Your Ref:

Our Ref:

25th October 2024

Dear Commissioners

I enclose the papers for the Middle Level Board Meeting to be held at this Office on Thursday 7th November 2024.

Board Meeting - 9.30am

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS AGENDA INCLUDES CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE MEETING. APART FROM THE COPY RETAINED WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES THEY WILL BE DESTROYED FOLLOWING THE MEETING AND MEMBERS ARE REMINDED THAT THEY MUST NOT BE DISCUSSED WITH ANYONE OTHER THAN A BOARD MEMBER.

AFTER THE MEETING PLEASE RETURN THEM TO THE OFFICE TO BE DESTROYED.

A Buffet Lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the Meeting.

To avoid paying for food that is not required please confirm in advance that you WILL BE STAYING for the buffet lunch.

Yours truly

P BURROWS

Chief Executive to the Commissioners

Board Meeting

Thursday 7th November 2024, 9:30am

Middle Level Offices, March

Agenda:

Item No	*Topic*	*Format*	*Lead*
1	Welcome & apologies	Verbal	Chairman
2	Declarations of Interest	Verbal	Chairman
3	Minutes of last meetings and matters arising	Pages 3 - 18	Chairman
4	Constitution & Membership • Membership of the Board	Pages 19 - 21	Chairman
5	Strategy & Delivery *Review of Annual Report with a specific focus on:* • Middle Level River Management Scheme • Future of the Middle Level IDB governance • Charging model for consents applicants • Fens Reservoir *The rest of the report will be taken as read with any associated resolutions taken as supported*	Annual Report - Enc	Chief Exec/Chief Engineer
6	Consideration of payment/expenses for Chair & Vice Chair	Pages 22 - 23	Chief Exec
7	Annual Report of the Board to the Commissioners for the year 2023/2024	Enc	Chief exec
8	Finance and Governance • Treasurers Report • Payments by the Commissioners – appendix 1 • Determination of annual values for rating purposes – confidential papers • Rate arrears - confidential papers • Contributions from developers - confidential papers • Appointment of Responsible Finance Officer • Bank mandate changes (Barclays Bank PLC) • Internet banking authorisation • Credit card authorisation	Enc Pages 24 - 32	Treasurer
9	Miscellaneous Items • Complaints	Verbal	Chief Executive
10	Date of Next Meeting	Verbal	Chairman
11	Any other business	Verbal	Chairman

Middle Level Commissioners

At a meeting of the Middle Level Board held at the Middle Level Offices, March on Wednesday 24th April 2024

Present

J L Brown Esq (Chairman)	Ms S Howell
H W Whittome Esq (Vice Chairman)	A Lensen Esq
P Allpress Esq	J Heading Esq
S T Raby Esq	M Heading Esq
S Whittome Esq	P W West Esq
C D Boughton Esq	R Brown Esq
A Miscandlon Esq	Ms A Morris

Paul Burrows - Chief Executive/Clerk, Nicola Oldfield - Chief Engineer, Robert Hill - Treasurer, Sofi Lloyd – Ecology & Environmental Services Manager (Part) & Ruth Martin – Lead Clerk (minutes) were also in attendance.

Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed Ruth Martin, the new Lead Clerk at MLC, and Alison Morris, prospective new Board member to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Lord de Ramsey Esq, M R Latta Esq, D Langslow Esq, C Crofts Esq & Mrs D Laws.

B.3848 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman 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. Declarations to be addressed at each point.

B.3849 Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising

C Boughton Esq requested that the spelling of his name to be corrected – not Broughton as the last meeting minutes.

RESOLVED

> That the minutes of the Meeting held of the Board on 2nd November 2023 are recorded correctly and that they be confirmed and signed.

B.3850 Constitution and Membership

Nomination to fill a vacancy on the Board

The Chairman outlined that Ms. Alison Morris has been nominated to join the Board by the Executive Committee. This motion was supported unanimously and Ms Morris was co-opted to the Board. The Chairman welcomed Ms Morris to the Board.

The Chairman pointed out that there are now no vacancies on the Board.

A discussion followed where more experienced members confirmed their intention to step aside to allow new members to take office and the Chairman is keen to enable this. Members felt that the current membership gave a good geographical spread across the whole Middle Level area and it would be important to continue with this, but the Chairman felt the Board wouldn't want to turn away members, but that we also need the best people for the good of the Board.

A written confirmation from any members wishing to stand down is required to then enable successors to be appointed.

Mr M Heading asked if we need to announce vacancies and nominations. The Clerk mentioned that he was planning on adding a leaflet in with the rate demands and could add a paragraph highlighting the opportunity for those eligible to seek to join the Board, and that he would arrange for more details to be added to the website.

Mr Boughton asked if a further representative should be considered from the boating community, but the Chairman reminded the Board that the Navigation Advisory Committee fulfils this purpose, and the Clerk and Treasurer both advised that there is no mechanism for this within legislation. All agreed that the NAC is a positive committee and continue to be supportive of the MLC.

RESOLVED

> Ms A Morris has been appointed as a co-opted member of the Board.
>
> The Board agreed that information pertaining to eligibility to join the Board will be included with rate notifications and included on the website.

B.3851 Pay Award Formula recommendation & Pensions

The Chairman and Mr Miscandlon as the Chairman of the Employment Committee reported on the discussions of the employment committee and the recommendations from the Executive Committee for staff pay award for 2024/25, including the discussions regarding the formula as to how any pay award should be calculated. Both Mr Miscandlon and Mr H Whittome explained some of the parameters that were considered. The Chair advised that the principle used to calculate a figure needed to defendable, and the Treasurer advised that it was beneficial for office efficiencies to have an agreed formula in place.

The proposed formula is a 50% inflation rate (CPI + 18%) and 50% Average Wage Earnings (AWE), with AWE being based on public sector and adjusted to exclude public sector bonusses. Mr H Whittome added that RPI is being phased out by the Office of National Statistics so is being removed from our proposed formula, he added that the proposal is to adopt this formula over the next three-year period, with then the inflation rate defaulting to CPI. After some further discussion over the best indices to calculate on, and confirmation that all staff would be above Minimum Living Wage, which was confirmed. The formula for 2024/25 results in an award of 7.53%.

It was proposed by Mr Miscandlon to adopt the formula and this was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

> That a pay formula of 50% inflation rate and 50% AWE (public sector less public sector bonuses) be adopted for the next three years (2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27), equating to a 7.53% award in 2024/25.

B.3852 Strategy and Delivery

The Chief Executive referred the Board to the Annual Report and asked the Commissioners to take as read excepting the topic areas listed on the agenda.

The Chief Executive started with the topic of Health & Safety and reported over recent months that a set of Near Misses and one serious incident has occurred which could have been significantly more serious. He added that this incident is subject to an ongoing investigation further comment cannot be made. However, he added that the likely recommendations reenforce many measures that he and the Chief Engineer had already identified and were being tackled both internally and using Cope Safety Management (the Commissioner's Health and Safety Advisors). The Chief Executive asked for the support of the Board to accelerate this.

Some Board members mentioned that what they deemed minor occurrences should maybe not be reported, but the Chief Engineer highlighted that these were identified as 'near misses' and therefore were important to report and learn from, conditions can change and cause different hazards, and all need to be made aware of this. Mr Miscandlon agreed that a complacent attitude by any operative (MLC or Board) is a hazard and all need to be H&S aware. We need to ask ourselves 'am I being complacent' and we need to check and double check. He fully endorses any measures that would stop anyone getting hurt.

Winter Operations Focus including St Germans pumping trial

The Chief Executive referred to pages 30 & 34 of the Annual Report, and summarised the content. The last winter was very wet and subsequently operationally intense and huge credit is due to the team and Drainage Boards and volunteers around the district. It has been very challenging first winter in his role here.

2023/24 has broken may records for pumping with the largest annual pumped volume by some way. It has tested St Germans the furthest since its construction and we have seen the flaws but also the resilience in our other assets. Bevill's Leam Pumping Station worked equally hard and given its age needed considerable nursing through the winter. This was seen first-hand by Mr S Whittome who visited during the winter. Mr Whittome said he was impressed with how it was being run and the pride the operators had.

However, the winter also highlighted how vulnerable that part of the system is, with peaty banks which are highly attractive to badgers, but also with one pump not working at Bevill's Leam along with a break in. Woodwalton Fen worked in conjunction with Bevill's Leam for a minor amount of flood storage twice – both times for short periods and a limited amount of water but with some success.

Ahead of autumn it had been decided to trial manual intervention at St Germans, and had this not been set this in motion we would have struggled. Manual intervention was critical this winter, not only reducing energy costs and load on the station but reducing the likelihood of a breach in the St German's Pond, and it meant that, unlike previous major flood events, it was not necessary to instruct the Internal Drainage Boards to stop pumping into the Middle Level system. We could get ahead of the curve by creating 'a hole' to receive water in to which was a success. However, there was a human impact in that our Operations Engineer and St Germans key operative could not effectively switch off from work. The implications of manual operation, although making a significant cost saving, was time intensive and the accrued personnel time is unlikely to be recovered. A key benefit of the trial was that because St Germans was manned, it meant that our M&E team could respond to IDB emergency calls that they would not have been otherwise able to respond to.

The experience has been hugely valuable for a variety of reasons, including to inform upcoming major component refurbishment needs and will be important for any operational inter-relationship with the proposed Fens Reservoir.

