



Middle Level Commissioners

At a meeting of the Middle Level Board held at the Middle Level Offices, March on Tuesday 24th June 2025

Present

J Brown (Chair)
D Boughton
R Brown
C Crofts (FDC)
M Heading
S Howell (HDC)
Ms D Laws (FDC)
A Miscandlon (FDC)

Paul Burrows - Chief Executive, Andrew Wool – Head of Finance, and Ruth Martin – Lead Clerk (minutes) were also in attendance.

Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.

Apologies were received from: P Allpress, D Langslow, M Latta, A Lensen, Ms A Morris, H Whittome and S Whittome.

B.3882 Approval of Updated Financial Regulations.

Viz:



Governance Financial Regulations 2025 – 2035

The Chief Executive performs the role of Clerk to the Commissioners as set out in the Middle Level Acts. References in these Regulations to the Chief Executive in his/her role as Clerk, shall be a reference to such officers of the Middle Level Commissioners (MLC) as may from time to time undertake the relevant work or functions on behalf of the Commissioners and references to "the Chairman" shall also include the Vice Chairman.

The Head of Finance performs the role of Treasurer to the Commissioners as set out in the Middle Level Acts.

A SUMMARY

1. These Financial Regulations should be read in conjunction with the Commissioners', Standing Orders, Regulations as to proceedings, Schedule of Reserved Matters and Scheme of Delegations to ensure that its resources are properly managed, accounted for and controlled.

2. The level at which decisions relating to the finances and functions of the Commissioners are to be taken are as set out in the Schedule of Reserved Matters and the Scheme of Delegations
3. The Clerk shall be responsible for maintaining adequate and effective controls and procedures in the manner and format he/she considers to be best and shall where appropriate, prepare additional rules of procedure or guidance, supplementary to these Regulations.
4. The Head of Finance shall be responsible for setting up and maintaining the financial and management accounting/reporting systems, processes, procedures and coding lists. Such systems shall be properly documented and shall not be changed without the approval of the Clerk. The Head of Finance shall be the Commissioners' Responsible Financial Officer, as defined in and for the purposes of the Accounts and Audit Regulations. The MLC finance team will support the Head of Finance in providing this function.
5. The Clerk shall advise the Commissioners', the Middle Level Board and any sub-committees and carry out their instructions in securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources and for ensuring that value for money is provided.
6. The Head of Finance shall ensure that the Commissioners' Financial Statements for each Financial Year ending 31 March are prepared in compliance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities and, so far as may be appropriate, the Practitioners' Guide to the Preparation of Financial Statements for IDBs (and any subsequent requirements) applicable at the time of preparation. They shall be responsible for navigation accounting in line with the Middle Level Act (2018).
7. The Head of Finance shall ensure that the Commissioners considers and approves its Financial Statements for a Financial Year in accordance with the provisions of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
8. All employees, Commissioners and Middle Level Board members have a responsibility for health and safety, compliance with policies and legislation, procedures and codes of practice, for the general security of the Commissioners' property, and, for economy efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources.
9. All employees, Commissioners and Middle Level Board members shall familiarise themselves with and observe the Schedule of Reserved Matters, the Scheme of Delegations and these Regulations.
10. Failure to comply with any aspect of these Regulations may result in disciplinary action being taken against the individual(s) concerned. Serious breaches by Commissioners or Middle Level Board members may result in action being taken against them, in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct.

B SCHEME OF BUDGET DELEGATION

1. The Chief Executive shall be a budget holder and is responsible to the Commissioners for the overall management of the Commissioners' finances, the expenditure estimates and all budgets.
2. The Chief Executive with the Head of Finance have authority to delegate ownership of specific budgets to department leads/line managers, apply a financial scheme of delegation for low risk/low value expenditure and introduce delegated powers for absence. This will be appended to these Regulations.
3. The Chief Engineer is responsible to the Commissioners to the extent that he/she is so authorised by the Commissioners and is allocated funds for the purpose of preparing and managing the Board's operational, maintenance, plant & equipment and capital works budgets.

4. The Head of Finance is responsible for the management and authorised use of any ring-fenced funds and reserves.
5. Other than as set out in the Scheme of Delegations or where authorised to do so by a resolution of the Commissioners, no other person shall be empowered to enter contracts on behalf of the Commissioners unless authorised to do so by the Chief Executive or Chief Engineer. Nor shall any other person commit the Commissioners to a particular course of action or provide an undertaking or assurance to any third party without the prior consent of the Chief Executive and/or Head of Finance and/or the Chairman.
6. Save for delegated power during absence, no budget holder other than the Chief Executive shall procure goods and services, charge, allocate or otherwise commit expenditure against a budget that they have no budgetary responsibility for.

