

**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

Viz:

Provided by the Middle Level Commissioners		Item No:	5
Meeting:	MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS	Subject:	CONSTITUTION & MEMBERSHIP
Date:	Wednesday 24 th April 2024	Officer Responsible:	Polly Tombleson

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board is asked to:

- A. Note the current status of its membership and the role they each play as members serving the interests of the Board.
- B. Review attendance records and identify any resolutions as necessary.
- C. Consider filling of the vacancies on the Board
- 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	14	2 FDC, 1 KLWN, 1 HDC	20	
Vacancies	1			

- 1.2 The table below details the current elected members of the Board:
There is currently **1** vacancy due to the resignation of Mr G Bliss – September 2023

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			

- 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	A 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	2/11/2023	27/4/2023	3/11/2022	28/4/2022
1	Patrick Allpress	Present	Present	Present	Present
2	Charles Boughton	Present	apologies	apologies	Present
3	Jonathan Brown	Present	Present	Present	Present
4	Robert Brown	Apologies	Apologies	present	present
5	Lord De Ramsey	Present	Apologies	present	apologies
6	John Heading	Present	Present	Present	Present
7	Marc Heading	Present	Apologies	apologies	present
8	Dr Derek Langslow	Present	-	-	-
9	Mathew Latta	Present	Apologies	present	present
10	Andrew Lensen	Present	Present	apologies	-
11	Samuel Raby	Present	Present	present	present
12	Paul West	Present	Present	present	present
13	Hugh Whittome	Present	Present	present	present
14	Stephen Whittome	Present	Present	present	apologies

Appointed Members (current and previous)

No	Name (Council)	2/11/2023	27/4/2023	3/11/2022	28/4/2022
1	C Crofts BCKLWN	Present	Present	Present	Present
2	D Laws FDC	apologies	apologies	-	Apologies
3	A Miscandlon FDC	Present	Present	-	Apologies
4	Sally Howell HDC	Present	Present	present	-

3. Elections, vacancies & appointments

- 3.1 Current vacancies – July 2023 – 1 elected

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 11 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

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

Viz:

B.3818 Pension Schemes

Pension Schemes

a) Local Government Pension past and future Employer Contributions

Further to minute B.3818(a), the Chief Executive will report that the contributions made by the Commissioners in respect of employees in the financial year 2023/2024 will be £166,599.32 and that the contribution rate for the year was 20.5%. For the financial year 2024/2025, the contribution rate will be 20.5%, with contributions to be made by the Commissioners in respect of employees could be in the region of £173,000.

The Chief Executive will further report that as at 31st March 2024 there were 19 employees making contributions into the scheme

b) Auto enrolment pension scheme (NEST)

i) Further to minute B.3818(b)(i), the Chief Executive will report that the enrolment in the NEST scheme commenced October 2015 and that the contributions made by the Commissioners in respect of employees in the period 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024 will be £42,030.54 and that the minimum contribution rate was 4%. For the financial year 2024/2025, at the minimum contribution rate of 4%, the contributions could be in the region of £54,500.00.

The Chief Executive will further report that as at 31st March 2024 there were 18 employees making contributions into the scheme.

ii) To give consideration to the future contribution rate payable by the Commissioners in respect of employees in the auto enrolment pension scheme. As from 1st April 2024 the minimum employer contribution rate will be 4%.

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 be defensible, 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 bonuses. 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% CPI, uplifted by 18%, and 50% AWE (public sector excluding bonuses and arrears) 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 reinforce 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 many 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 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 Bevill's 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 it 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.

Capital Projects update

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.

Q&A from Members on other topics within the report

The Chair invited any further questions from Annual Report

RESOLVED

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 of annual values
- viii) The Board reviewed and approved the write-off of rate arrears
- ix) The Board acknowledged the receipt of contributions from developers.
- x) 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.

Viz:

MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS**Accounts for Payment - October 2023 - March 2024**

Allertons	394.84	Small Parts for vehicles
3B Design & Print	129.60	Signage for St Germans
J Bates & Sons	1,987.20	Supply of plant for stockpiling Re Bank Raising
Beebys Ltd	1,330.84	Office Cleaning October 2023
L Bennett & Son Ltd	211.20	Oil Pads for Bevils & Workshop
Blue Compass Ltd	44,668.81	Salary for Consenting Engineer/Bank Raising
L R Boon & Sons Ltd	444.03	Misc items for westmoor PS & Diesel Tanks
Clean & Clear	650.00	External Window Cleaning MLC Offices & St Germans PS Electrical Installation Condition Report for Latches Fen
CMS Electrical Services	1,644.00	PS & Salters Lode (Part Recoverable)
Cope Safety Management Ltd	1,009.87	Health and Safety Contract
CTS Security Ltd	173.40	Call out for Fire Alarm Fault
D & J Transport Ltd	2,640.00	Earth/Clay, Bank Raising, Fenton Way
EE	164.87	Mobile Phone Charges
Elite Document Solutions Ltd	2,280.00	Transfer of DocuWare to New Server
Fen View Motors	48.00	Re Set of Oil & Diesel Filter Settings
Grafton Projects Ltd	215.31	Office Supplies Spring Cassette for Weedscreens @ Stock, MLC,
Handling Truck Services Ltd	1,847.42	Nightlayers & Broadalls
T C Harrison Group Ltd	332.15	Service of Truck
HaskoningDHV Uk Ltd	4,194.00	Alternative Upstream Storage Scheme, Woodwalton
H L Hutchinson Ltd	71.40	Rat Bait for Upwell IDB (Recoverable)
Kew Grasscare	621.82	Grass Maintenance St Germans PS - September 2023
G & CA Lombardo Ltd	149.75	Vehicle Inspection
Lyreco Uk Ltd	201.96	Office Supplies
MGF (Trench Construction Systems) Ltd	10,866.00	Trench Sheets for Stores
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	76.98	Electrical Items for Workshop
Masterbroek Environmental Ltd	1,174.58	Parts for Topcutter Welded Pipe for Creek Farm & Bevil PS (Part
Mill Stainless	677.28	Recoverable) Small Parts for Wimblington Common & Boats (Part
N L Hydraulics	576.12	Recoverable)
Officeflow Ltd	278.79	Copy Charges - Office
Ogden Motor Engineers Ltd	102.40	Vehicle MOT & Tyre for Trailer
PHS Group	88.70	Annual Duty of Care - Washrooms
PKF Littlejohn LLP	4,536.00	External Audit Fee 2022/2023
Pro-Purus Ltd	64.68	Office Cleaning Materials Parts for Stock, Hobbs Lot, Nightlayers & Telemetry @
RS Components Ltd	449.70	Bevills (Part Recoverable)
Stantec Uk Ltd	2,277.24	Woodwalton Fen Reservoir - Spillway Design Installation of Firewall, Elitebook Batteries, Remote IT
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	4,042.48	Support & Office 365 Backup
Technology Services Group Ltd	381.00	System Care Contract
UPS Power Services Ltd	3,177.28	Batteries & Battery Box for St Germans
V & J Knitwear Ltd	89.88	Setup of New Logo & Workwear
Veolia Environmental services	725.60	Skip Rental MLC Offices/Depot & Disposal of Rubbish
Watson Fuels (WFL Uk Ltd)	2,656.44	Gas Oil for Haddenham IDB
Weber Sensors Ltd	1,010.40	Flow Captor for St Germans PS
Welding Centre Ltd	53.52	Cutting Torch for Workshop
Whitings LLP	13,200.00	MLC Internal Audit Fee 2022/2023
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	938.62	Qualube Lithium & Masterfleet for Stock & Plant Parts for Stores, H&S Equip, Small Tools, Padlocks for
Wrights Tools Ltd	648.19	Depot & Parts for Sutton & Mepal IDB (Part Recoverable)