Given the intensity of the winter the full learning from the trial was not drawn, therefore it is recommended that the trial continues for winter 24/25 in the hope that it is a 'normal' winter.

In 2023/24 we overspent by around £525k on a £3.16m budget but this can mostly be attributed to 'above average' pumping at St Germans and Bevill's Leam. The impact of this will be covered further in the Treasurers report.

Alongside repairs that are needed at St Germans and Bevill's Leam, three major bank slips have been identified that will need to be addressed. There may be more.

The Chief Executive added that this winter has highlighted the vulnerabilities of the system and that he and the Chief Engineer proposed to issue Standing Advice essentially declaring the MLC system as 'at capacity'. The EA, LLFAs and LPAs will need to consider and take account of this with appropriate decision making, especially around development and abstraction.

The Board needs to consider what is a reasonable worst-case scenario to plan for – a breach or major failure would require finance well beyond current reserves and the asset improvement fund.

The wet warm winter has meant we have wet banks, and that we have had to adjust our embankment flail mowing programme including hiring in lighter equipment and starting later in the season than normal which is having lots of impact on the work.

Mr Raby reiterated that parts of the system are at maximum capacity and that planners need to be aware.

Mr S Whittome asked if there would be a limit imposed on IDBs in pumping and was alarmed that the volumes permitted could be capped. The Chief Executive highlighted that the proposed standing advice highlights that increased capacity of IDB pumps can't be guaranteed to be consented and reminded the Board that IDBs cannot take for granted the receiving capacity in the system. He added that IDBs closer to St Germans will have more resilience but when those further away, such as at Bevill's Leam catchment, less so.

Mr J Heading asked that given the capacity in St Germans is 40% more than in 1998, and that IDBs will be replacing pumping stations over the next few years, is there capacity for that? The Chief Executive pointed out that it is not St Germans capacity that's the limiting factor, but the system capacity and the ability to get water to the station.

Mr J Heading then pointed out that there have been improvements since 1998 including better weather forecasting, and asked if we could link into the systems the EA use? The Chief Executive responded that we are using the Met Office Hazard website that the EA also use. Beyond this we only have limited telemetry, much of which is IDB owned rather than Commissioners.

The Chairman stated that some local events have been very localised with big variances across the area. Delivery of the amount of water through rainfall can vary. Mr West added that sewerage discharges are also adding a burden

Mr Raby asked the Chief Engineer when the system is in auto, could new telemetry help such as at Sawtry? The Chief Engineer responded that the Sawtry gauge does not link to St Germans, as the water pumps through Bevills Leam and the next telemetry is at Bodsey, which is key for the operation of St germans. She also added there is a need to look at Bevill's Pond as a whole and in combination with Woodwalton Fen alternative flood storage. She added that the lowland peat agenda plans to bring water in to the system when ideally, we need to take it out, so we need more telemetry and measuring.

Mr Miscandlon advised the Board that the Fenland Adopted Local Plan has been going through an update since 2019. In the current plan there are large land areas being brought forward for development. Developers will not want to pay for development. We need to make representation to Fenland District Council in a forceful manner. The Local Plan is coming to the end of consultation and can be viewed on the Fenland District Council website.

The Chief Executive advised that all of these items are what the standing advice is there to cover. We cannot veto development, but we can raise awareness the impact if the development goes ahead and this is what we need to highlight. He asked what worst-case scenario are we planning for? Looking outside of the Middle Level, breaches have occurred this winter and at a likely cost of tens of millions to address. He added that here in the Middle Level we could have more widespread issues with even larger costs.

The Chairman added he just wanted people to think about their impact on our system, and that they can't just keep delivering water from developments and expecting us to cope.

Ms Lloyd reminded the Board that Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act is in review and has still to come through but developers will need to be aware of it and work within the provisions of the Act once is has been enacted.

Mr Lensen asked where had there been concern over a breach? The Chief Executive advised that there was no specific concern of any breach this winter, due to effective management but one breach could have a 'house of cards' effect, which would likely result in the need to stop all IDB pumping.

<u>Capital Projects update</u>

The Chief Engineer referred the Board to her report (pg 28) and presented the Board with an update on various Capital projects.

The Chief Engineer gave a reminder of what had been covered previously regarding the Bank Raising Scheme, that this is a large and complex capital scheme and that we need to ensure compliance. This takes lots of planning and design activity before works can commence. The Chief Engineer drew attention to the table in her report comparing the scale of the project to the recent, and very similar, Environment Agency Ouse Washes Middle Leve Barrier Bank scheme. She added that we now have the contractor and design team on-board with surveys and assessments underway and we are awaiting a delivery plan and scheme cost appraisal. The costs and benefits will update the economics from the outline business case as we develop the full business case, including a submission to the Environment Agency to update our FCERM grant approval.

She added that within the current indicative programme, the aim to start desilting works on the Main Drain later this year, although no works have been instructed as yet. It is intended to take Main Drain bank lots back by ceasing tenancy and maintaining control over 20m strip in order to place arisings from desilting and as environmental mitigation for the scheme.

Some public drop-in sessions are being held – the first is 25 April at March Library. This is to inform local communities what MLC do generally and provide a lead in to the bank raising works. A further event will be held at Ramsey Forty Foot on 7th May.

The wet winter has helped with understanding of our assets and vulnerabilities. We managed well but a repeat winter may not be so successful. Breakdowns were successfully resolved at Bevill's Leam and St German's Pumping Stations. Within its original business case, St German's first major refurbishment was due in 2028. The cost and scope of necessary refurbishment works now needs consideration.

Bevill's Leam pumping station also needs works and we urgently need to look at Grant Aided opportunities and what works are needed. A catchment study is in the programme to start this year. The catchment needs interim measures to manage water and flood storage sites, and we also need to consider smaller interim projects that may compliment weed and growth and vegetation projects.

Other projects in the Bevill's catchment include Lowland Agricultural Peat Small Infrastructure Pilot (LAPSIP), otherwise known as Horsey Toll Sluice Replacement and Lowland Agricultural Peat Water Discovery Pilot (Pig Water Catchment Study) which we are delivering on behalf of Fenland Soil. There is a need to balance water and peat management with increasing development pressures such as at Yaxley/Great Haddon. We need to remind planners and developers of the importance of retaining of river corridors and access for maintenance.

The Chief Engineer asked the Board to consider other provisions to protect maintenance strips, such as opportunities to purchase land and think about how we may weave this into current projects.

She added that the additional repair work required due to the wet winter may still qualify for additional funding from the IDB recovery fund, and works to progress this bid continue.

Mr Raby stated that an alternate flood area would be of benefit but we are facing pollution problems and an alternative storage area does not address this. A good flood would dissipate a lot of issues. The Chief Engineer responded that how we use storage and water quality are important and are included in the Alternative Storage Study, and added that the Woodwalton Fen flood storage agreement takes us to 2050.

Mr M Heading advised that the RFCC is concerned about funding, and asked if the EA was aware of latest with the Bank Raising Scheme. The Chief Engineer advised that there are regular updates to EA and regular meetings. Once we have a developed delivery plan and updated scheme cost assessment, a Project Board meeting will be called in June which, includes the EA's Flood Risk Manager.

Mr Heading considered that this is the largest project the EA has locally at present. The Chief Engineer advised that £23million of grant funding has been approved. However, the Board need to appreciate that additional funding is not guaranteed. The Chief Executive advised that there will soon be a better indication of the Bank Raising Scheme costs and associated grant eligibility. He added that grant availability is a risk along with eligibility.

Mr Lensen asked if the Bank Raising Scheme was to extend capacity or just to maintain capacity. The Chief Engineer advised that the scheme is sustaining standards of service, so would be putting back on a level of freeboard lost due to settlement over time. Mr Lensen asked why futureproofing was not within the scope and was advised by the Chief Executive that the scheme is buying 15 years of service whilst the strategic approach is assessed via the Fens 2100+ work led by the Environment Agency. He added that the scheme ought to be considered a 'resetting' of the banks rather than raising.

Mr Lensen enquired as to how long the scheme had been delayed. The Chairman advised that the original plan was overly ambitious in hindsight and with the new Chief Executive and Chief Engineer reviewing the scheme some significant deficiencies within the outline business case were identified. Mr S Whittome questioned the level of spending on works through Blue Compass that he thought would be dealt with in house, but the Chief Engineer advised that these are for Project Management, Contract Management and Engagement services, which are essential for this type and scale of project. Internal teams don't have the capacity to deliver this.

Mr J Heading asked if the scheme may need to be funded in part through the MLC's own funding moving forward. The Chief Executive advised that if grant funding eligibility and availability does not cover scheme costs, then MLC may need to fund and a further discussion will need to be had, especially as our reserves and asset improvement funds are limited.

Fens Reservoir

The Chief Executive referred the Board we referred to Page 26 of the Annual Report and highlighted that Anglian Water's next public consultation will open in late May/early June. It is not yet known how much information this will provide, but we hope it will outline how the reservoir will integrate within the Middle Level system and how core our system will be to the success of the reservoir.

The Chief Executive added that there is now a cost recovery arrangement in place with Anglian Water to cover staff time inputting on certain aspects of the reservoir project and that we would need to consider with Anglian Water funding additional MLC staff capacity to enable the project over the coming 15 years. He outlined that we would need specialist legal support to develop suitable agreements with Anglian Water and initial scoping of this was happening soon.