C MANAGING BUDGETS & REPORTING

1. The Head of Finance shall be responsible for preparing the Commissioners' Estimates/Budgets, for monitoring income and expenditure during the course of the year, for alerting the Chief Executive and Executive Committee to any material variances, and, for providing budget holders with the financial information that they require and assisting them as necessary to enable them to properly prepare/manage their budgets. The Head of Finance shall further ensure that the Commissioners and Middle Level Board are presented with and consider the proposed expenditure estimates in order that the Rates and Special Levies can be determined for each financial year in due time in accordance with the Land Drainage Act 1991 and it is the individual budget holder's responsibility to provide him/her with their detailed budgets and supporting information in order that this may be done.
2. Any drainage rate refunds due for whatever reason shall be approved by the Chief Executive or Head of Finance prior to being paid or otherwise accounted for.
3. All correcting journal entries shall always be authorised and approved by the Head of Finance.
4. The Head of Finance shall ensure that appropriate mechanisms are in place for alerting the Chief Executive immediately should a Local Authority fail to make their Special Levy payment at the agreed time, or where Drainage Rates are outstanding following reminder. The Chief Executive and Chairman will agree a course of action and whether a special meeting of the Middle Level Board is required.
5. Every budget holder is responsible for seeking to ensure that actual expenditure on each of their budgets does not exceed the budget as approved and shall regularly monitor income/expenditure to this end. Budget holders shall, whenever practicable, get approval for material adverse variances to any of their budgets that are anticipated. Approval shall be sought in accordance with the Schedule of Reserved Matters and the Scheme of Delegations.
6. The Chief Executive or Head of Finance may convene a meeting of the Commissioners, Middle Level Board or a Sub-Committee. The Chairman or any member of the Executive Committee shall also have the power to convene such a meeting.
7. The Chief Executive, Chief Engineer and Head of Finance will prepare reports for the Middle Level Board and Commissioners.
8. In considering its financial health, estimates, rates, levels of reserves and investment strategy, the Middle Level Board and Commissioners will consider as a minimum:
 - I. Whether it has sufficient General Fund Reserves to cater for above average annual expenditure due to, for example, excessive pumping and urgent works.
 - II. Whether it is utilising and planning for use its ring-fenced funds appropriately.

- III. Whether it has sufficient Asset Improvement/Future Works budget taking account of its asset base, asset age/reliability, capital programme requirements and likely grant eligibility.
- IV. Its financial ability to secure and pay off a suitable value Public Works Loan to bridge any gap between its Asset Improvement/Future Works budget and likely value of works.

D PURCHASING GOODS & SERVICES (INCLUDING PLANT)

1. Unless otherwise authorised by the Executive Committee by resolution or required under the terms of any formal procedures relating to such work, budget holders shall always comply with the following procedures when procuring goods and services.

Use of suitable Frameworks eg Local Authority, Cabinet Office, Environment Agency should be part of the commercial decision making process. Where these have been discounted Quotations/Tenders will be sought as follows, other than in emergency situations where approved buying groups or agreed contractors/consultants/suppliers for a particular area of work or expertise have been appointed or are used or where approved service level agreements are in force. These threshold amounts may be amended from time to time by resolution of the Board:

Estimated Value of Goods/Services Quotes/

Quotation/Tenders to be sought

<= £5,000

No quotations/tenders required

> £5,000 and <= £10,000

Obtain 1 written quotation

> £10,000

Seek 3 quotations or 3 tenders as appropriate

2. The budget holder shall be responsible for ensuring that quotations or tenders are sought when required by the above table. Where it is not possible to get the required quotations or tenders, the Head of Finance's approval must be obtained prior to awarding any contract.
3. Any agreed contractors, consultants or suppliers list shall be maintained and kept up to date by the Chief Engineer.
4. A budget holder must never agree to permit a third party to provide them with goods/services where tenders or quotations are required without obtaining a copy of their terms of business beforehand.
5. Budget holders shall fully comply with all Competition Law, the Bribery Act 2010 and the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and shall so far as is reasonable, satisfy themselves as to the insurance policies of contractors, and their systems of work before awarding works contracts.
6. Budget holders shall not enter into any contract that has been reserved to the Commissioners or delegated without obtaining the Chief Executive's approval beforehand. The Chief Executive shall not permit any budget holder to enter in to such a contract if he/she considers it to be inappropriate or that the required approval has not been given.
7. The relevant budget holder is responsible for ensuring that the procurement of all goods and services is authorised by the Commissioners or in accordance with the Scheme of Delegations. All emergency work must be approved by the Chief Executive.
8. All procurement of goods and services shall be authorised by the signing and dating of an official purchase order or purchase instruction. On so authorising the procurement of goods or services the budget holder will have satisfied themselves that the Financial Regulations have been complied with and that any approval required by the Schedule of Reserved Matters and the Scheme of Delegations has been obtained.

