F	25,000 ^F	F - Provision for plant replacement strategy
	257,204	295,270	284,616	G - Includes provision for receipt of avearge highland water claims 3,750
LESS :				
Use of balances	9,481	8,533	0	H - Includes receipt of full claims submittec 6,298
Revenue income	11,959 ^G	17,091 ^H	13,535 ^I	I - Includes receipt of full claims submittec 6,097
	235,764	269,646	271,081	

Rates and Special Levy raised 2021/2022 - 37.30p £235,764

43.000 p rate requirement

Sutton & Mepal Internal Drainage Board

Rate and levy requirements

Under Section 37 of the Land Drainage Act 1991, the appropriate proportions in which the net expenditure of the Board must be borne for 2022/2023 is:-

- a) Proportion to be borne by the Agricultural Sector – 81.45%
- b) Proportion to be borne by Special levy issued to Councils:-

East Cambridgeshire District Council -	3.64%	
Fenland District Council -	8.08%	
Huntingdonshire District Council -	<u>6.83%</u>	18.55%

The product of a rate of 1p in the £ on Agricultural land and buildings is £5,135.

In 2022/2023 a rate of 1p together with corresponding Special levy would raise £6,304.

Revenue cash balance in hand on 31st March 2022 - £337,197.

The estimated net expenditure for the Boards Revenue and Capital Programmes in 2022/2023 is £271,081 and equivalent to:-

- a) a rate in the £ on Agricultural land and buildings of 43.00p
- b) a Special levy on East Cambridgeshire District Council of £9,861
- c) a Special levy on Fenland District Council of £21,891 and
- d) a Special levy on Huntingdonshire District Council of £18,526

When setting the rate for 2022/2023 members should give consideration to possible future expenditure.

In 2021/20212the Board raised a rate of 37.30p together with the appropriate Special levies to raise a total sum of £235,764 which was comprised as follows:-

- a) a rate in the £ on Agricultural land and buildings of 37.30p
- b) a Special levy on East Cambridgeshire District Council of £8,554
- c) a Special levy on Fenland District Council of £20,575 and
- d) a Special levy on Huntingdonshire District Council of £16,070.

D C THOMAS

Clerk to the Board

May 2022

RESOLVED

- i) That the estimates be approved.
- ii) That a total sum of £271,081 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 £220,802 and £50,278 respectively.
- iv) That a rate of 43.00p in the £ be laid and assessed on Agricultural hereditaments in the District.
- v) That a Special levy of £21,891 be made and issued to Fenland District Council and for the purpose of meeting such expenditure.
- vi) That a Special levy of £18,526 be made and issued to Huntingdonshire District Council and for the purpose of meeting such expenditure.
- vii) That a Special levy of £9,861 be made and issued to East Cambridgeshire District Council and for the purpose of meeting such expenditure.
- viii) That the seal of the Board be affixed to the record of drainage rates and special levies and to the special levies referred to in resolution (v).
- ix) That the Clerk be authorised to recover all unpaid rates and levies by such statutory powers as may be available.

B.2294 Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED

That the next Meetings of the Board be held as follows in 2023:-

Thursday 12th January 2023 at 8.30am at Chatteris Cricket Club.

Thursday 25th May 2023 at Chatteris Cricket Club at 8.30am

B.2295 Any Other Business

The Chairman advised that he had been approached to see if the Board may wish to consider the sale of its old pumping station. This matter was discussed but the Board did not consider that it would be in the interests of its ratepayers to consider a sale at this time.

.....
Chairman

.....
Date