Environment Committee Recommendations

The Board were referred to page 12 of the Annual Report. The Ecology & Environmental Services Manager reported that Natural England had approved the closure of 2 badger setts, and this was undertaken successfully using internal resources. She highlighted that although this saved tens of thousands of pounds, it required a great deal of work. It has to be proven that there is no clear activity in a sett over 28 days and if there is activity the 28-day count restarts. We have more setts we need to close in 2024/25, and there is a particular sett in Pondersbridge which is of concern. The wet weather has promoted more activity in setts with more digging. We will try to manage in house but this will be a challenge.

As part of sett closure, we have to provide an artificial sett for the badgers to move to but as we do not own much land, negotiations with landowners will add time and cost. The Chairman pointed out that badgers are probably the most protected animal in the British Isles, and Ms Lloyd advised this is due to them being protected from persecution, and not because they are low in number.

She went on to explain that displacement can only be undertaken at certain times of the year, and after July. But the 'Reasons of Overriding Public Interest' clause can help but we would need to prove risk of life to get the license to close the sett outside of the usual season (which is during July to the end of November).

The National License for IDBs allows routine maintenance around badger setts that would usually be classed as illegal operations. There are however, regional variations in Natural England's approach to what is acceptable and some Boards elsewhere in the country have received letters from Natural England advising that they have undertaken illegal activity which Boards thought was allowable. Subsequently until the conditions are clarified with Natural England, we are unable to roll-out training and license administration to the IDBs we administer. The interim guidance to our IDBs is to observe a 30m stand-off area around all badger setts unless work is essential. If this is not possible, Boards are advised to contact the Ecology & Environmental Services Manager for further advice.

MLC have been asked to join with other IDBs in securing legal advice to address this issue with Natural England. Mr Lensen asked if badgers have to be displaced locally? Ms Lloyd confirmed that they have to move within their own territory. Badger culls are not permitted in this area as they tend to be in areas where cattle farming is common due to the TB risks. The Chairman reminded the Board that the Ecology & Environmental Services Manager's role is to help keep the Commissioners the right side of Environmental Law and or obligations.

The Ecology & Environmental Services Manager reported on other key points from the Environment Committee:

There is an ongoing review of the Operations Manual which was previously environmentally focused but has been refreshed and expanded and does not purely cover environmental issues. It now includes access details, gates codes, power line locations etc. We are not 'gold plating' our approaches but focussed first on minimum compliance before any steps beyond this towards enhancement.

The St Germans Eel Pass refurbishment is underway and the new chamber is under construction off site by ACE. There is no other eel pass like St Germans and there has been lots of interest from National experts and the EA on this project.

The wet year has meant that we have not been able to carry out our standard maintenance approach to start grass cutting early due to the need to maintain a safe working environment. Grass cutting usually starts around February to avoid ground nesting birds but this year this has not been possible. This has resulted in less flail mowing to avoid nesting birds, but also the need to consider the plant used on water logged banks.

Mr H Whittome had been advised that weed in Bevill's Pond had caused issues, and asked if fringe cutting in Bevill's Leam was needed. Ms Lloyd advised that a number of factors had contributed, including more weed than usual, and wet and hot conditions with high rainfall at the wrong times. At present it is not prudent to significantly reduce the vegetation in channel margins but this is something that will be monitored. There are now improved resources at Bevills Leam in case this happens again. Instream vegetation is more of a problem for weed boats to tackle. Mr H Whittome asked if Ms Lloyd is anticipating more weed growth this spring/summer, to which she advised that water temperature, flow and nutrients in water all affect what is growing so at this time it is not possible to tell. The Chief Engineer concluded that these challenges coupled with high rainfall and limited resources for cutting could severely impact Bevill's weed screen, and that damage to the screen would prevent pumping. She advised that the Board could expect more issues with the effects of climate change.

Future IDB governance within the Middle Level and MLC Service Provision for IDBs

The Chief Executive referred the Board to the Annual Report pages 7 and 24. He added that following on from the Board conversation on future IDB Governance at the November meeting, a positive session was held in February 2024. The fear is that the financial impact of this winter accelerates the need for change once the impacts across IDBs are fully understood. To develop a blueprint for the future will need resourcing as the Chief Executive cannot drive this forward at any pace with other commitments already in place. It will also require data and inputs knowledge from the wider team.

In terms of MLC services to local IDBs, he added that at present the intention to develop a clearer and up-to-date service catalogue with associated fee arrangements has been delayed by the impact of the wet winter, which has set us back from where we'd like to be. He then summarised his current assessment of our service provision:

In terms of capital works, we continue to scale up our capacity to take on capital works in a challenging recruitment market. It will take a while for the benefits to be seen once people are in post.

Planning and Consenting is a key service we offer but this is currently considered as failing as a service with a significant number of complaints being received. Some improvements have been conceived and some set-in motion, but even if we had greater capacity and fully efficient there will still be a demand greater than capacity given the scale of growth being experienced locally. The Standing Advice approach will help in time for new applications, but there will still be a backlog.

Our M&E service is really well regarded but spread too thin despite the hard work of Dave Bantoft and the team, and the positive feedback from the IDBs, but there is an issue and it is impacting MLC responsibilities and risks.

Operations provide a good service and Morgan Lakey in particular is well regarded by IDBs, but we have potentially drifted into providing a wider range of services than initially intended, potentially magnifying a weakness in the planning and H&S management of MLC's operational delivery.

Environmentally we are at the start of a journey from a somewhat passive and limited previous commitment. It will inevitably cost IDBs more and mean that arrangements between ourselves and IDBs will need to be more contractually and legally bound to protect MLC, staff and the IDB.

Finance is a small team but massively stretched and are quietly in crisis. The team is working longer hours than they should to keep up with everything that is asked for them and this needs to be addressed. Our wider Clerking is borderline in terms of service provision, but influenced by all of the above.

He summarised by saying that overall, it feels like we have the capacity in the organisation to deliver a decent service to MLC to manage their responsibilities and risks. Ongoing recruitment and improvements will help but are not a silver bullet and we also need to consider cutting our cloth and consolidating who we offer what services to, potentially giving notice to some IDBs or giving early warning that this is a possibility. He asked whether it is possible that through the Executive Committee we look to consolidate what services we offer and to whom and asked how the Board feels about service consolidation?

Mr Boughton asked if IDBs discharging into the system have standards of a type to match those of the Middle Level. The Chief Executive advised that new service provisions would aim to bring their standards up and improve standardisation. He advised the M&E teams are already going to pumping stations and assets that others may not attend. Mr Boughton suggested we could impose differential charging, and charge more for maintaining older equipment that needed renewal.

Ms Morris referred to the statement that there was a shortage of staff in every sector, and asked if there were a pool of potential candidates to recruit from. The Chief Executive highlighted that the recent recruitment to the Head of Technical Services vacancy confirmed a narrow pool of candidates and that, unfortunately, the successful candidate did not stay in post long. The Fens Reservoir project is the justification to enhance that role but there is a greater expectation of experience from the candidates and so a real challenge in recruitment. Ms Morris observed that we are using external providers because we cannot recruit, and the Chief Executive advised that the problem is not just about budget but also ensuring we secure the right staff. Part of the challenge is making sure we are visible to prospective staff and attracting candidates to aspire to work here. Having a better website and social media presence has helped.

A discussion was held around the recruitment of University Graduates but concluded that is not the type of resourcing we really need at this time and haven't the capacity to arrange and supervise. The Chief Executive then asked how comfortable the Board are with 'cutting cloth' and reducing who we offer services to. For example, do we say to Boards that we do not administer that we are unable to offer them our technical services? Do we reconsider Boards that have no hydraulic connection with the Middle Level? It was generally agreed that there was consolidation needed and that the Executive Committee would consider this item developing messaging for existing customers of our services.

The Chairman advised that a focus group (although yet to meet) will be taking forward ideas/strategies for the future of Middle Level IDB governance. The group will reconvene in the coming months and will report back to Board.

<u>Q&A from Members on other topics within the report</u>
The Chair invited any further questions from Annual Report

<u>RESOLVED</u>

That the resolutions listed in the Annual Report are supported by the Board, these are as follows:

A Acknowledge that to move any case for change forward with any pace, a funding provision will likely be required (Future of Middle Level IDB governance).

B Delegate the decision making on letting of our land, including Main Drain bank lots and fishing rights, across our watercourses to the Chief Executive and Chief Engineer. Noting that the intention is to bring the bank lots back in hand as soon as practical.

C Support engaging property management specialists within the management of property and tenancies at 31 and 33 Sluice Road.

D Support the position that there be no unaccompanied visits to St Germans pumping station. With any request by ratepayers and MLC Board Members to be made at least 3 weeks in advance to the Chief Executive or Chief Engineer and only supported if there is staff capacity to facilitate with appropriate security and Health and Safety considerations.

E Approve that any fees charged for the consenting of works that are purely for environmental benefit are redirected into the MLC biodiversity budget. Definitions will be developed to identify such consents.

F Support that any MLC staff who wish to be involved in the mink control project, be allowed to do so in work time where impacts to business are negligible.

G Note the findings of the Ecology & Environment process review and latest position.

H Review and support the update to the boat removal protocol. The document will then be shared externally for 4-weeks consultation. The Board is then asked to agree to the Chief Executive finalising and publishing a final version having considered any comments that come forward.