9. The budget holder must never break down a job and string a number of purchase orders or authorisations together simply to avoid having to get 3 written quotations/tenders.
10. The following information must be clearly stated on each purchase order or instruction:
 - i. The name of the supplier.
 - ii. The agreed price of the goods/services required, other than in an emergency or where impractical to do so.
 - iii. The Unique Order No as approved by the budget holder.
11. The Head of Finance shall ensure that procedures are in place for establishing when goods or services, have been charged, allocated or otherwise expenditure has been committed against an unauthorised budget.
12. All quotes/tenders, delivery notes, invoices for payment and credit notes shall be matched to the official purchase order or instruction, examined and coded before they are proposed for payment or set off. If the budget holder or the Head of Finance deems any invoice/credit note to be incorrect they shall not process such invoices/credit notes for payment or set off until satisfied that payment or set off is properly due. The quotes/tenders, purchase orders and delivery notes where required to be signed or where amended, shall all be filed together with the invoices/credit notes as otherwise directed by the Head of Finance.
13. The Head of Finance shall ensure that all Invoices which have been approved for payment are duly scheduled for payment.
14. All Invoices shall be authorised by the budget holder and checked by the Chief executive or Chief Engineer prior to making payment.
15. Where it is considered that there are valid reasons for departing from these procedures the approval of the Chairman shall be obtained. Any such departure shall be reported to the Middle Level Board.

E BANK MANDATE AND INVESTMENTS

1. No changes shall be made to the Commissioners' bankers or the bank mandate without the prior consent of the Middle Level Board.
2. Approved signatories for the Commissioners' bank accounts are as follows:
 1. The Chairman
 2. Such other member(s) as shall from time to time be authorised by the Middle Level Board
 3. Such officers of the Middle Level Commissioners as shall from time to time be authorised by the Board
3. All cheque books, deposit books, banking cards, online access and other documentation or materials relating to the Commissioners' bank accounts shall be retained in the custody of the Head of Finance.
4. All payments, bank transfers and Investments shall be made in the most efficient/secure manner as determined from time to time by the Head of Finance.
5. The Head of Finance shall maintain contact details relating to financial transactions. All bank accounts shall be reconciled monthly and checked at regular intervals by separate officers in line with Internal Controls.

F INVESTMENTS AND BORROWINGS STRATEGY

1. All investments made by the Commissioners are made within guidance received from CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountants) Guidance for the Public Sector, and relevant legislation:
 - The Commissioners' investment activities are limited by statute
 - The Commissioners' may invest with major Banks and/or Building Societies
 - The Commissioners' investments are to be regarded as low/medium risk
 - The Commissioners' investments must be made in the name of the Commissioners' and not any named individual
2. All investments shall be negotiated by the Head of Finance and reported to the Middle Level Board. They must be for an appropriate period.
3. All borrowings shall be effected in the name of the Commissioners and shall be from the Public Works Loans Board. In an emergency there may be an exception.
4. No borrowings shall be taken out without a resolution of the Middle Level Board.
5. All investment certificates and other documents relating thereto shall be retained in the custody of the Head of Finance.

G COLLECTING MONEY

1. The Head of Finance shall be responsible for ensuring that all monies received are properly recorded in the accounting records.
2. Electronic copies of all receipts issued shall be retained for at least six years.
3. The Head of Finance shall be responsible for ensuring that the Drainage Rates and Special Levies are substantially collected by **1 November** each year. Penalty Charges, Outstanding Rates/Levies shall be pursued in a timely manner after that date.
4. The Head of Finance shall ensure that procedures are in place for all debts to be substantially collected within 30 days from the Debtor Invoice tax point date and for when a debt becomes 3 months overdue or whenever a debt becomes doubtful or is disputed.

H FUNDING APPLICATIONS

1. Ideally any grant or third-party funding opportunities will be reviewed, supported and approved by the Executive Committee, however bidding windows normally constrain the ability to enact this meaning the Commissioners potentially missing out on funding. Therefore, the Chief Executive shall be empowered to bid for grant and/or other third-party funding on behalf of the Commissioners. This includes being able to determine and accept any risk exposure.

I SUNDRY DEBTORS

1. Each budget holder shall be responsible for providing the Head of Finance with the necessary information to enable rechargeable work to be properly accounted for and invoiced, and, any other debts due to be properly invoiced. The budget holder shall advise the Head of Finance whenever an Invoice is to be raised for goods provided or services rendered, under their control.
2. The Head of Finance shall ensure that all such Invoices are properly raised as soon as practicable after being authorised.

3. The Head of Finance shall be responsible for ensuring that all other debts due to the Commissioners are properly raised when required and collected appropriately.
4. The Head of Finance shall be responsible for ensuring that the Commissioners consider whether any rents payable to them should be reviewed at least once every 5 years.
5. The Head of Finance shall calculate any claims for Highland Water payments from the Environment Agency and send such claims to the Agency by the dates specified by the Agency.
6. Any refunds due to debtors for whatever reason shall be approved by the Chief Executive or Head of Finance prior to being paid or otherwise accounted for.
8. The Chief Executive or Head of Finance shall be empowered to collect all sundry debts due.
9. The Chief Executive or Head of Finance have approval to instigate legal proceedings to collect outstanding amounts in excess of the County Court Small Claims limit.