British Telecom	1,024.47	Phone Lines
		Provision of Advice & Application for Water Vole
M&H Ecology Ltd	560.40	Displacement Licence
HMRC Tax & NI	39,822.28	PAYE/NI
		Propshaft Repair(WSP IDB, Recoverable), Car Mats for New Vans,Meeting Expenses, Door Mats Bank Raising Office, Ebay Fees Sale of Vehicles, ADA Conference
Barclaycard	1,382.51	Ticket, Pressure Switch for W/Shop
Carlilie's Nursery & Grds	200.00	Grounds Maintenance at Stanground Lock
G Fowler	400.00	Cesspit Emptying St Germans PS & 31/33 Sluice Road
Uk Towbars Ltd	900.00	Towbar Fitting - 2 x New Vans
Pitney Bowes	318.45	Postage
V & J Knitwear Ltd	23.76	H & S Workwear
CCC Pensions Income	18,238.70	Pension
Unison	39.75	Union Subscriptions
Fenland District Council	4,506.00	Council Tax
Andrews & Arnold	4.60	Mobile Data
Neil Cawthorn Accident Repairs Ltd	5,974.10	Repairs to Vehicle (Insurance Claim Being Made)
Staff Reimbursement	41.62	Meeting Expenses, Tea/Coffee & Milk for Offices
Staff Reimbursement	32.99	Towing Plug Adapter & Ratchet Straps
Up Country Autoproducts	268.80	Maxliner Bedliner for MLC Vehicle
Deep Sea Electronics Ltd	165.65	Charger for Bevills PS & Stock
Bell Flow Systems Ltd	2,427.88	Diesel Flow Monitor for St Germans PS
Prudential AVC	2,500.00	AVC Pensions
Staff Reimbursement	28.63	Milk for offices
Allstar	2,164.23	Fuel
Month 7 - Salaries	59,656.62	
Month 7 - Wages	24,300.84	
Radius Telematics	8.40	Monthly Vehicle Tracker Charge - Bank Raising
Nest	7,525.60	Pension
		Land Registry search - Crooked Bank Waldersey IDB
Land Registry	6.00	(Recoverable)
Salix River & Wetland Services Ltd	4,624.20	Coir Roll for Hard Revetment @ Pigwater
Public Policy Exchange Ltd	118.80	Training Course Improving the UK's Flood Resilience
		Supply of Machine for Weed Cleansing Works @ New
Davies Contracting Ltd	12,324.00	Dyke & Monks Lode
Barclaycard	224.23	Card Charges
		Survey of West & East Bank 16ft River & CAD Drawings -
Survey & Mapping Uk Ltd	5,040.00	Bank Raising Works
Heatflo (Uk) Ltd	298.80	New Sink @ Sutton & Mepal PS (Recoverable)
Bottomline	95.89	Direct debit collection
645 Services Ltd	7,224.00	7000 ltrs Gas Oil
Towergate	22.66	Insurance Adjustments
		Generator Fault Investigation & Supply & Fit New ECM
E Rand & Sons Ltd	11,079.01	Module
A T Johnson	34.76	Brooms for Salters Lode
Innovyze Ltd	760.80	Online Training Course
AF Group	893.52	Meter Maintenance/Gas & phone Charges
HR Your Business	300.00	HR Support
Mrs J Morley	491.95	Refund Navigation Licence Fees
Allstar	2,498.15	Fuel
Telecom MGMT Ltd	70.06	Phone/Broadband
		Galvanised Wire Rope (Recoverable), Trailer Sockets, Garmin GPS Unit, Wall Clock, 2x Drysuits, Road Sign, Meeting Expenses, Battery Chargers (Part recoverable), Solicitors Registration Fee, Lone Worker & EBAY Fees
Barclaycard	3,231.73	Sale of Vehicles
Staff Reimbursement	3,576.36	Badger Netting/Gate
Staff Reimbursement	120.00	Straw Bales for Conservation
British Telecom	1008.04	Phone Lines
HMRC VAT	8,448.35	VAT
Allertons	466.86	Number Plates for Vehicle & Sockets/Plugs for Stock

Barclay & Mathieson	1,379.57	Items for Landing Stage @ Priory Lock
Beebys Ltd	1,330.84	Office Cleaning November 2023
L Bennett & Son Ltd	261.14	Oil Filters, Anti Freeze, Brake Pads for Vehicles
B J Plant Hire Ltd	18,534.00	Bank Repair @ Askew's Road, Yaxley (Recoverable)
Blue Compass Ltd	49,429.62	Salary for Consenting Engineer/Bank Raising Parts for Sutton & Mepal PS (Recoverable) & Conver
L R Boon & Sons Ltd	126.53	Boats
Ben Burgess	90.28	Parts for Strimmers
Catering Supply	320.00	Lunch for MLC Meeting
Chubb Fire & Security	793.66	Annual Charges for Intruder Alarm @ Bevills PS Health and Safety Contract & Online Lone Worker
Cope Safety Management Ltd	1,144.27	Training for 4 IDB's (Recoverable)
D & J Transport Ltd	6,936.00	Earth/Clay, Bank Raising, Fenton Way & Beggars Bridge Threaded Boss for Pump Glade Plate @ Sutton & Mepal
DISCO Drives (Kings Lynn) Ltd	334.50	PS (Recoverable) Filter for Tractor, PPE Safety Footwear & Rechargeable
Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd	137.51	Work Light
Fenland Fire Appliance LLP	120.00	Service/Clean & Test to Fire Hydrant
Gaswise Services Ltd	89.00	Repair to Depot Boiler
Grafton Projects Ltd	453.55	Office Supplies Stage 1 Inception Meeting to Study of Catchments for
HaskoningDHV UK Ltd	660.00	100 Wisbech & Waldersey (Recoverable)
Hawker Electronics Ltd	262.80	Probe Holder & Bracket for Finchams PS (Recoverable)
Iliffe Media Publishing Ltd	187.20	Advert for MLC Meeting
Kew Grasscare	310.91	Grass Maintenance St Germans PS - October 2023
Landmark Trading (Stamford) Ltd	1,434.55	H & S Equipment
Lawn-Boy: farm Services	64.92	Strimmer Repair @ Salters Lode
The Lock Team	300.00	Padlock Keys & Remote Key & Coded to Vehicle
Lyreco UK Ltd	201.96	Office Supplies Front Windowscreen for SPV2 (Retrospective Insurance
B W Mack (Machinery) Ltd	1,744.55	Claim Made)
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	85.32	Electrical Items for W/Shop & Depot Lighting
N L Hydraulics	64.80	Items for Hemos 08 & Stock
Newsquest Media Group	241.06	Advert for MLC Meeting
Officeflow Ltd	359.18	Copy Charges - Office
Ogden Motor Engineers Ltd	40.00	Truck MOT PAT Testing at MLC Offices, Depot, Bank Raising Hub &
Pure-PAT Testing Ltd	783.00	Bevills PS
Pro-Purus Ltd	35.88	Office Cleaning Materials Diesel Engine Fuse Links for Washways & Bevills PS (Part
E Rand & Sons Ltd	85.08	Recoverable) Posts/Membrane for Priory Lock, Items for Norwood PS
Huws Gray (Ridgeons)	353.10	Division Dam (Recoverable) & Sand for Bank Raising
Royal Mail	80.00	Postage
RS Components Ltd	193.87	Miscellaneous Items for Stock Supply Haulage for Weed Boat to St Germans PS &
Rutterford Construction Ltd	409.50	Return
SCCS Survey Equipment	1,560.00	Smartnet Licence
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	11,439.53	New Server & Remote IT Support & Office 365 Backup Wire Ropes c/w Captive Shackle for Washways PS
TMC Lifting & Engineering Supplies	279.12	(Recoverable)
Technology Services Group Ltd	381.00	System Care Contract
UPS Power Services Ltd	831.60	Multicom Relay Cards for St Germans PS
Upwell IDB	7,952.50	50% Environment Agency Precept 23/24
Veolia Environmental services	30.88	Skip Rental Depot
Watson Fuels (WFL UK Ltd)	18,764.70	Gas Oil Bevills PS & Sutton & Mepal IDB (Recoverable)
Welding Centre Ltd	105.00	Gas Inspection
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	169.54	Qualube for Stock
Working Planet	298.80	Head of Technical Services Advert Small Tools, H&S Signs & Equipment & Misc Items for
Wrights Tools Ltd	1,133.64	W/Shop, Priory Lock & Conservation
HMRC Tax & NI	39,749.44	PAYE/NI