I Support the development of a case to Anglian Water to fund additional permanent staff to be focussed on the Fens Reservoir development, delivery and future operational interactions with the MLC system.

J Support extending the pumping trial through to the end of the next pumping season.

K Review and support the Standing Advice note focussed on MLC system capacity and support the development and issuing of further notes at the discretion of the Chief Engineer and Chief Executive.

L Consider the development of a strategy to protect a wider river corridor, possibly through land purchase (as along the Main Drain), which can be put into action as opportunities arise and funding becomes available.

M Approve the proposed plant replacement budget shown in Appendix 5.

B.3853 Finance and Governance

The Treasurer referred the Board to his Report and asked the Commissioners to take as read excepting the items listed on the Agenda.

He reported that the Board's previous Risk Management Strategy needed updating and a new proportionate and deliverable strategy has been developed by the Chief Executive and was supported by the Executive Committee. The Board are asked to adopt the document.

The Financial Regulations and Codes are also due for review. The Board are asked to agree to continue with current documents for the next year, to allow for a full review of the Regulations to be carried out.

When reviewing the confidential items, Mr Lensen asked if there were any level protection for developers' contributions. The Chief Executive advised that the Developers Contributions receive are where we agree with developer to accept a greater flow than the greenfield runoff rate. In general, the contribution does not cover the costs of dealing with the additional flows.

Mr Lensen also asked about the non-management of attenuation. The Chief Executive agreed that we need to highlight this issue, and that planning authorities should be ascertaining sufficient funding to cover maintenance costs and system upgrade costs and this was a key aspect within the Standing Advice discussed earlier. The Chief Engineer suggested that a commuted sum and control of drainage assets could be an option, but that SuDS adoption boards should help when these come into effect.

RESOLVED

i) The Board approved adoption of the updated Risk Management Strategy.

ii) That the Board's current Finance regulations and Finance Code Policy be approved for a further year and the Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer be authorised to carry out a full review of both and report at next year's meeting.

iii) That the Board approve their current system of internal controls.

iv) That the Board approve their current risk management policy and procedures and insured value of properties.

v) The Board approved the recommendation of the Executive Committee to utilise the remaining balance in the property fund towards improvement works at the Commissioners' properties. The Board approved the use of these balances for the works carried out in 2023/24 and for the proposed works in 2024/25.

vi) The Board approved the continuation of the navigation split.

vii) The Board reviewed and approved the determinations and rate arrears

viii) The Treasurer referred to the completed IDB1 form for 2022/2023 which the Board noted and approved.

B.3854 Finance - Looking Back – 2023/24

The Treasurer summarised the year end position highlighting that when the 2023/24 30.5p rate was set they were based on an average year for pumping volumes. The extreme wet weather experienced has resulted in the greatest volumes ever pumped and therefore an overspend of £524,910 on the £3,160,326 budget. The Chief Executive outlined that the overspend would be greater without St Germans manual intervention.

He reminded the Board that during the year the Public Works Loan for the offices and depot have been repaid (see Treasurers Report pages 13-18). Mr Lensen asked where the funding had come from to repay the loan, and was advised that this was from the sale of property including old depot and offices. The Chairman advised that it was always the intention to use these assets to pay off the loan.

The Treasurer reported that full payment of Highland Water claims had been received and that given greater financial flexibility for the Environment Agency to move capital monies to revenue then the likelihood of not receiving full payment in future has reduced, but there still remains a risk.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions with the financial statements and if all were comfortable with the report. All agreed.

Mr Lensen asked how much funding will come from the Government recovery fund of £75m for IDBs recently announced by the Prime Minister. The Government have earmarked £75m for IDBs and that Ms Morris has facilitated meetings with Steven Barclay recently, and there are indications this money is available this financial year only. Ms Morris recommended that the Board be prepared to put forward a strong case. We need to provide evidence of what work we need any why.

The Chief Executive advised that the drainage rate decision for next year must work on the assumption that there will be no additional funding this year, as we have no certainty about funding eligibility criteria and availability of funding.

Mr H Whittome summarised from the session with Steve Barclay that he understood that £20m will be allocated to storm recovery, and £55m for infrastructure improvements. Ms Morris thought we could be reasonably confident of funding but it is essential that we are in the mix. She felt that this would progress quickly as Steve Barclay wants to get things done. The Chief Executive was confident that whatever the storm fund is we should be able to make a good case. Mr H Whittome asked if there was capacity in finance department to do this, or if we need to consider bring help in. The Treasurer felt that initially the applications would be fairly straight forward, but that putting the detail into the proposals could be challenging. Mr H Whittome asked if there were any engineering capacity in Boards, and Mr A Miscandlon thought that resources needed to be put into place now. Mr H Whittome suggested that an agenda item be included in the next IDB board meetings. The Chief Executive pointed out that if we have to deliver works, for example pump overhauls in this financial year, realistically we only have between May and September to do this, and the specialist supply chain may not have capacity to work within those time constraints as they are likely already committed.

In response to Ms Morris, the Chief Executive confirmed that we will do what we need to do to get bids included in the scheme for the Commissioners and IDBs. However, we must be wary that a change in government could be a risk especially if we have entered into contractual agreements.

Ms Morris enquired if there was a procedure by which we could set rate as if no additional funding, followed by credit if additional funding were secured. The Treasurer advised that the Board have to set the rate based on the information available and do not have an option to revise at a later date. He added that the rates are required to be set, sealed with notices issued within 10 days of the meeting.

RESOLVED

i) The Board approved the payments and miscellaneous receipts as presented.

ii) The Board supported the continuation of their membership of ADA and the contribution towards the ADA role on Water Resources East.

iii) The Board approved the probable out-turn figures for the year-ended 31st March 2024

B.3855 Finance - Looking Forward – 2024/25

In terms of the estimated budget for 2024/25, the Treasurer referred to the standard elements listed on pages 4&5 and highlighted that these have been recommended by the Executive Committee. There were also new provisions recommended for Fens Reservoir consultancy and enforcement.

He highlighted that the key decisions for next year were focussed on pumping costs, pumping volumes, highland water and reinstatement of balances. He advised that these had all been debated in depth at the Executive Committee and their recommendations reflected within his report.

The budget estimate therefore includes provision for full receipt of Highland Water claims; assumes an as yet unknown new electricity contract rate from 1st October 2024 of circa 50% of the current rates; based on a 125% of the new five-year average pumped volume; reinstating reserve levels to 2023/24 levels over a three-year period.

The Chairman felt it important that we keep reasonable level of financial resilience, and that he would not want services to dwindle but to be reasonable to ratepayers.

The Treasurer referred the Board to page 6 of his report and the recommendations of the Executive Committee. He advised that throughout the meeting there have been discussions on various items such as refurbishments, pumping, replacements, environmental compliance, staff resources. He added that the starting point of the Executive Committee debate on the rate to set was 37.5p.

The Chairman advised that the Executive Committee took the decision based on a reduction in electricity costs and more acceptable pumping season – with a more normal season felt 5-year average plus 25% would get in region of 33p. He added that he thought this budget and rate 'gets us by' but there will be challenging decisions ahead.

Mr J Heading felt it was a modest increase in the circumstances, and that there was an arguable case to make higher but happy to propose a rate of 33p.

The Chairman advised the Board that he wanted to give an opportunity to discuss. He went on to say that the Executive Committee are comfortable but is a 'treading water' figure.

Mr H Whittome felt that it was quite a conservative figure, and that spreading the recovery of reserves over 3 years gave a pragmatic and justifiable figure. If it were higher, it would be questioned; if lower would give less financial security. Mr Lensen stated that he had asked last year if there were any efficiency savings to be had rather than increasing staff capacity. The Chief Executive advised that the new staff capacity previously approved would enable more attention to grant funding and capital works, which although could be seen as front loading, would ultimately pay off by driving works and bringing in income.

The Chairman agreed that this was a valid point, but recognised that current staffing is already stretched.

A rate of 33p on Agricultural land and buildings together with corresponding special levies was proposed by Mr J Heading and seconded by Ms Morris and this was carried unanimously.

The Treasurer confirmed that the Executive Committee did spend a lot of time going through the detail, and the Chairman added that the rate was based around costs of electricity and engineering.

A rate of 33p on Agricultural land and buildings together with corresponding special levies was proposed by Mr J Heading and seconded by Ms Morris and this was carried unanimously.

The Treasurer concluded by advising that he is going to revise the models he uses and asked if there is anything the board would like to see. The Chief Executive also added that if there are any changes to paperwork the Board would like to see he would be pleased if they could advise.

The Chairman thanked the Treasurer.

RESOLVED

i) That the resolutions concerning the recommendations of the Executive Committee listed in the Treasurers Report are supported and approved by the Board

ii) The Board considered estimates of expenditure and proposals for special levy and drainage rates in respect of the financial year 2024/2025 and were informed by the Treasurer 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 64.90% and 35.10%.

iii) That the following recommendations be submitted to the Commissioners, viz:-

a) That the estimates be approved.

b) That a total sum of £3,392,790 be raised by drainage rates and special levy.

c) That the amounts comprised in the sum referred to in b) above to be raised by drainage rates and to be met by special levy are £2,201,780 and £1,191,010 respectively.

d) That a rate of 33.00p in the £ be recommended to the Commissioners and assessed on Agricultural hereditaments in the District.

e) That Special levies totalling £1,191,010 be made and issued as follows for the purpose of meeting such expenditure if the rate was approved, viz:-

£656,294 to Fenland District Council

£269,191 to Huntingdonshire District Council

£265,525 to the Borough Council of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk

B.3856 Miscellaneous Items

Complaints

The Chief Executive advised that there was not time to go through all complaints received individually. He summarised that there are a steady stream of complaints being received from developers, some of which are posturing legal action. He added that this topic was covered earlier within our review of service provision.