J EMPLOYING/MANAGING STAFF

1. The Chief Executive shall be responsible to the Commissioners for all matters regarding any employees, including employment policies, procedures, terms and conditions.
2. The Middle Level Board's approval shall be required for the employment of additional permanent staff.
3. The Chief Executive shall have the authority to employ temporary staff and replace permanent staff provided the employment costs are contained within the Expenditure Estimates/Budgets approved by the Commissioners

K ASSET ACCOUNTING/MANAGEMENT

1. Any assets to be sold will be advertised in the appropriate media or by the method most appropriate for securing best value and will be sold for the highest offer (of legitimate bids from reputable sources) unless they are being part-exchanged or traded-in when acquiring another asset, or otherwise sold for a budget price approved by the Board.
2. The Head of Finance and Chief Engineer shall be responsible for documenting and maintaining the records of the Board's Assets.

L AUDIT

1. As a requirement of the Accounts and Audit Regulations the Head of Finance shall ensure that the Middle Level Board is presented with the Internal Auditor's Report each year. The Middle Level Board is required to review and where necessary take appropriate action.

M SALARIES AND WAGES

1. The Chief Executive shall, where appropriate, seek independent advice before making significant changes to terms and conditions of employment and, save where such changes are as a result of legislative change, no changes shall be made to terms and conditions of employment (deliberately or otherwise) without the prior consent of the Employment Committee.
2. The Head of Finance shall be responsible for the proper compilation of the payroll(s) and for the final determination of pay, as approved by the Middle Level Board.

3. All annual holiday entitlements (including any carried forward provisions) shall be agreed by line managers at the beginning of every financial year and signed off by him/her as such, in accordance with the terms and conditions of employment.
4. All time-off in lieu, sick leave, working-from-home arrangements and other absences from work or the work place shall be approved by line managers.
5. Approval of overtime for those eligible (mainly within Operations and M&E) will be by Line Manager/Department Head.
6. Salary progression shall be approved by the Executive Committee, except where it forms part of the initial offer of employment.
7. One-off payments to employees is at the discretion of the Chief Executive and the Chairman.
8. Expenses to be reviewed and approved by any of an employees line management chain with spot-checks undertaken by the Head of Finance.

N INSURANCES

1. The Head of Finance shall be responsible for expeditiously submitting all insurance claims.

O REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

1. The Middle Level Board, Executive Committee, Chief Executive and Head of Finance reserves the right to make reasonable changes to these Regulations at any time in future and/or to append specific policies and/or codes to it.
2. Failure to take action against any employee, Commissioner or Middle Level Board member following a breach of the Financial Regulations does not constitute a waiver of the Commissioners' right to take disciplinary action on any future breaches of the Financial Regulations and no single or partial action taken shall prevent any further disciplinary action being taken or other action being taken against any employee, Commissioner or Middle Level Board.

The Clerk advised that it had been agreed at last years' Finance Meeting that these would be reviewed at the 2025 meeting. The Regulations of the Internal Drainage Boards that the Middle Level Commissioners administer have been updated as the meeting season has progressed and the updated document now fits with the model used for all of the administered Boards. However, there are some aspects that are slightly different to the Drainage Boards, and the Clerk advised the Board of these.

The provision for an extended Scheme of Delegation has been included in the Regulations. The Commissioners have previously been missing a clear scheme which hits low value purchase decisions. This allows for the development of Budget Holder delegations plus putting provisions in place to cover periods of senior staff absence. This gives the Clerk and the Head of Finance the licence to develop the correct procedures.

The Clerk referred to funding applications. The current Regulations instruct that the Commissioners and Board should approve all applications. In an ideal world this would work for the Commissioners, but this has meant that resolutions have often had to be made outside of Board meetings and that the Chair has been asked to make decisions before the Board can be fully consulted. These changes empower the Chief Executive to make these decisions on the Boards behalf. Everything else is standard and if the Board approve the changes the full document will be posted on the Website. The Chair asked for comments from the Board.

Mrs Laws referred back to the making of small purchases, asking who would be making these. The Clerk advised that at present we have been following the procurement rules within the current regulations, but that this does not give clarity over who has responsibilities.

The Chair asked the Board for a vote to ratify the Regulations and they were agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the Updated Financial Regulations are approved.

B.3883 Review and Approve the updated Policy Statement

Viz:



Governance

Policy Statement on Water Level and Flood Risk Management

1 Issued

- 1.1 This policy is issued and has been adopted by the Middle Level Commissioners.
- 1.2 The policy was last reviewed and republished in April 2025 and will be reviewed at least every five years.

2 Introduction

Purpose

- 2.1 This policy statement has been prepared by the Middle Level Commissioners to provide a public statement of the Commissioners' approach to its management of water levels and flood risk within their District (the District). The Middle Level Commissioners are constituted by order of Parliament operating under the terms of the Land Drainage Act 1991 and the Middle Level Acts of 1810-1874 and 2018 and is designated as a flood risk and coastal erosion 'Risk Management Authority' (RMA) under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.
- 2.2 The Commissioners serve the local community by managing water levels in ordinary watercourses and other water infrastructures within the District to mitigate against the risks from flooding and drought. In delivering its functions the Commissioners will meet its environmental obligations and commitments and seek opportunities to enhance the environment. The Commissioners recognise their responsibility for good governance, local accountability and financial security, achieving value for money from all its activities. As an independent public body the Commissioners are committed to the pursuit of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 2.3 It should be noted that although this document refers to 'flood and coastal erosion risk management' (FCERM) the District is not affected by coastal erosion.