Wilkin Chapman LLP	2,703.00 Legal Fees for Prosecution (Part Recoverable)
Allertons	146.38 Heavy Duty Battery @ Bevill's PS
M&H Ecology Ltd	2,061.60 Site Visit - Water Vole Displacement
	Increase in PS Valuations for Ramsey Upwood & Curf &
Towergate	110.08 Wimblington (Recoverable)
Lawtronic Ltd	293.18 Weedscreen Fault @ West Fen PS (Recoverable)
HaskoningDHV UK Ltd	8,193.60 Woodwalton Fen Baseline Modelling
Pitney Bowes	400.00 Postage
CCC Pensions Income	18,098.61 Pension
Unison	39.75 Union Subscriptions
Ransonmoor Farm Ltd	738.06 Refund Overpayment Drainage Rates
HMRC VAT AINA	2,472.00 AINA VAT
Barclays Bank Same Day Bank Charges	15.00 HMRC VAT AINA Same Day Bank Charges
	Additional Works @ Marmont Priory Lock Door
CW Group	11,682.00 Replacement
PWLB	745,730.46 Repayment of PWLB Loan for Office & Depot
Andrews & Arnold	5.70 Mobile Data
Barclaycard	200.85 Card Charges
Fenland District Council	4,506.00 Council Tax
Shoosmiths LLP	2,409.00 Legal Fees for Navigation Prosecutions
Edwards Engineering Ltd	1,759.80 Tower Standpipe for Navigation
Allstar	2,108.61 Fuel
Prudential AVC	2,500.00 AVC Pensions
Unum Limited	1,377.66 Death In Service - Nest pensions
Radius Telematics	8.82 Monthly Vehicle Tracker Charge - Bank Raising
	Catchwater Drain Improvement Works Re: Berm
Valuation Office Agency	859.20 Formation
Nest	7,525.60 Pension
Month 8 - Salaries	61,847.26
Month 8 - Wages	26,139.18
Staff Reimbursement	130.00 Purchase Wellingtons/Waterproof Boots
	Insurance for Floor Matting for Crane & Deposit for
	Alterations to Existing Mitre Gate Sweep @ Marmont
CW Group	4,356.60 Priory Lock
Anglian Water	108.34 Water Charges St Germans PS
Whitehouse Flexible Tubing Ltd	216.34 Stainless Steel Hose for Hemos 05
CS Storage Ltd	995.23 Heavy Duty Cabinet
	Items for Badger & Water Vole Displacement & SD Cards
Staff Reimbursement	789.43 for Trail Cams & SD Card Reader
	Machine Cleansing Pig Water Drain & Weed Cleansing
Davies Contracting Ltd	5,895.00 New Dyke & Monks Lode
Whitings LLP	2,700.00 Internal Audit Fees 2022/2023
Bottomline	139.09 Direct debit collection
Environment Agency	1022.53 2nd Instalment Environment Agency Precept
OEM Automatic Ltd	7291.39 Fuel Actuator for St Germans PS
Fenland District Council	160.68 Removal of Trade Waste Oct 23 - Dec 23
AF Group	488.50 Adblue & Mobile Phone Charges
	Pump Cables & Seals for Aqueduct PS & Pump
Xylem Water Solutions Uk Ltd	2,019.35 Commissioning at Mepal PS (Recoverable)
Legacy Habitat Management (Wildfenir	6,520.56 Badger Netting
Barclaycard	2,695.60 Meeting Expenses, Anywhere SIM for Bank Raising &
	MLC Survey Equip, Badger Gates, Train Expenses ADA
	Conf, Prof. Subscriptions, Picture Frames, Apache Leaf
	Springs for Trailer, Presentation Clicker, Computer
	Mouse & Lone Working
Foxtam Controls	746.22 Timer for St Germans PS
Allstar	2,341.33 Fuel
HR Your Business Matters	300.00 HR Support
Telecom MGMT Ltd	70.41 Phone/Broadband
Mr T Pacey	228.04 Refund Navigation Licence Fees
645 Services Ltd	6418.01 6219 Ltrs Gas oil
Allertons	284.45 Heavy Duty Batteries for Stock

Antifriction Components Ltd	315.12	Pump & Drum for Bevill's PS
ADA	75.00	IDB Think Tank Meeting
		Install Path Bank Raising Office, 16ft Access Track, Fencing Mount Pleasant Bridge Paddock, 16ft & Supply of Plant for B/Raising Works, Catchwater & Pigwater Revetment Works, EA PCSA Works & Supply Plant for
B J Plant Hire Ltd	166,232.46	Priory Lock Door Replacement
		Supply of Plant for Soil Stock Piling Re Bank Raising Works
J Bates & Sons	3,858.00	
L Bennett & Son Ltd	68.94	Misc Items for W/Shop
Blue Compass Ltd	75,792.16	Consulting Fees Consenting Engineer/Bank Raising
L R Boon & Sons Ltd	374.47	Small Tools & Stud Set for Drysides PS
Neil Cawthorn Accident Repairs Ltd	621.06	Repairs to Staff Car Door After Being Hit by Truck
Cope Safety Management Ltd	1,009.87	Health and Safety Contract
Hugh Crane (Cleaning Equipment) Ltd	143.10	Bevills & Depot Cleaning Materials
D & J Transport Ltd	462.00	Earth/Clay, Bank Raising, Beggars Bridge
		Supply Plant for Weed Cleansing works at Catchwater
Davies Contracting Ltd	11,719.80	Drain & Yards End Dyke
Elite Document Solutions Ltd	2,012.28	Docuware Annual Support
		Downpipe Socket / Connector & Pipe for Piling Works at
Gap Ltd	308.14	Benwick IDB (Recoverable)
Gaswise Services Ltd	3,354.00	Supply & Fit New Combi Boiler @ depot
Grafton Projects Ltd	197.71	Office Supplies
		2nd Installment - Alternative Upstream Storage Scheme,
HaskoningDHV UK Ltd	2,732.40	Woodwalton
		Replacement PLC Card for West Fen PS & Inverter at Duncombes (Recoverable) & Inverter for Weedscreen at
Lawtronic Ltd	2,437.12	Bevill's PS
G & CA Lombardo Ltd	116.40	Service to Iveco Tipper
Lyreco Uk Ltd	217.10	Office Supplies
B W Mack (Machinery) Ltd	2,053.58	Suction Filter & Hyd Motor, Bearings & Seals for SPV 2
		Electrical Items for Mepal & Ramsey Hollow PS
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	371.75	(Recoverable) & W/Shop
		Pair Drag Blades for Conver Boats, Parts for M.F Tractor
Mastenbroek Environmental Ltd	7,214.34	& Pump for Herder Mower
N L Hydraulics	462.31	Hyd Fittings & Hoses for Stock
Officeflow Ltd	363.35	Copy Charges - Office
Ogden Motor Engineers Ltd	1,310.40	New Tyres for Vehicles & Puncture Repair
Peleman Industries Ltd	302.12	Binding Folders
Pro-Purus Ltd	97.02	Office Cleaning Materials
Pulsar Measurement	543.84	DB6 Ultrasonic for Pidley PS, (Recoverable)
Pure-PAT Testing Ltd	181.20	PAT testing @ St Germans PS
David J Richards Ltd	313.82	Order Books
Huws Gray (Ridgeons)	209.03	Fencing for Silt Field at Salters Lode
		Miscellaneous Items for Washways, Stonea Fen & Whittlesey PS (Recoverable) & Plug Relay & Timers for St
RS Components Ltd	1,676.81	Germans PS
Trade UK (Screw Fix)	284.81	Road Pins for Badger Fencing
		Site Meeting & Inspection of Badger Sets at Woodwalton
Stantec Uk Ltd	540.00	Reservoir
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	652.68	Remote IT Support & Office 365 Backup
		Survey of Banks at Yaxley Lode & Bevills Leam Re: Bank
Survey & Mapping Uk Ltd	5,760.00	Raising Scheme
Andrews Sykes Hire Ltd	2,974.52	Pump & Pipes for Stonea Fen PS (Recoverable)
Technology Services Group Ltd	381.00	System Care Contract
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	241.20	Control Valve for M.F Tractor
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	528.65	Qualube Lithium, Grease & Chain Oil
		Items for W/Shop, Stringline for Pigwater, Items for Badgers Set @ woodwalton, Chainsaw Chains for Bush Cutting, Bolts for Drysides PS, Galv Wire Nail for Piling
Wrights Tools Ltd	1,249.95	Works @ Benwick & H&S Equipment
British Telecom	73.20	Phone Line St Germans PS
British Telecom	995.55	Phone Lines
Anglian Water	15.73	Quarterly Water Charges - Bevills Pumping Station
EE	165.59	Mobile Phone Charges
HMRC Tax & NI	42,528.85	PAYE/NI
		Collating/Drafting Horsey Toll Sluice Gate Funding
Mr John J Oldfield	1,000.00	Application
Pitney Bowes	400.00	Postage
Andrews & Arnold	5.12	Mobile Data