He added that the other main customer group with complaints were from boaters. The Chief Executive advised the Board that boaters complaints are increasing as there is significant angst due to the siltation issues in the tidal river and extended strong-stream on the Nene. Even though this is an Environment Agency navigation issue he suspects this will have a negative impact on our license income and resourcing.

B.3857 Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 26th June 2024 for a short meeting to follow the Executive Committee to review and approve the accounts and AGAR.

The next full Board meeting is on Thursday 7th November 2024.

B.3858 Any other business

Mr S Whittome raised at the last meeting that a consideration should be made of extending time allowed for meeting. The Chairman confirmed that the process of items being taken as read, and the adoption of a summary of resolutions has been undertaken, and Mr S Whittome agreed it has helped.

The Chief Executive raised that the Executive Committee did not discuss the reinstatement of the June annual visits/inspections which haven't taken place since before COVID, with business being dealt with whilst on the inspection, and proposed reinstating these meetings. Mr H Whittome agreed that the inspections were particularly useful for newer Board members and it was agreed to reinstate them from June 2025.

The meeting closed at 12.50pm

MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS

At a Meeting of the Middle Level Board hosted at the Middle Level Offices
March on Wednesday 26th June 2024

PRESENT

J L Brown Esq (Chairman)
H W Whittome Esq (Vice Chairman)
P Allpress Esq
M E Heading Esq
A Miscandlon Esq

Mr Paul Burrows (Chief Executive), Mrs Nicola Oldfield (Chief Engineer) and Mr Robert Hill (Treasurer) were in attendance.

Welcome and Apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed members to todays meeting of the Board. He reminded members that the purpose of the meeting was to review and approve the Annual Accounting Statements.

Apologies for absence were received from The Lord De Ramsey, C Crofts Esq, A Lensen Esq, S Raby Esq, and P West Esq.

The Treasurer reported that the financial report for the accounts and annual return for the financial year ended 31st March 2024 had been sent to all members and there had not been any comments received concerning the accounting statements.

B.3859 Annual Governance Statement – 2023-2024

The Bard reviewed the Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31st March 2024 and their responsibility to ensure there was a sound system of internal control, including the preparation of the accounting statements.

The Treasurer referred to the previous audit reports, which had been discussed at previous meetings, and the review of internal controls and risk management which had been carried out and confirmed that all notices concerning the exercise of public rights had been advertised as required.

The Chief Executive confirmed that there were no potential litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions occurring that have a financial impact on the authority.

RESOLVED

> That the Chairman be authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement on behalf of the board, for the financial year ending 31st March 2024.

B.3860 Annual Accounts for the Financial Year 2023/2024

The Board considered the annual accounts for the financial year ended 31st March 2024.

The Treasurer reported the out-turn as reported in the accounts was inline with the figures reviewed at the April Board meeting and referred to the variance report and detailed the difference between the year-end accounts and forecast provided at the April Board meeting.

The Treasurer referred to the requirements of the 2018 Navigation Act and to the Navigation Account for which, for 2023/2024, there was £216,991.68income received, which after deducting the 25% for the installation of facilities (as required by the House of Lord's undertaking), the direct costs for Waterways Management and this allocated British Canoeing finding gave a surplus for the year of £80,854.44. Against this expenditure of £111,883.32 for improvements to structures and watercourses has been off-det leading to a deficit for the year of £31,298.88. He also referred to the costs for the operation of the locks of £106,202.19.

The Treasurer referred to the valuation of assets shown in the management accounts and the Annual Return and members reviewed and approved the budget monitoring, variance report, bank reconciliations and the reconciliation between the management accounts and the Annual Return.

The Treasurer reported that the Commissioners internal auditors #had carried out interim audit works through-out the year, and had reviewed the Management Accounts and Annual Return and confirmed their approval of the Annual Return.

RESOLVED

> That the Annual Accounts and Navigation Accounts fir the year ended 31st March 2024 be approved and the chairman be authorised to sign the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2024.

B.3861 Date of next Meeting

The Treasurer reminded Members that the next meeting of the Board and of the Commissioners will be held on Thursday 7th November 2024.

Provided by the Middle Level Commissioners		Item No:	4
Meeting:	**MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS**	**Subject:**	**CONSTITUTION & MEMBERSHIP**
Date:	**Thursday 7th November 2024**	**Officer Responsible:**	**Polly Tombleson**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board is asked to:

A. Appreciation of Commissioners regarding recent notifications from Board members
B. Note the current status of its membership and the role they each play as members serving the interests of the Board.
C. Review attendance records and identify any resolutions as necessary.
D. Determine whether there are composition changes and/or amalgamations it wishes to progress.
E. Reinforce the need for members to view all five 'Good Governance' videos.
F. Identify any topic areas for additional training, as well as any inspection/site visit requirements.

1. Current status

1.1 The table below outline the current composition of the Board and the quorum as detailed in the standing orders.

	Elected Members	Appointed Members	Total Members	Quorum
Composition	15	N/A		5
Actual	15	2 FDC, 1 KLWN, 1 HDC	19	
Vacancies	0			

1.2 The table below details the current elected members of the Board:
There are currently **0** vacancies
There will be vacancy after this November 2024 meeting due to the resignation of Mr John Heading.
There have also been other members expressing their intention to resign from the Commissioners, however they have yet to submit their formal resignation.

No	Name	Status (one of four categories)	Commentary
1	Patrick Allpress	Landowner/ratepayer	
2	Duncan Boughton	Landowner/ratepayer	
3	Jonathan Brown	Landowner/ratepayer	Chairman
4	Robert Brown	Landowner/ratepayer	
5	Lord De Ramsey	Landowner/ratepayer	
6	John Heading	Landowner/ratepayer	
7	Marc Heading	Landowner/ratepayer	
8	Dr Derek Langslow	Representative of Wildlife Trust	
9	Mathew Latta	Landowner/ratepayer	
10	Andrew Lensen	Representative of A G Reserves	
11	Samual Raby	Landowner/ratepayer	
12	Paul West	Landowner/ratepayer	
13	Hugh Whittome	Landowner/ratepayer	Vice-Chair
14	Stephen Whittome	Landowner/ratepayer	
15	Alison Morris	Landowner/ratepayer	

1.3 The table below details the current appointed members of the Board.

No	Name	Appointing Council as at July 2023	Commentary (one of three categories)
1	Sally Howell	HDC	Councillor
2	Chris Crofts	BCKLWN	Councillor
3	Dee Laws	FDC	Councillor
4	Alex Miscandlon	FDC	Councillor

1.4 Special levy paying District Councils appoint members to Boards and their role is to be part of the Board representing all the non-agricultural interests within the Board's district. The Council must consider appointing members who have relevant knowledge or experience that is relevant to the Board and its district.

1.5 Appointed members do not need to be councillors or employees of the Council, therefore can represent wider relevant interests within the district, eg major infrastructure, commerce, community groups, environmental interests.

1.6 All Members are reminded that have equal status to each-other around the Board table and are here to serve the interests of the Board.

2. Attendance

2.1 The table below outlines the attendance record for the last four meetings of the Board.

Elected Members

No	Name	26/6/2024	24/4/2024	2/11/2023	27/4/2023
1	Patrick Allpress	Present	Present	Present	Present
2	Charles Boughton	Apologies	Present	Present	apologies
3	Jonathan Brown	Present	Present	Present	Present
4	Robert Brown		Present	Apologies	Apologies
5	Lord De Ramsey	Apologies	Apologies	Present	Apologies
6	John Heading		Present	Present	Present
7	Marc Heading	Present	Present	Present	Apologies
8	Dr Derek Langslow		Apologies	Present	-
9	Mathew Latta		Apologies	Present	Apologies
10	Andrew Lensen	Apologies	Present	Present	Present
11	Samuel Raby	Apologies	Present	Present	Present
12	Paul West	Apologies	Present	Present	Present
13	Hugh Whittome	Present	Present	Present	Present
14	Stephen Whittome		Present	Present	Present
15	Alison Morris		Present	-	-

Appointed Members (current and previous)

No	Name (Council)	26/6/2024	24/4/2024	2/11/2023	27/4/2023
1	Chris Crofts BCKLWN	Apologies	Apologies	Present	Present
2	Dee Laws FDC		Apologies	Apologies	Apologies
3	Alex Miscandlon FDC	Present	Present	Present	Present
4	Sally Howell HDC		Present	Present	Present

3. Elections, vacancies & appointments

3.1 Current vacancies – Oct 2024 – **0**

3.2 Further to discussions at the April 2024 meeting of the Board, the Chairman to report on notifications received concerning members standing down from membership of the Board at the conclusion of the meeting.

4. Composition and amalgamations

4.1 The Board is encouraged to continually monitor and review its membership, financial and climate resilience, along with assessing its influence locally, regionally and nationally. These are all factors that may lead the Board to consider changing its composition and/or amalgamation with (an)other Board(s).

4.2 Amalgamations and composition changes are not swift processes and can take a number of years. They require planning and additional/specialist resourcing by the MLC as your clerk, Environment Agency and Defra. Therefore, the Board is encouraged to think ahead five to ten years in its decision making, thinking about the next generation.