Background

- 2.4 The Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has policy responsibility for flood and coastal erosion risk management in England. The Environment Agency is responsible for taking a strategic overview of the management of all sources of flooding and coastal erosion. Lead Local Flood Authorities (unitary authorities or county councils) are responsible for developing, maintaining and applying a strategy for local flood risk management in their areas. Delivery is the responsibility of a number of flood risk and coastal erosion “Risk Management Authorities” (RMA), which includes the Middle Level Commissioners.
- 2.5 This Policy Statement sets out the Commissioners’ approach to meeting the national policy aims and objectives in this area, as stated in the *National flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England 2020* (the National Strategy); the statement will be revised to reflect future revisions of the National Strategy. It summaries what plans the Commissioners have in place to manage water levels and reduce flood risk, whilst protecting and enhancing the environment, and ensuring good governance and local accountability. Copies of this Policy Statement are available from the Commissioner’s office at Middle Level Offices, 85 Whittlesey Road, March, Cambridgeshire, PE15 0AH. Digital copies can be downloaded from the Commissioners’ website: www.middlelevel.gov.uk.

3. Governance and local accountability

- 3.1 The Middle Level Commissioners will ensure that its policies and procedures enable effective representation of and accountability to drainage rate payers and the occupiers of non-agricultural land within the district, including elections in line with the requirements of the Middle Level Act of 1862, and timely engagement with charging authorities to fill vacancies in seats allocated to appointed members.
- 3.2 Board members must take decisions objectively in their best interest and uphold the ethical standards expected of public officeholders. Board members must adhere to the Commissioners’ Members Code of Conduct, including the seven principles of public life (Nolan Principles). The Commissioners will make sure that there is suitable training in place for board members and staff, including on financial and environmental matters as appropriate.
- 3.3 Board members must declare financial and other interests relevant to their function with the Commissioners. Board members will recuse themselves as appropriate where conflicts of interest may occur in relation to procurement, contract management and decision making.

4. Delivering the National Strategy’s policy aim and objectives

Aim

- 4.1 The overall aim of the National Strategy is to ensure the risk of flooding and coastal erosion is properly managed by using the full range of options in a co-ordinated way. The Strategy states that communities, individuals, voluntary groups and private and public sector organisations will work together to manage the risk to people and their property, facilitate decision-making and action at the appropriate level, and achieve environmental, social and economic benefits, consistent with the principles of sustainable development.

Objectives

- 4.2 The 2011 Strategy sets out five objectives in pursuance of the overall aim as follows.
- understand the risks of flooding and coastal erosion, working together to put in place long term sustainable plans to manage these risks and making sure that other plans take account of them;
 - avoid inappropriate development in areas of flood and coastal erosion risk and being careful to manage land elsewhere to avoid increasing risks;

- build, maintain and improve flood and coastal erosion management infrastructure and systems to reduce the likelihood of harm to people and damage to the economy, environment and society as well as achieving wider environmental benefits;
- increase public awareness of the risk that remains and engaging with people at risk to encourage them to take action to manage the risks that they face and to make their property more resilient; and
- improving the detection, forecasting and issue of warnings of flooding, co-ordinating a rapid response to flood emergencies and promoting faster recovery from flooding.

4.3 The Middle Level Commissioners support the national aim and objectives for the management of flood risk and water levels and the Commissioners' policy and approach will be consistent with them.

5. Flood risk and water level management in the Board's District

5.1 The District has been determined to derive benefit, or avoid danger, as a result of drainage operations. As such the whole of the District is at some risk from flooding, but that risk is managed wherever it is practically, environmentally and financially viable¹.

5.2 The Middle Level Commissioners make decisions regarding flood risk within the District taking into account the following:

- assets in place considering design standard and life;
- Environment Agency and Lead Local Flood Authority flood risk strategies, plans and maps; and
- other information such as the history of flooding and land use impacts.

5.3 The following outlines the key details of the District:

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|--|----------|
| • Total area of the drainage district: | 46515 ha |
| • Catchment area draining to and including the District: | 70000 ha |
| • Area of Agricultural Land: | 43978 ha |
| • Area of other (non-agricultural) land: | 2537 ha |

5.4 Assets for which the Middle Level Commissioners have operational responsibility:

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| • Water Level Control Structures: | 20 No |
| • Watercourses (maintained): | 186 km |
| • Raised embankments: | 301 km |
| • Reservoirs: | 0 ha |
| • Sustainable drainage systems (SuDS): | 0 no |
| • Pumping Stations: | 2 no |

5.5 Assets within or adjacent to the District that are maintained by the Environment Agency:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| • Main Rivers: | 0 km |
| • Raised embankments/flood walls: | 21 km |
| • Pumping Stations: | 0 no |

¹ It should be noted that the Land Drainage Act 1991 provides the Board with statutory powers to carry out works of maintenance and improvement for land drainage and flood defence purposes, rather than imposing a duty on the Board to carry out such works.