CCC Pensions Income	19,493.69	Pension
Unison	39.75	Union Subscriptions
Staff Reimbursement	30.84	Milk for offices
CW Group	4,656.00	Deposit for Mitre Gate Opening Arms & Hydraulics
Barclaycard	73.63	Card Charges
Prudential AVC	2,500.00	AVC Pensions
Fenland District Council	4,506.00	Council Tax
Watson Fuels (WFL Uk Ltd)	32,702.40	Gas Oil for St Germans Pumping Station
Nest	7,543.52	Pension
Pitney Bowes Ltd	691.11	Consumable Supplies for Franking Machine
Allstar	2,641.66	Fuel
Radius Telematics	8.82	Monthly Vehicle Tracker Charge - Bank Raising
Allgood	409.74	Keys for Office
Month 9 - Salaries	61,212.25	
Month 9 - Wages	23,689.55	
Staff Reimbursement	29.00	Xmas Dec's - Offices
Anglian Water	135.55	Quarterly Water Charges - Depot
Anglian Water	160.73	Quarterly Water Charges - ML offices
		Tubeclamp, Galv Tube & Welded Mesh for Salters Lode &
Yarmouth Steel Services	3,776.46	Angle Steel for Stonea Fen PS (Recoverable)
Wrights Tools Ltd	16.94	Screwdriver Set
Veolia Environmental services	29.88	Skip Rental Depot
Maxey Grounds & CO LLP	180.00	End of Tenancy Inspection - 31 Sluice Road
Total Energies	519.32	Gas Charges
		Motor & Control panel Retention for Cock Fen PS
E Rand & Sons Ltd	8,716.56	(Recoverable)
Bottomline	96.28	Direct debit collection
Staff Reimbursement	95.00	Cesspit Emptying Salters Lode House
AF Group	10,033.61	Redwood Round Stakes & Mobile Phone Charges
HR Your Business Matters	300.00	HR Support
Allstar	2,094.38	Fuel
Telecom MGMT Ltd	70.12	Phone/Broadband
ADA	763.20	IDB Membership 2024
		Parts for Chipper & Workshop & Filters for Washways PS
Allertons	292.27	&
Andrews Sykes Hire Ltd	264.00	Pump & Pipes for Stonea Fen PS (Recoverable)
Antifriction Components Ltd	710.68	Ball Bearings for stock
Beebys Ltd	2,661.68	Office Cleaning December 2023 & January 2024
L Bennett & Son Ltd	50.76	Silicone for W/Shop
		Supply of Plant for Bank Raising & Badger Sett Works @
B J Plant Hire Ltd	14,607.60	Conington Fen & Woodwalton
Blue Compass Ltd	46,669.33	Consulting Fees Consenting Engineer/Bank Raising
Button Engineering Ltd	11,565.60	Plates for Salters Lode & Steel Extending Dam Board
Cole & Day	115.20	Supply & Fit Tube to New Holland Tractor
Cope Safety Management Ltd	1,009.87	Health and Safety Contract
D & J Transport Ltd	726.00	Earth/Clay, Bank Raising, Beggars Bridge
Fenland Fire Appliance LLP	54.60	Fire Extinguishers Serviced
Grafton Projects Ltd	79.30	Office Supplies
Handling Truck Services Ltd	941.71	Replacement Spring Cassette's for Stock
Latta Hire Ltd	187.20	Portable Toilet Hire @ Salters Lode
G & CA Lombardo Ltd	449.80	Mot & service Vehicle
Lyreco Uk Ltd	134.64	Office Supplies
Manea & Welney IDB	1,652.92	Irrigation pipes & Equipment Damage by Flail Mower
Newlyn PLC	62.00	Vat on Fees Collected

		Swaged & Fittings for Washways PS (Recoverable) &
N L Hydraulics	609.19	Hoses/Seals for Stock
Officeflow Ltd	238.41	Copy Charges - Office
Oliver Seeds	4,128.00	Grass Seed for Stores
Peterborough Parts Plus	87.02	Parts for Vehicles
PHS Group	804.67	Hygiene Services
Reservoir & Water Services Ltd	960.00	CCTV Survey of Badger Sett Woodwalton Fen
Huws Gray (Ridgeons)	666.47	Pipes for Benwick IDB (Recoverable) & Stakes
Riverside Atomation Ltd	696.00	Annual Support Contract for St Germans Control System
Trade UK (Screw Fix)	23.90	Cable Ties for Badger Projects
		New UPS, IT Upgrades to Bevills & St Germans PS &
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	3,706.98	Remote IT Support & Office 365 Backup
Technology Services Group Ltd	630.60	System Care Contract
Veolia Environmental services	223.97	Skip Rental & Exchange Depot
		Gas Oil for St Germans Pumping Station & Sutton &
Watson Fuels (WFL UK Ltd)	34,635.60	Mepal IDB
K & PJ Wilderspin	258.00	Flailmowing & Other Work for PSCA Works
		Items for Badgers @ Woodwalton, Items for Salters
Wrights Tools Ltd	445.99	Lode, Cable Ties for Navigation & Grease Gun for Tractor
Yarmouth Steel Services	207.72	Tubeclamp for Salters Lode Lock
British Telecom	996.43	Phone Lines
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Co	327.46	Council Tax 31 Sluice Road
Barclaycard	1,937.90	Provisions for Workforce Session, Water Pump (Recoverable), Mobile Phone x 3, Keyboard & Laptop Stand, Oil Spill Kits, Toner Printer Cartridges, Truck Valet & Tea/Coffee Provisions
EE	164.87	Mobile Phone Charges
Pitney Bowes	400.00	Postage
Staff Reimbursement	120.00	Reimbursement Chimney Sweep Costs
CCC Pensions Income	18,787.78	Pension
Unison	39.75	Union Subscriptions
		Council Tax (Increase in Rateable Value with Bank
Fenland District Council	5,466.86	Raising Office)
HMRC Tax & NI	40,569.41	PAYE/NI
Land Registry	18.00	Land Registry Search (Recoverable)
Andrews & Arnold	5.20	Mobile Data
Barclaycard	114.84	Card Charges
Prudential AVC	2,500.00	AVC Pensions
Royal Mail	80.00	Postage
Allstar	2,219.32	Fuel
Month 10 - Salaries	63,504.01	
Month 10 - Wages	24,805.77	
Radius Telematics	8.82	Monthly Vehicle Tracker Charge - Bank Raising
Shoosmiths	5,084.40	Legal Costs Boat Prosecutions
Gaswise Services Ltd	120.00	Service Air Heater @ Depot
CMS Electrical Services	324.00	Remedial Works @ Latches Fen PS
Staff Reimbursement	4.39	Cleaning Provisions @ Bevills PS
CW Group	48,120.60	Marmont Priory Lock - Replacement Locks Gates
Stanford Marsh Ltd (Plot IT Ltd)	130.79	Plotter Paper
Nest	7,543.52	Pension
M G Soden	750.00	Aerial Survery of Woodwalton Fen & 16/40 Ft Rivers
AtkinsRealis UK Ltd	7,622.40	Public Safety Risk Assessments
Bottomline	96.28	Direct debit collection
Ann J Sherwood	1,146.30	Ecology Consultancy Badgers @ Connington Mill
Withan Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	632.22	Qualube for Bevills PS
		Items for ST Germans PS, Bodsey, Beezlines, Padgetts &
RS Components Ltd	3,382.49	Nar Valley PS (Part Recoverable)
CTS Security	15,252.06	Intruder Alarm/CCTV @ Bevills PS & CCTV Depot
AF Group	4,410.04	Treated Board, Mobile Phone Charges & Subscription