5. Training

5.1 All Members are asked to digest the Good Governance Guide for Internal Drainage Boards published by the Association of Drainage Authorities and view the five accompanying videos intended to bring the guide to life. They are available via https://middlelevel.gov.uk/about/idb-governance/

5.2 To date 0 of 10 Board Members have reported viewing all five videos.
To date 12 of 14 Board members have reported viewing 2 of the five videos

5.3 Members are asked to identify any topics areas they would value further training on as well as any site inspections that would help them undertake their role on the Board more effectively.

5.4 Member training is reported to Defra as part of the annual IDB1 return.

Author Name: Polly Tombleson
Role: Senior Business Support Officer

Proudly managing water levels in the Fens since 1862

For: Middle Level Board & Commissioners

Chair and Vice Chair renumeration

The Board are asked to consider and determine whether to recommend to the Commissioners that they agree in principle to seek, either;

i) a Ministerial order to enable payment for the position of MLC Chair and/or
ii) payment of expenses (including for time away from employment) for the MLC Chair and Vice Chair roles.

If the Board make a recommendation to the Commissioners and the Commissioners agree, then a proposal will be developed for review and approval at the April 2025 meeting. At this stage seeking a Ministerial Order is considered too complex given the clauses within the Middle Level Act, therefore an expenses approach is the most likely option that will be developed.

The Commissioners are asked to review and approve any recommendation made by the MLC Board.

Case
The MLC Commissioners appoint a Chair and Vice Chair. The role, responsibilities and associated time commitments on Commissioners who put themselves forward for these roles have increased over the years as the MLC has evolved.

The challenges, reform agenda, expectations and opportunities ahead are arguably far greater than those faced in the past and therefore it seems sensible to review the Commissioners' approach to payments and expenses.

Legislation
Whilst the founding premise underpinning Internal Drainage Board governance is that members are volunteers the Land Drainage Act 1991 (Schedule 2) does allow for:

Payment of the IDB Chairman
The relevant Minister may, if he thinks fit, by order authorise an internal drainage board to pay to the chairman of the board, for the purpose of enabling him to meet the expenses of his office, such allowance as may be specified in the order.

The process for enacting the above is seemingly straightforward, in that if an IDB wants to pay a Chair then the minutes of the resolution are sufficient for Defra to then prepare a Ministerial Order. If the payment is reasonable there should be no issues.

However, part of Section 7 of the 1810 Middle Level Act disqualifies any person holding a place of profit from the Commissioners from being a Commissioner. Although parts of this section were repealed, Section 53 1862 Act, schedule 6, the part concerning disqualifying a person holding a place of profit from acting as a Commissioner was not.

Therefore, under the Acts, if the Commissioners were to pay the chairman for duties as chairman, he would be disqualified as a Commissioner and therefore could not be appointed as chairman.

We are awaiting advice from Defra whether they would be comfortable in preparing a Ministerial Order that needed to over-write or repeal parts of our primary legislation. This may present a risk to the Commissioners anyway which discounts payment as an option we progress.

The Middle Level Act 1810 (13) specifies that the Commissioners must bear their own expenses for any meetings held under the authority of the Act. This was seemingly effectively repealed within the Middle Level Act 1848 (90) which states that payment of reasonable expenses of any committee under this and preceding Acts is allowed. This clause provides for greater flexibility than Schedule 2 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 that covers member expenses.

Local benchmarking

The Anglian (Great Ouse) Regional Flood & Coastal Committee Chair role has a salary of £18,927 (as of Jan 2024) for 5 days per month commitment (equating to £315 per day). This role has significantly less accountability than being Chairman of the MLC.

The IDBs within the Water Management Alliance, including our neighbour King's Lynn IDB, have a ministerial order from Defra secured in 2007 under Schedule 2 (S1) of the LDA 1991, to pay the Chairman an allowance of £10,000 per annum. This sets the maximum level of allowance.

The IDBs within the WMA currently pay up to £3,500 allowance per annum with a time commitment estimated as one day per month (equating to £290 per day). Each Chairman can decide not to take this allowance or receive a lesser amount.

To enact the above King's Lynn IDB have a Chairman's Allowance & Members Expenses Policy and a published document that divides responsibilities between the Chairman and Chief Executive.

Paul Burrows
Chief Executive, Middle Level Commissioners
chiefofficers@middlelevel.gov.uk
7 November 2024

Appendix 1

MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS

Payments April 2024 to September 2024

Allertons Auto Electrical & Diesel	429.16
Antifriction Components Ltd	49.39
Aquatic Control Engineering Ltd	3,000.00
3B design & Print Ltd	711.60
Beebys Ltd	1,461.27
L Bennett & Son Ltd	591.62
B J Plant Hire Ltd	40,829.83
Blue Compass Ltd	47,158.78
L R Boon & Sons Ltd	519.32
C Brewer & Sons Ltd	36.62
Clean & Clear	1,600.00
Cope Safety Management ltd	1,009.87
CW Group	2,095.44
Datashredders Ltd	85.44
D & J Transport Ltd	6,227.71
Euximoor IDB	2,149.00
Fox Narrowboats	390.00
Gookes Building Ltd	464.40
Grafton Projects Ltd	407.18
T C Harrison Group Ltd	359.58
Kings Lynn IDB	130.78
G & CA Lombardo Ltd	1,478.10
Lyreco Uk Ltd	197.28
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	10.10
Masterbroek Environmental Ltd	2,291.92
Mill Hill Garage (March) Ltd	49.00
Mill Stainless	110.40
N L Hydraulics	211.34
Officeflow Ltd	509.68
Ogden Motor Engineers Ltd	45.00
Peterborough Parts Plus	587.52
Pro-Purus Ltd	132.90
David J Richards Ltd	244.24
RS Components Ltd	616.26
Huws Gray (Ridgeons)	265.22
Royal Mail	80.00
Sentridge Ltd	5,454.00
WH Shoebridge & Sons Ltd	986.66
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	7,105.93
Switch	1,632.00
TMC Lifting & Engineering Supplies	751.32
Trade UK (Screw Fix)	180.97
Valuation Office Agency	480.00
Veolia Environmental Services	8.93
Watson Fuels (WFL Uk Ltd)	33,572.16
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	1,029.47
Wrights Tools Ltd	1,430.61
Yarmouth Steel Services	1,234.37
Staff Reimbursement	522.54
Tim Norton	477.86
Barclaycard	1,826.94
HMRC Tax & NI	44,466.09
HM Land Registry	6.00
CCC Pensions Income	19,000.47
Unison	39.75
Wilkin Chapman LLP	2,479.56
RS Components	529.38
Pitney Bowes	403.20
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council	174.87
CW Group	35.40
Hypack	282.49
Fenland District Council	5,319.00
Urgent payment-Hypack USD	19.00
Nest	8,247.03
Andrews & Arnold	4.49
Barclaycard	124.98
Allstar	1,530.65

Prudential AVC	2,750.00
Staff Reimbursement	35.95
GL Profiles Ltd	138.18
British Telecom	1,740.40
Month 1 - Salaries	62,987.71
Month 1 - Wages	27,580.06
Radius Telematics	8.82
Scottish Power	48.42
Carlile's Nursery & Grounds Maint	240.00
CTS Security Ltd	2,564.40
Weightmans LLP	1,591.20
Staff Reimbursement	56.20
Bottomline	50.39
Bosman Watermanagement B.V.	13,189.13
Hydraulic Pumps UK Ltd	1,348.80
Bosman Urgent Euro bank charges	21.00
Phoenix People Consulting Ltd	250.00
Staff Reimbursement	967.26
Barclaycard	673.51
Biffa waste Services Ltd	3,886.07
Allstar	1,900.33
AF Group Ltd	5.71
HMRC Tax & NI	38,877.80
Telecom MGMT Ltd	75.39
EE Limited	376.50
Aquatic Control Engineering ltd	8,295.00
Allertons	279.36
Andrews Sykes Hire Ltd	1,369.27
Beebys Ltd	1,461.27
L Bennett & Son Ltd	23.75
Blue Compass Ltd	49,301.82
L R Boon & Sons Ltd	1,643.13
Ben Burgess & Co Ltd	173.85
Button Engineering Ltd	3,908.40
CW Group	192.00
Catering Supply	280.50
Cope Safety Management ltd	1,924.27
Hugh Crane (Cleaning Equipment) Ltd	106.80
Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	7,560.00
Fleet Timber Supplies Ltd	97.65
Grafton Projects Ltd	413.70
T C Harrison Group Ltd	374.00
HaskoningDHV Uk Ltd	6,840.00
Iliffe Media Publishing Ltd	187.20
RB Johnson & Co Ltd	16.20
Kew Grasscare	320.28
Landmark Trading (Stanford) Ltd	2,727.36
The Lock Team	22.50
Lyreco Uk Ltd	310.51
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	211.14
Mastenbroek Environmental Ltd	638.77
N L Hydraulics	280.74
Newsquest Media Group	180.44
Officeflow Ltd	641.91
Penny Farthing Garage	58.60
Rutterford Construction Ltd	1,539.00
Trade UK (Screw Fix)	26.47
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	1,485.45
TMC Lifting & Engineering Supplies	81.60
Taymor Plumbing Supplies Ltd	65.40
V & J Knitwear Ltd	382.92
Veolia Environmental Services	8.64
The Wildlife Trust BCN	4,347.00
Working Planet Ltd	298.80
Wrights Tools Ltd	578.55
Yarmouth Steel Services	1,781.64
British Telecom	1,026.43
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council	170.00
Pitney Bowes	408.49
Mr J D Clifton	52.21
Mr D Stittle	31.49