6. Building, maintaining and improving flood and coastal erosion risk management systems

- 6.1 Through the operation, maintenance and improvement of watercourses and other water control assets within the District, the Middle Level Commissions seek to achieve a general standard of water level management that enables navigation, the drainage and irrigation of agricultural land, reduces flood risk to developed areas, and sustains environmental features throughout the District.
- 6.2 The Commissioners monitor and review the condition of its watercourses and other assets, particularly those designated as critical, over-spilling from which could affect people and property. Consistent with the resultant needs established, a routine maintenance programme is in place to ensure that the condition of the assets is commensurate with the standards required. The programme is reviewed periodically by the Commissioners to ensure it is delivering the appropriate condition.
- 6.3 Where standards are not at the desired level, improvement works will be sought where they are considered to be practical and financially viable by the Commissioners. Where improvement works meet the criteria set by Defra, financial support will be sought from the Government's Flood and Coastal Resilience Partnership Funding. Where appropriate works will be undertaken in partnership with other Risk Management Authorities and take opportunities to work with natural processes.
- 6.4 Work for and by the Commissioners will be carried out in accordance with best practice and to deliver best value for money taking due regard of local flood risk management requirements and strategies, opportunities for partnership working, environmental obligations and guidance available from Defra, the Environment Agency and other organisations.
- 6.5 The Commissioners' powers to carry out water level and flood risk management works are permissive (i.e. the Commissioners are not obliged to carry out works) and their resources are limited. The Commissioners' policy is therefore to designate what they consider to be the most important watercourses in the District as "District Drains" and prioritise their resources to the appropriate maintenance and, where necessary, improvement of such channels and associated structures. The watercourses and structures so designated will change over time as necessary but the current designated watercourses and structures are shown on the plan attached to this Statement.
- 6.6 Other watercourses usually are the responsibility of other bodies or the adjoining owners. The Commissioners will only take action in respect of these latter watercourses where resources are available and where it is in all the circumstances appropriate for the Commissioners to become involved, bearing in mind the powers available to other persons or bodies.
- 6.7 The Commissioners have a supervisory duty, under section 1(2)(d) of the Land Drainage Act 1991 over all matters relating to the drainage of land in their District and will, under this duty where appropriate advise others regarding the undertaking of works when it is not appropriate for the Commissioners to exercise its own powers.
- 6.8 The Commissioners will also seek to ensure, where possible that assets managed by other risk Management Authorities, which also reduce flood risk to the District, are maintained at a satisfactory standard and may enter into a Public Sector Co-operation Agreement with another Risk Management Authority to achieve better value for money when carrying out work to reduce flood risk.

7. Regulation of activities – avoiding inappropriate development and land management

- 7.1 The Middle Level Commissioners will take appropriate steps to help riparian owners understand their responsibilities for maintenance, byelaw compliance and environmental regulations.
- 7.2 The Commissioners will regulate as necessary, using available legislative powers and byelaws, the activity of others to ensure their actions within, alongside, and otherwise impacting its drainage system

do not increase flood risk, prevent the efficient working of drainage systems, or adversely impact the environment.

- 7.3 The potential impact on flood risk from future development both within the District and the wider catchment draining into the District, is fully recognised by the Commissioners. The Commissioners will take an active role in the assessment of local plans, major development and, individual (planning) applications, to prevent inappropriate development and land use to ensure that flood risk is not increased. This will include, where appropriate, providing pre-application advice and checking of flood risk assessments.
- 7.4 Where appropriate the Commissioners will seek contributions from developers to cover the cost of consultations and advice and for both immediate and longer term works necessary to mitigate against any resultant increase in flood risk. Such contributions will be recorded in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and associated technical guidance.
- 7.5 The Commissioners will where appropriate designate structures or features affecting flood risk using Section 30 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

8. Communication and transparency

- 8.1 The Middle Level Commissioners will publicise the local risks from flooding, the reasons for managing water levels within the District and articulate the efforts being undertaken by the Commissioners to manage water levels and flood risk as well as the steps the local community and land managers can take to assist in its management.
- 8.2 The Commissioners will be open and transparent in its actions and decisions. The Commissioners will comply with the requirements set out in the relevant Local Government transparency code.
- 8.3 The Commissioners will provide an overview of the objectives and costs of its water level management operations by publishing on its website:-
 - A record of the watercourses it periodically maintains;
 - A statement of the types of general maintenance activities it routinely undertakes and why;
 - Its Annual Report to Defra (IDB1 Form); and
 - Approved Board minutes and papers.
- 8.4 The Commissioners will seek views and respond to enquiries from the local general public in this regard and work with local partners to build a culture within which watercourses are seen as vital to managing flood risk, and enhancing habitat and amenity. Every effort will be made to dissuade abuse of watercourses.
- 8.5 The Commissioners invite any comments regarding the condition of its system, which could assist with the management of water levels.