Allstar	1,582.28	Fuel
Barclaycard	3,044.83	Mobile Phone x 5, Oil Booms & Oil Absorbent Pads for Navigation, Parcel Delivery Box (Recoverable), Batteries St Germans Pendant, Wall Clocks (Office), Accomodation Flood & Coast Conference, Stationery, IDB Meeting Expenses (Recoverable), Door Cards, Tea/Coffee Offices & Lone Working
British Telecom	1,012.36	Phone Lines
Telecom MGMT Ltd	70.16	Phone/Broadband
ADC (East Anglia) Limited	540.00	Supply Drain Jetter for Culvert Clearance
Allertons	524.91	Batteries & bulbs for vehicles
L Bennett & Son Ltd	134.30	Items for Workshop & Front Pad set for Vehicle
B J Plant Hire Ltd	12,028.56	Flood Defence Works Old Nene, Benwick
Blue Compass Ltd	59,331.86	Consulting Fees Consenting Engineer/Bank Raising
British Engineering Services Asset Reliat	600.00	Oil Analysis Kits for St German's PS Hire of Gas Monitor, Harness & Lanyard Hire @ Salters
Civil Safety Training & Rescue Ltd	756.00	Lode Lock
Cope Safety Management Ltd	1,009.87	Health and Safety Contract
ECO Services Ltd	162.00	Call Out Charge for Air Con Unit @ MLC Offices
Fleet Timber Supplies Ltd	1,129.04	Posts & Rails for Fencing
Foxtam Controls	478.86	Parts for Bevills PS
Grafton Projects Ltd	133.10	Office Supplies
Handling Truck Services Ltd	1,394.57	Replacement Spring catch
D Haird & Co Ltd	664.16	Road Planings @ Haddenham PS (Recoverable)
Hydratech	2,448.00	Waterless Coolant & Sample Bottle for St Germans PS
Lawn-Boy: Farm Services	253.90	BushCutting Supplies
G & CA Lombardo Ltd	133.20	Carry Out Inspection on Vehicle
Lyreco Uk Ltd	470.57	Office Supplies
Manea & Welney IDB	331.43	Recoverable EA Water Transfer
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	1,045.94	Electrical Items for W/Shop
Maxey Grounds & Co LLP	540.00	Inspection fee for Middle Level Properties
Metreel Limited	1,158.84	Parts for Sutton & Mepal PS (Recoverable) Hose & Connector for Stock, Pidley & Mepal PS (Partly Recoverable)
N L Hydraulics	383.60	Recoverable)
Officeflow Ltd	361.05	Copy Charges - Office
Ogden Motor Engineers Ltd	348.00	Supply & Fit Off Road Tyres to Vehicle
Plumridge Nurseries	600.00	Thorn Hedging @ Cardea
Pro-Purus Ltd	35.88	Office Cleaning Materials
Royal Mail	80.00	Postage
RS Components Ltd	904.45	Miscellaneous Items for Stock & Bevills PS Moving Boats from Yard /River for Tree work &
Rutterford Construction Ltd	630.00	Weedcutting
Trade UK (Screw Fix)	5.95	Misc Item for office Kitchen ICT Backup for Bevills, New Equipment & Remote IT
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	3,333.34	Support & Office 365 Backup
Sutton & Mepal IDB	199.30	Recoverable EA Water Transfer
System910 Hydraulics Ltd	736.80	Hyd Pack for March West & White Fen (Recoverable) Pegasus Autumn 2023 Update & Migration of Pegasus
Technology Services Group Ltd	3,072.00	onto New Server
Upwell IDB	762.42	Recoverable EA Water Transfer
V & J Knitwear Ltd	228.66	Absorbant Mats, Gloves & Mop for St Germans PS
Veolia Environmental Services	32.36	Skip Rental Depot Gas Oil for St Germans, Haddenham & March East IDB
Watson Fuels (WFL Uk Ltd)	35,057.99	(Partly Recoverable) Qualube Calcium Grease for Stock, Bevills PS & Qualube
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	2,808.54	Endurol for St Germans PS
Wrights Tools Ltd	443.07	items for Stock, Vehicles, Small Tools & H&S Equipment
Yarmouth Steel Services	181.20	Mesh Panel Clip for Salters Lode
Pitney Bowes	400.00	Postage
The Old Nene (Seaside Leisure)	170.00	Room Hire - Future of MLC & IDB
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Co	327.00	Council Tax 31 Sluice Road
HMRC Tax & NI	40,499.52	PAYE/NI

J T Boiler Services	260.00	Replacement Tap & Boiler Repair @ Salters Lode House
Shoosmiths	1,305.00	Legal Fees for Prosecution Work
CCC Pensions Income	19,333.34	Pension
Unison	39.75	Union Subscriptions
Staff Reimbursement	230.25	Reimbursement Civil Engineering Fees
Staff Reimbursement	28.00	Tide Tables
Staff Reimbursement	25.43	Webcam
Staff Reimbursement	28.30	Milk for offices
Balfour Beatty Group Limited	25,008.66	Bank Raising Contractor Work
Carrier Rental Systems (Uk) Ltd	2,596.69	Diesel Pump Salters Lode Lock Electrical Installation Reports for Pumping Stations
CMS Electrical Services	1,452.00	(Recoverable)
Corona Energy	9,202.69	Gas Depot & MLC Office April 2023 - October 2023
Land Registry	12.00	Land Registry Search (Recoverable)
EE	165.58	Mobile Phone Charges
Chubb Fire & Security Ltd	511.40	Work to Security System Bevills PS
The Waterfowl Sanctuary	50.00	Contribution - Swan Rescue @ Marmont Priory Lock
HMRC VAT (AINA)	2,500.60	AINA Vat
Barclays Same Day Fee (AINA VAT)	15.00	Same Day Payment - AINA VAT
Andrews & Arnold	5.28	Mobile Data
Ramsey Forty Foot Village Association	85.00	Room Hire - Bank Raising Scheme
Phoenix People Consulting Ltd	250.00	HR Support
Allstar	2,078.08	Fuel
Barclaycard	34.05	Card Charges
Prudential AVC	2,500.00	AVC Pensions
Information Commissioners Office	40.00	Data Protection Renewal Fee
Staff Reimbursement	36.01	Meeting Expenses
Anglian Water	102.99	Water Charges St Germans PS
CMS Electrical Services	2,802.00	Replace Lighting St Gemans PS
Nest	7,549.40	Pension
Radius Telematics	8.82	Monthly Vehicle Tracker Charge - Bank Raising
Staff Reimbursement	334.56	Expenses - 4 xTrain Tickets LAMMA, Fuel & Lunch
Month 11 - Salaries	61,337.02	
Month 11 - Wages	26,530.49	
		Alarm Unit MiniCAS for Stock & Duncombes PS (Part
Xylem Water Solutions	1,384.63	Recoverable)
Bottomline	88.60	Direct debit collection
TSG	598.15	System Care Contract & Termination Charge
Balfour Beatty Group Limited	29,400.41	Bank Raising Contractor Work
Beebys	1,330.84	Office Cleaning February 2024
Pro-Purus Ltd	67.05	Office Cleaning Materials
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	16.02	Small Part for Workshop Annual Maintenance Charge for Fire Alarm System &
CTS Security Ltd	1,703.40	Intruder Alarm & Monitoring Fire Alarm System New RCD Unit on Lighting Circuit @ Upwell IDB
CMS Electrical Services	126.00	(Recoverable)
BOC LTD	342.00	Oxygen & Dissolved Acetylene for Workshop
Biifa	791.04	Skip Rental & refuse Services Depot
HM Land Regisry	21.00	Land Registry Search (Recoverable) Staff Training, Shredder, H&S Equipment, Chair, Notice Board, Warning Signs (Recoverable), New Phones, Clip Boards, Shelving Bevills Leam, Room Hire IDB Meetings
Barclaycard	2,884.05	(Recoverable) & Lone Working.
Towergate	208.14	Goods in Transit Renewal
Staff Reimbursement	3,582.00	Hard Top to New Truck Upgrade to Intruder Alarm & CCTV Installation &
CTS Security Ltd	6,974.25	Monitoring @ Bevills PS
Savills	731.94	Fees Catchwater Drain improvement Works