Unison	39.75	
CCC Pensions Income	17,808.99	
Balfour Beatty	164,510.18	Bank Raising Contractor Work
Barclaycard	364.11	
Andrews & Arnold	5.36	
Fenland District Council	5,324.00	
Allstar	2,253.86	
Prudential AVC	2,750.00	
Ms M Lattimer	304.17	
Nest	7,832.69	
Radius Telematics	41.17	
Month 2 - Salaries	71,521.85	
Month 2 - Wages	30,824.99	
Anglian Water	58.70	
Carlile's Nursery & Grds Maintenance	905.00	
WRE	930.00	
Office Flow	5,634.00	
Vega Controls Limited	2,345.70	
British Trust for Ornithology	600.00	
Bottomline	56.73	
3Q Sports Teamwear Ltd	621.36	
Countryside Jobs Service	150.00	
Royal Mail	80.00	
Staff Reimbursement	48.96	
Whitings LLP	4,800.00	
Towergate Insurance Brokers	206,416.01	Insurance Premiums - Middle Level & Administrated Boards
The Curtain and Blind Studio	540.04	
645 Services Ltd	5,325.00	
Hireful Ltd	870.00	
Green & Son Roofing Ltd	780.00	
Environment Agency	1,053.21	
Mr & Mrs J W Green	40.15	
Carlile's Nursery & Grds Maintenance	1,795.00	
CMS Electrical services	4,308.00	
Towergate Insurance Brokers	1,850.64	
RS Components	776.25	
E Rand & Sons Ltd	19,017.60	
Staff Reimbursement	284.00	
Jarrold training Ltd	654.00	
Phoenix people Consulting Ltd	250.00	
Fishers of March	518.00	
Corona Engery	8,432.37	
AF Group Ltd	217.24	
Biffa waste Services Ltd	279.90	
Allstar	2,339.82	
Balfour Beatty	198,610.29	Bank Raising Contractor Work
Staff Reimbursement	605.95	
Staff Reimbursement	28.86	
British Telecom	1,181.71	
British Telecom	73.20	
TML	76.20	
Allertons	1,397.33	
Andrews Sykes Hire Ltd	773.74	
Antifriction Components Ltd	58.04	
Beebys Ltd	1,461.27	
Ben Burgess Coates	1,280.59	
Blue Compass Ltd	44,647.07	
B A Bush & Son Ltd	2,250.00	
Cambridge Safety Limited	1,188.00	
Cambridgeshire County Council	43.25	
Neil Cawthorn Accident Repairs Ltd	615.06	
Cope Safety Management ltd	1,009.87	
Hugh Crane (Cleaning Equipment) Ltd	209.71	
Curf & Wimblington IDB	6,486.00	
D & J Transport Ltd	1,017.30	
Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	7,560.00	
Engineering & Hire Ltd	1,141.30	
Fishers of March Limited	400.00	
Foxton Controls	1,627.38	
Grafton Projects Ltd	1,080.42	
HaskoningDHV Uk Ltd	7,152.00	

Kew Grasscare	640.56
Lawn-Boy: Farm Services	28.20
The Lock Team	57.50
G & CA Lombardo Ltd	235.20
Lyreco Uk Ltd	2,312.36
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	18.02
Mastenbroek Environmental Ltd	163.93
NTSS Ltd	630.00
N L Hydraulics	616.48
Nordelph IDB	98.42
Ocean Safety Ltd	853.47
Officeflow Ltd	600.87
Peterborough Parts Plus	42.20
Pro-Purus Ltd	35.88
Pulsar Measurement	2,230.56
RS Components Ltd	5,907.46
David J Richards Ltd	130.25
Huws Gray (Ridgeons)	616.02
Royal Mail	146.79
Royal Mail	1,146.00
Rutterford Construction Ltd	1,170.00
Trade UK (Screw Fix)	25.02
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	5,250.67
TMC Lifting & Engineering Supplies	1,634.46
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	1,024.94
Veolia Environmental Services	8.93
V & J Knitwear Ltd	1,895.16
Watson Fuels (WFL Uk Ltd)	475.02
Wrights Tools Ltd	1,127.30
NFU	306.00
Pitney Bowes	810.64
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council	170.00
HMRC Tax & NI	45,796.76
Barclaycard	1,589.05
Anglian Water	17.62
CMS Electrical	516.00
CTS security Ltd	2,580.00
EE	368.68
Fishers of March Ltd	100.00
John Oldfield	1,685.00
Switch	2,736.00
Towergate	377.92
Smals Dredging Uk Ltd	9,960.00
Deublin Ltd	740.40
HMRC VAT AINA	1,406.50
HMRC VAT AINA SAME DAY B CHARGES	15.00
CCC Pensions Income	19,158.54
Unison	39.75
Fenland District Council	5,324.00
Andrews & Arnold	5.39
Barclaycard	497.56
Norfolk County Council	936.00
Cambs County council	100.00
Nest	9,055.16
Allstar	2,055.45
Prudential AVC	2,750.00
Month 3 - Salaries	68,203.71
Month 3 - Wages	26,505.35
Anglian Water	147.36
Anglian Water	170.59
Towergate	638.24
Carlile's Nursery & Grds Maint	895.00
645 Services Ltd	5,742.00
HMRC AINA VAT	55.89
Carlile's Nursery & Grds Maint	980.00
Hydraulic Pumps UK Ltd	680.40
CTS Security Ltd	2,580.00
Hireful Ltd	870.00
Switch	912.00
Bottomline	55.38
Staff Reimbursement	5.95

Corona - on Account	208,500.00	Electricity - 1st Phased Payment
Biffa waste Services Ltd	279.90	
Balfour Beatty	255,659.51	Bank Raising Contractor Work
EE Limited	378.26	
Corona - on Account	208,500.00	Electricity - 2nd Phased Payment
BOC. Ltd	3,288.78	
HMRC Class 1A NIC's	3,166.83	
Balfour Beatty	17,331.61	
AF Group Ltd	927.92	
Phoenix people Consulting Ltd	250.00	
Allstar	1,889.21	
TML	75.79	
Allertons	4687.15	
Beebys	1561.15	
L Bennett & Son Ltd	337.53	
L R Boon & Son Ltd	277.51	
Ben Burgess Coates	474.82	
Blue Compass Ltd	63,358.30	Consulting Fees Consenting Engineer/Bank Raising
CMS Electrical	3,474.00	
Cope Safety Management ltd	1,009.87	
Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	6,994.28	
ESRI	1,488.00	
Elmhurst Electrical	216.00	
Envirotyre	279.30	
Fishers of March Limited	450.00	
Grafton Projects Ltd	190.57	
H L Hutchinson Ltd	350.75	
Kew Grasscare	640.56	
Latta Hire Ltd	115.20	
The Lock Team	94.00	
Lyreco Uk Ltd	190.38	
MGF	36,146.40	
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	713.95	
Norcam Hydraulic Services Ltd	452.98	
Ocean Safety Ltd	256.65	
Officeflow Ltd	791.31	
Mr J Oldfield	1,667.00	
Pro-Purus Ltd	132.90	
RS Components Ltd	2,471.92	
Switch	912.00	
E Rand & Sons Ltd	5,256.00	
Royal Haskoning DHV UK Ltd	5,580.00	
Royal Mail	80.00	
Rutterford Construction Ltd	450.00	
Searles Forestry Ltd	50,244.00	Piles for 16ft Bank Slip
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	6,665.09	
TMC Lifting & Engineering Supplies	160.66	
V & J Knitwear Ltd	33.48	
Veolia Environmental Services	8.64	
Wrights Tools Ltd	49.24	
British Telecom	1,477.28	
Carlile's Nursery & Grd Maint	1,645.00	
Aquatic Control Engineering	26,107.20	
CMS Electrical Services	408.00	
Pitney Bowes Ltd	907.00	
HMRC Tax & NI	41,590.50	
Staff Reimbursement	42.10	
Barclaycard	1,976.09	
CCC Pensions Income	17,796.37	
Unison	39.75	
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council	170.00	
Fenland District Council	5,324.00	
Pitney Bowes Ltd	403.76	
Staff Reimbursement	105.00	
Andrews & Arnold	5.36	
Scottish Power	16.42	
Prudential AVC	3,420.00	
Corona Energy	39,139.19	
Corona Energy	903.00	
Carlile's Nursery & Grd Maint	1,635.00	
Unum	4,743.06	