9. Working together

- 9.1 The Middle Level Commissioners will co-operate and share information with other relevant authorities in the exercise of their flood and coastal erosion flood risk management function. The Commissioners will contribute to strategies, plans and consultations relevant to its catchment and functions.
- 9.2 The Commissioners will assist the Environment Agency wherever possible in its provision of adequate and cost effective flood warning systems, and assist Risk Management Authorities where necessary during flood emergencies. The Commissioners will participate as necessary in exercises to develop and test emergency response procedures.

- 9.3 The Commissioners have provided the Environment Agency and other local Risk Management Authorities with information on the major flood defence assets for which they are responsible. The information is available from the Environment Agency.
- 9.4 The Commissioners will seek to work with all relevant local organisations, in carrying out its flood and coastal erosion risk management functions and environmental obligations.

10. Environmental Measures

- 10.1 The Middle Level Commissioners have nature conservation duties under the Land Drainage Act 1991, the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017, the Eels (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 and Amendments 2011, the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975, the Environment Act 2021, and as a competent authority under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. The Commissioners will fulfil these in a positive way.
- 10.1.1 Further to the requirements of the Environment Act 2021, the Commissioners will review their Water Level Management Plans and Biodiversity Action Plans with reference to the local nature recovery strategy and relevant species conservation or protected site strategy for their areas.
- 10.2 Much of the Commissioners' watercourse maintenance work constitutes vegetation control and desilting and is often a vital and routine requirement. Whilst inevitably some short-term impacts will arise, this management is often essential to maintain the distinct assemblage of aquatic habitat and species present in the District. Such work will be carried out in a way that manages the potential risks to the environment. The Commissioners have access to environmental expertise from their Ecology and Environmental Services Manager and have a Biodiversity Action Plan, developed according to ADA and Natural England guidelines, which indicate the way in which their functions can be carried out in a way appropriate to the environment and how the environment can be enhanced. The Commissioners maintain only a small proportion of the total watercourse length in the District, the significant majority being the responsibility of the adjoining land owners or of other bodies.
- 10.3 When carrying out work, be it maintenance or improvement, and consistent with the need to maintain satisfactory flood protection standards, the Commissioners will aim to:-
- Avoid any unnecessary or long term damage to agricultural interests and to natural habitats and species;
 - Carry out the monitoring of any gains and losses of biodiversity and report annually to the Environment Agency; and
 - Take appropriate opportunities to achieve multiple environmental outcomes and work with natural processes, wherever possible, including the enhancement of habitats and water bodies within the District.
- 10.4 The District encompasses sites of national and international biological or geological interest including:
Woodwalton Fen
Holme Fen
- 10.5 The Commissioners have 1 Water Level Management Plan.
- 10.6 The Commissioners will play its full role in sustaining the Water Level Management Plans prepared for SSSIs to maintain, or bring sites into, favourable condition, in conjunction with Natural England and other interested parties and review the plans in accordance with guidance.

The Chief Executive advised the Board that this document had been updated after noting that it was out of date. Mrs Martin was able to advise the Board that very little had changed from the previous document, with updates mainly reflecting the Boards environmental responsibilities.

The Chair asked the Board to agree the policy and it was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED

That the updated Policy Statement is approved.