CW Group	482.10	Small Parts for PS (Recoverable)
		Project Management & Engineering Services Horsey Toll
John Oldfield	1,768.90	Sluice Gate
Allstars	2,977.80	Fuel
Telecom MGMT Ltd	70.48	Phone/Broadband
Phoenix People Consulting Ltd	250.00	HR Support
Allertons	62.03	Oil, fuel & Air Filters for Nightlayers PS (recoverable)
ADA Great Ouse Branch	6.00	Subscription 2023/24
AtkinsRealis Uk Ltd	7,617.60	Public Safety Risk Assessments
Antifriction Components Ltd	47.20	Popular Metric Balls @ Latches Fen PS (Recoverable)
B J Plant Hire Ltd	1,609.09	Supply of Harris Fencing
L Bennett & Son Ltd	32.35	Small Parts for Vehicles
Blue Compass Ltd	52,919.04	Consulting Fees Consenting Engineer/Bank Raising
Ben Burgess	15.19	Heater Hose for St Germans PS
Carrier Rental Systems (UK) Ltd	2,634.34	Pumps for Salters Lode & Priory Lock & White Diesel Fuel
Cope Safety Management Ltd	1,009.87	Health and Safety Contract
Hugh Crane (Cleaning Equipment) Ltd	207.60	Bevills PS Cleaning Materials
D & J Transport Ltd	2,034.22	Tarmac Planings Priory Lock & Stores
G Fowler	300.00	Cesspit Emptying @ St Germans & 31/33 Sluice Road
Grafton Projects Ltd	159.60	Office Supplies
		Woodwalton Fen Environmental Assessment &
HaskoningDHV Uk Ltd	12,427.20	Sensitivity Testing
Lyreco Uk Ltd	179.64	Office Supplies
March Electrical Supplies Ltd	101.04	Extension Leads & IT Supplies
Officeflow Ltd	449.45	Copy Charges - Office
Peleman Industries Ltd	490.22	Binders for IDB Meetings
Pro-Purus Ltd	35.88	Office Cleaning Materials
Huws Gray (Ridgeons)	173.53	Paint/Trays & Rollers for Office & W/Shop
		Line Marking Paint for Tree Works GT Raveley & TRV
Trade UK (Screw Fix)	31.96	Sensing Head
		Motor Brushes Sutton Gault PS, Haddenham
WH Shoebridge & Sons Ltd	596.69	(Recoverable)
Streamline IT Solutions Ltd	2,551.02	New Equipment & IT Support
TMC Lifting & Engineering Supplies	59.14	Hook Clips
Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd	4,066.80	Weed Grab for JCB Loadall
Towergate	52.51	Motor Fleet Insurance Sutton & Mepal IDB (Recoverable)
V & J Knitwear Ltd	79.86	Cleaning Equipment For St Germans PS
Veolia Environmental Services	676.22	Boat Removal from Old Nene & Skip Rental W/Shop
Water Management Alliance	1,222.80	DRS Annual Maintenance
		Gas Oil for St Germans, Bevills & Sutton & Mepal PS (Part
Watson Fuels (WFL Uk Ltd)	111,746.79	Recoverable)
Witham Oil & Paint (Soham) Ltd	1,185.65	Qualube for St Germans PS & Stock
		Items for St Germans, Priory Lock, W/shop, Small Tools
Wrights Tools Ltd	1,032.84	& H&S Equipment
Yarmouth Steel Services	261.19	Tubeclamp
Allgood	206.50	4 x keys for Depot
BT Group	73.20	Phone Line St Germans PS
British Telecom	770.06	Phone Lines
Anglian Water	24.63	Quarterly Water Charges - Bevills Pumping Station
Cyclescheme Limited	1,940.00	Cycle for Staff Member under Cycle Scheme
HMRC Tax & NI	40,047.42	PAYE/NI
EE	295.55	Mobile Phone Charges
Unison	39.75	Union Subscriptions
CCC Pensions Income	18,940.15	Pension
Amaze Blinds And Curtains	402.00	Roller Blinds for St Germans Pumping Station
Pitney Bowes	400.59	Postage

CW Group	3,581.82	Electric Tec Reel for West Fen PS (Recoverable)
Rap Industries Ltd	996.00	Display Panels for Bank Raising Meetings
Scottishpower	40.93	Electric Charges for 31 Sluice Road
Andrews & Arnold	6.04	Mobile Data
Barclaycard	163.18	Card Charges
Nest	7,590.73	Pension
HM Land Registry	6.00	Land Registry Search - Land at Salters Lode
Prudential AVC	2,500.00	AVC Pensions
Radius Telematics	8.82	Monthly Vehicle Tracker Charge - Bank Raising
Allstar	2,515.45	Fuel
BACS Month 12 - Salaries	64,905.37	
BACS Month 12 - Wages	31,094.00	
MP Plumbing & Heating Ltd	80.00	Replace Fill Valve at MLC Offices
Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering Ltd	40,614.70	Bank Raising Contractor Work Intruder & Fire Alarm Maintenance for MLC Office & Depot
CTS Security Ltd	753.60	
Staff Reimbursement	94.33	Water Boiler for St Germans
Anglian Water	124.56	Quarterly Water Charges - ML offices
Anglian Water	88.54	Quarterly Water Charges - Depot
PWLB	344,120.77	PWLB Loan Repayment St Germans PS
HM Land Registry	6.00	Deed Search for Star Pit
Bottomline	74.20	Direct debit collection
Staff Reimbursement	8.52	Tea/Coffee Bevills Leam PS Statutory Declaration March Fifth Slamp Land
Staff Reimbursement	10.00	(Recoverable)
Staff Reimbursement	200.00	Reimbursement Mobile Phone Damage Following Accident
Biffa Waste Services Ltd	1,337.90	Skip Rental/ Waste Collection at Depot & for Navigation
Haddenham Level D D	680.68	Refund Insurance Claim
AF Group	788.07	Electric charges Aquaduct PS & Mobile
Phoenix People Consulting Ltd	250.00	HR Support
Beebys Ltd	1,330.84	Office Cleaning March 2024
Spinney Rewinds Ltd	178.80	Weedscreen Full Wave Rectifiers
Rutterford Construction Ltd	270.00	Collected Old Lock Gates from Priory Lock
EE	255.47	Mobile Phone Charges Supply & Installation of Aquiko Tilting Weir and Solar
Aquatic Control Engineering	17,404.80	Control Horsey Toll Overspill Weir Swivel Union for Weedscreen Cleaner at Betty's Nose PS
CW Group	314.40	(Recoverable)
Disco Drives (Kings Lynn) Ltd	345.60	Keyed Bearing Shaft for Latches Fen PS (Recoverable) Installation of CCTV & Years Maintenance for Office & Depot
CTS Security Ltd	8,375.01	
J Oldfield	3,500.00	Project Management & Engineering Services -Horsey Toll Sluice Gate Replacement Project
Energy & System Technical Ltd	2,575.67	Annual HV Maintenance Cover @ St Germans PS
Fenland District Council	160.68	Removal Trade Waste Bank Raising Website Improvements & Annual MLC
Switch	1098	Website Charges
Staff Reimbursement	45	Petty Cash Reimbursements Carbon Brushes for Motor Sutton Gault PS (
Cambridge Rewinds Ltd	759.6	Recoverable)
Allstar	2330.04	Fuel
Telecom MGMT Ltd	70.11	Phone/Broadband
Staff Reimbursement	33.49	Milk for offices

MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS**Miscellaneous Receipts (1st October 2023 - 31st March 2024)**

Shaun Futter	Sale of Transit Connect - AE63 DHU	1,750.83
Benwick IDB	Installation of flapvalve upstream of point 41	240.57
Benwick IDB	Expenses in connection with Board meeting	350.00
Benwick IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Bettys Nose pumping station	108.59
Benwick IDB	Supply posts and rails - Copalder pumping station	74.47
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Wimblington Common pumping station	646.54
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Bensons pumping station	109.39
East of Ouse Polver & Nar IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Polver pumping station	162.19
East of Ouse Polver & Nar IDB	Installation of telemetry - Mill Fen pumping station	4,404.75
East of Ouse Polver & Nar IDB	Remove motor and unseize pump - Chainbridge pumping station	329.67
March East IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Latches Fen pumping station	116.74
March Fifth DDC	Cut and remove tress from drain - Foxglove Way	326.95
March Sixth DDC	Collection and analysis of silt samples	797.50
March West & White Fen IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Staffurths Bridge pumping station	306.61
March West & White Fen IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - West Fen pumping station	287.65
March West & White Fen IDB	Fit new low level relay and test - Moores pumping station	193.54
Ramsey First (Hollow) IDB	Expenses in connection with Board meeting	420.00
Benwick IDB	Chemical weed control of District Drains	1,418.10
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Chemical weed control of District Drains	1,869.70
East of Ouse Polver & Nar IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Nar Valley pumping station	1,078.61
March East IDB	Chemical weed control of District Drains	1,097.80
March Third DDC	Chemical weed control of District Drains	760.60
March Fifth DDC	Chemical weed control of District Drains	812.25
March Sixth DDC	Chemical weed control of District Drains	277.50
Craig Battle	Sale of Volkswagen Amorak - AF67 YMC	7,250.00
March West & White Fen IDB	Chemical weed control of District Drains	2,036.50
Needham & Laddus IDB	Chemical weed control of District Drains	1,597.10
Nightlayers IDB	Chemical weed control of District Drains	710.50
Ramsey First (Hollow) IDB	Chemical weed control of District Drains	1,345.20
Ramsey Fourth (Middlemoor) IDB	Expenses in connection with Board meeting	324.50
Ramsey Fourth (Middlemoor) IDB	Fault finding on telemetry installation, replace thrust bearing on pump, overhaul pump motor - Daintree pumping station	6,579.22
Ramsey Upwood & Gt Raveley IDB	Repairs to pump panel - Green Dyke pumping station	373.00
Ransonmoor DDC	Chemical weed control of District Drains	716.75
Sutton & Mepal IDB	Repair Ruston diesel engine - Mepal pumping station	1,600.41

Upwell IDB	Supply order books	40.24
Upwell IDB	Road tax - MK15 YAY	320.00
Waldersey IDB	Land registry search charges	18.00
Waldersey IDB	Chemical weed control of District Drains	1,358.70
Waldersey IDB	Replace pump panel switch, overhaul no. 2 pump motor and fit E switch - South Brink pumping station	4,768.14
Warboys Somersham & Pidley IDB	Recover and repair truck	882.46
Warboys Somersham & Pidley IDB	Road tax - AU09 FWE	165.00
Warboys Somersham & Pidley IDB	Repair flap door - Westmoor pumping station	649.91
March West & White Fen IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - White Fen pumping station	255.40
Hundred of Wisbech IDB	Supply pressure treated square rails	10.44
Sutton & Mepal IDB	Service and MOT truck - AE65 NMM	419.85
Sutton & Mepal IDB	Supply gas oil	2,978.50
Sutton & Mepal IDB	Road tax - AE65 NMM and YN61 FYV	485.00
Over & Willingham IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Over pumping station	165.28
Haddenham Level DC	Supply gas oil	2,045.82
Southery & District IDB	Deliver and install pump - Hockwold pumping station	2,510.50
Warboys parish Council	Supply materials for watercourse revetment	1,941.12
McLarens (Anglian water)	Bank repair - Askew's Lane, Yaxley	15,445.00
Benwick IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Broadalls pumping station	730.94
Benwick IDB	Spray compound - Copalder pumping station	101.47
Benwick IDB	Replace panel heater and test - Beezlings pumping station	147.70
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Curf Fen pumping station	105.85
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Bensons pumping station	183.60
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Stonea Fen pumping station	180.49
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Temporary repairs to weedscreen - Stonea Fen pumping station	7,999.86
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Clear weed and check pump, recover surge chamber - Stonea Fen pumping station	289.09
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment, supply hose and fittings, repair flap door, clear weed and check pump - Wimblington Common pumping station	865.09
Euximoor IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Reed Fen pumping station	102.24
Euximoor IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Iron Bridge pumping station	196.20
East of Ouse Polver & Nar IDB	Castrol impervia grease	110.50
East of Ouse Polver & Nar IDB	Check thrust bearing noise and repair no.2 panel - Nar Valley pumping station	289.15
East of Ouse Polver & Nar IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Puny Drain pumping station	583.14
March East IDB	Supply gas oil	1,485.53

March East IDB	Find fault on pump panel, repair voltage regulator and test - Latches fen pumping station	130.65
March East IDB	Electrical condition report and install lights - Latches Fen pumping station	715.00
March East IDB	Remedial electrical works - Latches Fen pumping station	270.00
March East IDB	Fault find on pump panel, repair and test, set winter levels - Bedlam pumping station	182.12
March East IDB	Set winter levels - Binnimoor pumping station	50.14
March Third DDC	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Burrowmoor pumping station	176.59
March West & White Fen IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - West Fen pumping station	1,433.70
March West & White Fen IDB	Clear weed and check pump - West Fen pumping station	94.20
March West & White Fen IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Beggars Bridge pumping station	677.82
March West & White Fen IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment, repair telemetry, check pumps and supply and fit new inverter - Duncombes pumping station	753.41
March West & White Fen IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - White Fen pumping station	244.32
Manea & Welney DDC	Personal safety and lone working course, expenses in connection with meeting of the Commissioners	265.62
Manea & Welney DDC	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Purls Bridge pumping station	724.14
Environment Agency	Water transfer at Old Bedford sluice 2023	9,000.00
Environment Agency	Water transfer at Old Bedford sluice 2023	1,077.61
Nightlayers IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Nightlayers pumping station	1,396.57
Ramsey First (Hollow) IDB	Supply parcel delivery box	133.31
Ramsey Fourth (Middlemoor) IDB	Electrical condition report - Middlemoor pumping station	170.00
Ramsey Fourth (Middlemoor) IDB	Electrical condition report - Daintree pumping station	120.00
Ramsey IDB	Fault finding on pump panel, install new overload and modify panel - Lodes End pumping station	1,226.55
Ransonmoor DDC	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Ransonmoor pumping station	680.27
Sutton & Mepal IDB	Personal safety and lone working course, supply piles and toeboard and 4m load securing straps	314.29
Sutton & Mepal IDB	Supply gas oil	2,259.00
Sutton & Mepal IDB	Supply and fit hand rinse unit at mepal pumping station	249.00
Upwell IDB	Personal safety and lone working course, supply rodent bait	811.91
Upwell IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment, weld repair to no.1 engine frame - Cock fen pumping station	492.74
Upwell IDB	Retention (E Rand & CO) - Cock Fen pumping station electrification	7,263.80
Upwell IDB	Fault finding and repairs to control panel - Padgetts Corner pumping station	1,065.63
Waldersey IDB	Land registry search charges	6.00