CMS Electrical Services	498.00	
Towergate	3,855.79	
CW Group	7,959.60	
B W Mack Ltd	6,300.00	
Towergate	586.95	
Staff Reimbursement	27.34	
Barclaycard	53.09	
Radius Telematics Ltd	40.00	
Month 4 - Salaries	68,260.14	
Month 4 - Wages	28,971.10	
Allstar	1,510.77	
NEST	8,533.13	
Land Registry	6.00	
Bottomline	53.46	
Mr D Mann	903.23	
Staff Reimbursement	27.34	
Staff Reimbursement	166.80	
Balfour Beatty	286,912.06	Bank Raising Contractor Work
Carlile's Nursery & Grds Maint	1,645.00	
EOC Services Ltd	524.40	
EE	608.03	
Fenland District Council	165.62	
Intacept Management Ltd	503.28	
B Morley Ltd (Remotl)	960.00	
Andrew Smyk	2,557.50	
Corona - on Account	211,500.00	Electricity - 3rd Phased Payment
Ribbes UK Ltd	1,168.20	
Phoenix people Consulting Ltd	250.00	
AF Group	6.15	
Allstar	1,707.07	
Biffa waste Services Ltd	1,279.21	
64S Services Ltd	6,888.00	
Staff Reimbursement	16.85	
Barclaycard	4,880.23	
Fletcher Moorland Ltd	954.00	
British Telecom	1,186.33	
TML	75.77	
Allertons	1,934.06	
Antifriction Components Ltd	577.84	
J Bates & Sons	8,546.40	
Beebys Ltd	1,542.42	
L Bennett & Son Ltd	81.60	
B J Plant Hire Ltd	59,458.80	New Road/Car Park @ Stanground Lock, Reinforced Concrete Slab @ Depot & Installing New Duct/Inspection Chamber for Eels @ St Germans PS
Blue Compass Ltd	83,576.75	Consulting Fees Consenting Engineer/Bank Raising
L R Boon & Son Ltd	270.00	
Boston Crop Sprayers Ltd	185.89	
Ben Burgess Coates	685.36	
Civil Safety Training & Rescue Ltd	276.00	
Cooleraid Ltd	102.00	
Cope Safety Management ltd	1,009.87	
Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	4,016.87	
Downham & Stow Bardolph IDB	474.21	
Elmore & Son	90.00	
Engineering & Hire Ltd	1,579.80	
Fishers of March Limited	216.00	
Grafton Projects Ltd	1,885.27	
Hygiene Quality Forklifts Ltd	262.40	
Hayley Group Ltd	556.82	
Kew Grasscare	640.56	
Latta Hire Ltd	97.92	
Lawn-Boy: Farm Services	584.40	
Lyreco Uk Ltd	142.68	
B W Mack (Machinery) Ltd	6,891.40	
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	29.59	
Mastenbroek Environmental Ltd	205.98	
N L Hydraulics	985.02	
Officeflow Ltd	472.48	
Ogden Motor Engineers Ltd	90.00	
Peterborough Parts Plus	927.53	

RS Components Ltd	2,683.98	
David J Richards Ltd	48.68	
Huws Gray (Ridgeons)	99.04	
Riverside Automation Ltd	34,587.60	
Rutterford Construction Ltd	540.00	
Trade UK (Screw Fix)	129.98	
Searles Forestry Ltd	9,960.00	
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	6,348.40	
The Newbrook Engineering Xcompany Ltd	4,260.00	
TMC Lifting & Engineering Supplies	458.40	
Technology Services Group Ltd	5,989.14	
Veolia Environmental Services	8.93	
Wrights Tools Ltd	714.44	
Pitney Bowes	1,600.00	
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council	170.00	
Tragus Training	25.00	
HMRC Tax & NI	40,480.25	
CCC Pensions Income	18,369.97	
Unison	39.75	
Staff Reimbursement	93.66	
Andrew Smyk	840.00	
Scottish Power	11.25	
Staff Reimbursement	29.98	
CMS Electrical Services	3,336.00	
Norwich Instrument Services Ltd	83.64	
Fenland District Council	5,324.00	
Beds & River Group of IDB's	3,000.00	
AINA VAT	2,120.80	
AINA VAT Same Day Charge	15.00	
Andrews & Arnold	5.08	
MT Construction	4,818.00	
Whitings LLP	31,080.00	
Mr J Oldfield	1,667.00	
Carlile's Nursery & Grds Maint	1,635.00	
Wave Anglian Water	97.78	
Towergate	166.52	
Allstar	2,006.13	
Barclaycard	109.18	
Prudential AVC	3,420.00	
Franklin Industrial Supplies Ltd	2.64	
Davies Contracting Limited	3,492.00	Supply of Machinery for Cott Cleansing @ Pig Water Drain
Month 5 - Salaries	66,333.53	
Month 5 - Wages	30,345.10	
NEST	8,618.99	
Corona - on Account	209,500.00	Electricity - 4th Phased Payment
Bottomline	56.74	
HM Land Registry	4.00	
CW Group	8,667.60	
RS Components Ltd	1,266.22	
Riverside Automation Ltd	3,957.60	
Andrew Smyk	1,507.50	
Witham Group	397.30	
MT Construction & Groundworks Ltd	5,412.00	
BW Mack (Machinery) Ltd	26,628.00	
Factum Alpha Ltd	5,000.00	
One Touch Data Ltd	1,980.00	
Stamps Direct Ltd	102.95	
AF Group	6.15	
Phoenix people Consulting Ltd	250.00	
Biffa waste Services Ltd	295.40	
Allstar	2,177.91	
Up Country Autoproducts (UK) Ltd	3,628.80	
National World Publishing Ltd	806.11	
Balfour Beatty	283,611.55	Bank Raising Contractor Work
TML	76.03	
Allertons	1,028.32	
Antifriction Components Ltd	64.51	
Beds & River Group of IDB's	720.00	
L Bennett & Son Ltd	97.44	
Blue Compass Ltd	79,698.73	Consulting Fees Consenting Engineer/Bank Raising
L R Boon & Son Ltd	141.29	

C Brewer & Sons Ltd	141.44	
Ben Burgess Coates	576.94	
Civil Safety Training & Rescue Ltd	312.00	
CMS Electrical Services	336.00	
CTS Security Ltd	174.00	
Cope Safety Management ltd	1,009.87	
Corrin Software Products Ltd	1,320.00	
CW Group	7,959.60	
Davies Contracting Limited	2,829.00	
Disco Drives (King's Lynn) Ltd	2,074.02	
Esri Ltd	1,091.51	
Fenland Fire Appliance LLP	852.42	
Fishers of March Limited	65.00	
Grafton Projects Ltd	939.01	
Hayley Group Ltd	479.81	
Hygiene Quality Forklifts Ltd	415.99	
Kew Grasscare	640.56	
Latta Hire Ltd	126.72	
Lawn-Boy: Farm Services	332.00	
G & CA Lombardo Ltd	117.00	
Lyreco Uk Ltd	2,569.39	
MGF (Trench Construction Systems) Ltd	21,183.84	
Malary Ltd	330.00	
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	714.10	
March Fifth DDC	200.00	
March Hire Centre Ltd	42.00	
Mastenbroek Environmental Ltd	838.77	
Maxey Grounds & Co LLP	1,152.60	
N L Hydraulics	74.84	
Norwich Instrument Services Ltd	83.64	
Officeflow Ltd	300.58	
Peterborough Parts Plus	542.23	
Penny Farthing Garage	58.60	
PHS Group	104.45	
Pro-Purus Ltd	24.77	
Huws Gray (Ridgeons)	748.39	
Royal Mail	80.00	
RS Components Ltd	98.76	
Rutterford Construction Ltd	607.50	
Trade UK (Screw Fix)	201.15	
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	2,290.53	
Switch	912.00	
Taymor Plumbing Supplies Ltd	47.39	
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	626.09	
TMC Lifting & Engineering Supplies	2,139.46	
Towergate	134.25	
Watson Fuels (WFL Uk Ltd)	2,098.50	
Wrights Tools Ltd	722.00	
British Telecom	73.20	
British Telecom	1,187.31	
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council	170.00	
Xylem Water Solutions Uk ltd	13,536.00	
Balfour Beatty	109,467.35	Bank Raising Contractor Work
Barclaycard	1,807.40	
Pitney Bowes	400.00	
HMRC Tax & NI	42,262.33	
Fenland District Council	5,324.00	
PWLB	344,120.77	Repayment PWLB Loan St Germans PS Replacement Scheme
Andrews & Arnold	5.70	
Barclaycard	41.41	
HM Land Registry	6.00	
Prudential AVC	3,670.00	
645 Services Ltd	7,372.80	
Anglian Water - Wave	28.18	
Carlile's Nursery & grds Maint	3,820.00	
Corona Energy - Elec	145,316.65	Electricity April 2024 - July 2024 Charges
Corona Energy - Gas	926.69	
CW Group	1,401.84	
EE	608.27	
First Giraffe Design	78.00	
HaskoningDHV Uk Ltd	35,955.60	

Hygiene Quality Forklifts Ltd	415.99	
John Oldfield	1,250.00	
Andrew Smyk	352.00	
Shaun Amps Plumbing & Heating Ltd	1,320.00	
CCC Pensions Income	17,800.65	
Unison	39.75	
Staff Reimbursement	17.37	
Allstar	2,085.37	
Month 6 - Salaries	78,904.48	
Month 6 - Wages	29,392.89	
Corona - on Account	210,184.01	Electricity - 5th Phased Payment
NEST	8,618.99	
HM Land Regisry	78.00	
Anglian Water - Wave	142.17	
Anglian Water - Wave	134.51	
Gaswise Services Ltd	360.00	
Jacksons of Henley Ltd	47,163.46	
Bottomline	56.74	
Biffa waste Services Ltd	462.31	
HM Land Regisry	6.00	
BOC. Ltd	342.00	
Phoenix people Consulting Ltd	250.00	
AF Group	6.15	
Allstar	2,354.88	
TML	75.30	
	5,612,232.13	