Waldersey IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Rings End pumping station	637.15
Whittlesy & District IDB	Repairs to slacker - Ironsides pumping station	70.73
Whittlesy & District IDB	Remove grab from drain - Underwoods pumping station	178.48
Whittlesy & District IDB	Check for damage to pump - Mereside pumping station	115.39
Whittlesy & District IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Tebbitts Bridge pumping station	667.04
Over & Willingham IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Over pumping station	476.09
Haddenham Level DC	Personal safety and lone working course, supply gas oil and road planings	4,610.33
Haddenham Level DC	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Haddenham pumping station	992.57
Downham & Stow Bardolph IDB	Check pump controls and low level cutout - Stow pumping station	100.30
Sutton & Mepal IDB	Supply gas oil	2,684.80
Creek Farms (Private)	Repairs to grease pump and fit new low level probes - Creek Farm pumping station	451.05
Hobbs Lot Private District	Remedial works to control panel - Hobbs Lot pumping station	272.37
Benwick IDB	Piling works - reach 55-57 & 64-65, fit new culvert, clear weed from blocked drain (Broadalls pump drain)	18,340.86
March East IDB	Culvert clearance - points 12 & 22	907.92
March Fifth DDC	Culvert clearance - Flaggrass	180.00
March West & White Fen IDB	Piling works - reach 90-91	6,644.67
Environment Agency	PSCA works at Swavesey 2023/2024	11,068.28
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Curf pumping station	292.18
Euximoor IDB	Deposit for board meeting expenses	42.00
East of Ouse Pover & Nar IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Puny Drain pumping station	211.66
March West & White Fen IDB	Free off syphon breaker and repair flap door - Staffurths Bridge pumping station	237.61
Manea & Welney DDC	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Purls Bridge pumping station	302.26
Needham & Laddus IDB	Land registry search charges	21.00
Needham & Laddus IDB	Supply signs (Deep water)	10.56
Nightlayers IDB	Deposit for board meeting expenses	56.00
Nightlayers IDB	Service diesel engine - Nightlayers pumping station	354.84
Ramsey First (Hollow) IDB	Fit new parcel delivery box	173.93
Ramsey Upwood & Gt Raveley IDB	Land registry search charges	18.00
Ransonmoor DDC	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Ransonmoor pumping station	212.38
Upwell IDB	Investigate and repair electrical fault at Nordelph pumping station bungalow	359.87
Waldersey IDB	Attend, connect generator and check operation of pump with UK Power Networks - Rings End pumping station	213.56
Waldersey IDB	Take tractor to clear weed pile, replace hydraulic hoses - South Brink pumping station	806.27

Whittlesy & District IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Whittlesey Mere pumping station	552.14
Haddenham Level DC	Supply wear blocks - Sutton Gault pumping station	60.25
Southery & District IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Catshome pumping station	236.75
Benwick IDB	Remove post from automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Copalder pumping station	145.73
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Make up and fit new floor plates, supply heavy duty electrode holder and reset pump overload and test - Finchams pumping station	494.11
March East IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Latches Fen pumping station	1,248.67
Nightlayers IDB	Supply limestone - Nightlayers pumping station	1,376.63
Ramsey First (Hollow) IDB	Supply tarmac planings - Ramsey Hollow pumping station	573.42
Ramsey Upwood & Gt Raveley IDB	Grease pump bearing, reposition coupling and test - Upwood Common pumping station	157.49
Ramsey Upwood & Gt Raveley IDB	Grease pump bearing, reposition coupling and test - Upwood Common pumping station	157.48
Ramsey Upwood & Gt Raveley IDB	Grease pump bearing, reposition coupling and test - New Fen pumping station	166.73
Sawtry IDB	Fault finding and carry out repairs to pump panel - Sawtry Roughts pumping station	284.19
Warboys Somersham & Pidley IDB	Fabricate lock shroud - Acre fen pumping station	209.39
Warboys Somersham & Pidley IDB	Supply E.I.C.R. - Westmoor pumping station	150.00
Warboys Somersham & Pidley IDB	Check pump operation and levels, supply E.I.C.R. - Puddock pumping station	282.37
Sutton & Mepal IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment, lift out and replace no.2 pump, install outdoor lights, check diesel cooling system and make plate and fit to cooling tower - Mepal pumping station	7,488.73
Haddenham Level DC	Make and fit rain gauges and supply new motor brushes - Sutton Gault pumping station	1,167.85
Haddenham Level DC	Make and fit rain gauges - Haddenham pumping station	672.45
Whittlesy & District IDB	Remove, repair and refit pump - Drysides pumping station	2,435.26
March Fifth DDC	Statutory declaration - land at slump	10.00
March Sixth DDC	Investigate pump fault with UK Power Networks, spray compound, repair pump overload fault, refurbishment of division dam, refurbishment of flap valve and structure - Norwood pumping station	7,058.35
Benwick IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping stations	331.44
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping stations	276.15
Euximoor IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping stations	110.48
March Third DDC	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping stations	55.23
March East IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping stations	165.70

March West & White Fen IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping stations	276.20
Nightlayers IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping station	55.24
Ramsey First (Hollow) IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping station	55.24
Ransonmoor DDC	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping station	55.24
Sawtry IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping station	55.24
Swavesey IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping station	55.24
Upwell IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping stations	165.72
Waldersey IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping stations	110.48
Warboys Somersham & Pidley IDB	Assisting insurance assessor with inspections at pumping stations	220.96
Swavesey IDB	Telemetry charges 2023/2024	52.83
Benwick IDB	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	350.07
Conington & Holme IDB	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	58.33
Curf & Wimblington Combined IDB	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	291.65
March Third DDC	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	58.33
March Fifth DDC	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	116.66
March Sixth DDC	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	58.33
March East IDB	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	174.99
March West & White Fen IDB	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	291.65
Nightlayers IDB	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	58.33
Ramsey First (Hollow) IDB	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	58.33
Ramsey Fourth (Middlemoor) IDB	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	116.66
Ramsey Upwood & Gt Raveley IDB	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	174.99
Ransonmoor DDC	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	58.33
Sawtry IDB	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	174.99
Swavesey IDB	Taking electricity meter readings at pumping stations for commencement of new contract	58.33
Sutton & Mepal IDB	Supervision of works under badger licence	269.18

Haddenham Level DC	Supply barrel of AdBlue	184.80
Benwick IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - Betty's Nose pumping station	1,207.19
Euximoor IDB	Chemical weed control of District Drains	366.90
March West & White Fen IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment, repair ultrasonic cable and fit spare level controller - West fen pumping station	4,209.54
March West & White Fen IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment, repair ultrasonic cable - White Fen pumping station	995.91
Ransonmoor DDC	Remove rubbish from Coneywood drain	233.47
Upwell IDB	Telemetry charges 2023/2024	59.60
Waldersey IDB	Remove rubbish from drains - Stags Holt and Graysmoor Drove	398.57
Waldersey IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment - South Brink pumping station	519.34
Fenland District Council	Flail mowing and watercourse clearance works - Manea railway station carpark	503.43
Fenland District Council	Flail mowing and strimming works - March River banks 2023/2024	676.03
Ramsey First (Hollow) IDB	Fault finding and repairs to diesel pump panel - Ramsey Hollow pumping station	706.28
Borough Council of Kings Lynn & West Norfolk	Investigative works at New Road, Upwell	1,751.00
Ramsey First (Hollow) IDB	Repairs to automatic weedscreen cleaning equipment, install new steps and handrail, make and fit lamp-post to surge chamber and install external lighting - Ramsey Hollow pumping station	4,892.13
Upwell IDB	Diesel (Arval fuel card)	1,512.35
Various	Drawings	0.00
Various	Staff purchases	35.32
Various	Staff utility recharges	96.67
Various	Supply of lock handles and keys	134.17
Various	Provision of flood risk information	288.00
Various	Fees for soakaway, surface water and effluent discharges acceptability	825.00
		<u>220,932.71</u>

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 ItemsComplaints

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

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Chair

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Date