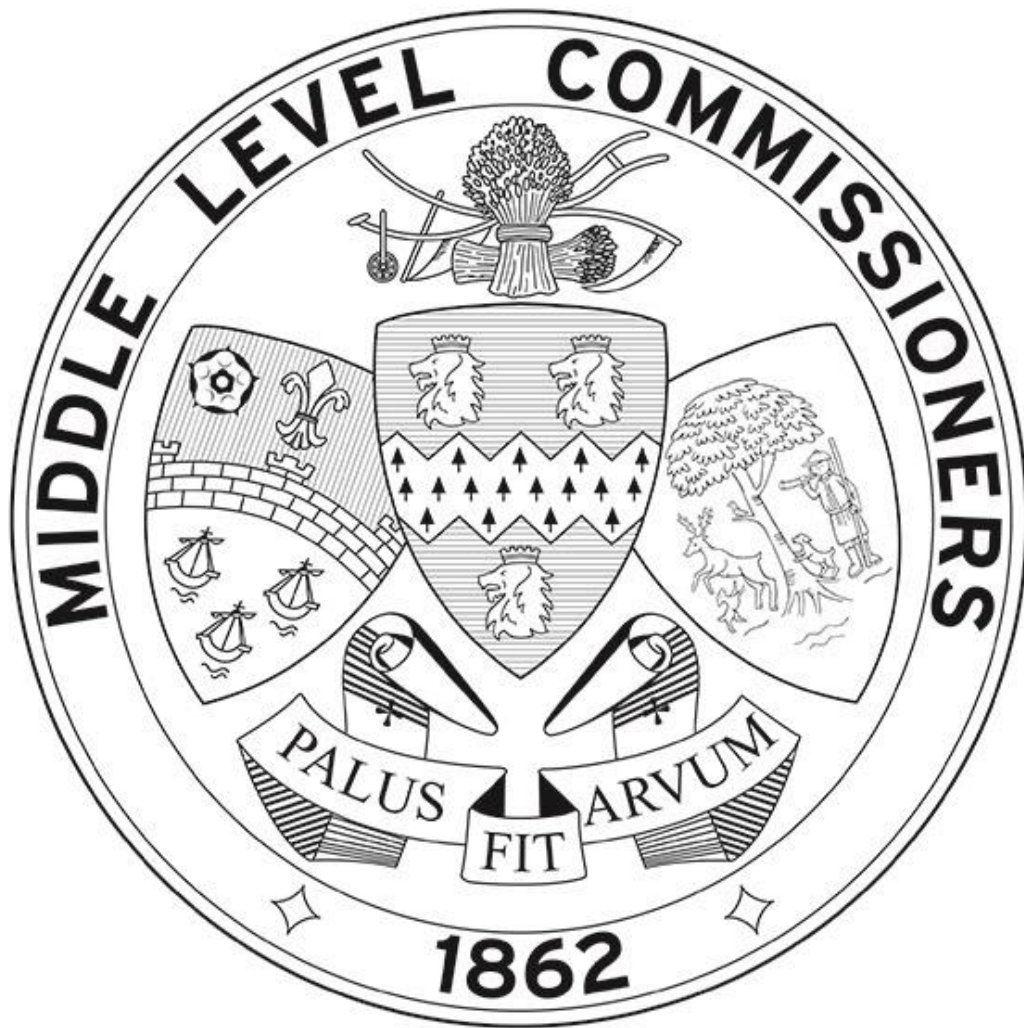
B.3884 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM SUBJECT TO LEGAL PRIVILEGE

The Clerk gave an update to the Board.

This item is excluded under S1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

B.3885 Approval of Accounts and Annual Report for 2024/25

Viz:



*Proudly managing water levels in the Fens since
1862*

**Management Accounts and Annual Return
for the Year
Ended 31st March 2025**

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Management accounts and Annual Return year ended 31st March 2025.

At the April 2025 Middle Level Board and Commissioners meetings at which the Rates and Special Levies for 2025/2026 were set probable out-turn figures for 2024/2025 were presented indicating an overspend against rates raised of £679,314 (20%). These figures included several provisions and estimates for outstanding invoices/charges, the major ones being for outstanding electricity supply invoices.

Actual year-end figures now show an overall reduction in the General Fund balance for the year of £1,016,966, this equates to a 30% overspend and equivalent to a rate of 9.9p (2023/2024 reduction of £465,424 (14.9% overspend)), thus reducing the General Fund balance from £3,960,017 to £2,943,051. Overall, the General Fund Balance has reduced by £1,482,390 (33.5%) over the past two financial years.

A significant part of the variance is the removal of the outstanding Grant Claim from the Environment Agency in respect of the Middle Level River Management Scheme. This claim has still not been received.

There has been some re-allocation of areas of expenditure and actual invoiced charges included in place of estimates and provisions made and the variances are shown on the monitoring report, pages 25-26.

Members should note that the total expenditure as shown on the Annual Return for 2024/2025 is £14,159,727 (2023/2024 - £7,129,188). The limit to qualify for the limited assurance audits is income or expenditure below £6,500,000. If income or expenditure exceeds this for three consecutive years, then the authority becomes subject to a full external audit.

Members are requested to consider and approve the Annual Governance Statement, page 2 and to consider and approve the Management accounts for the year-ended 31st March 2025. These figures have been then used for the completion of the Accounting Statement on the Annual return, pages 30-32 which the Board are asked to review and approve.

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2024/25

We acknowledge as the members of:

Middle Level Commissioners

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025, that:

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

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

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

DD/MM/YYYY

and recorded as minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE

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

Chair

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Clerk

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

ENTER PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITE/WEBPAGE ADDRESS

GENERAL FUND**EXPENDITURE**

<u>2023/2024</u>				<u>2024/2025</u>
£			£	£
	<u>Administration</u>	<u>Note</u>		
	Salaries, Superannuation and National Insurances	1		
513,821.71	-Clerk's Dept.		655,268.39	
679,409.83	-Engineer's Dept.		<u>839,225.71</u>	1,494,494.10
33,717.95	Travelling Expenses etc			42,435.11
23,236.05	Printing, Stationery and Office Equipment	2		19,852.61
46,919.45	Maintenance of Offices			45,637.29
92,006.43	Other Administrative Expenditure	3	<u>246,609.38</u>	1,849,028.49
	<u>Maintenance Work</u>			
1,032,476.31	St. Germans Pumping Station		664,564.34	
410,293.90	Bevills Leam Pumping Station		192,789.79	
	General Maintenance Works:-			
106,202.19	Operation/Maintenance of Structures,		92,472.96	
581,830.43	Banks and Channels, Weed Control etc.		615,303.44	
71,420.90	Property (including Rates)		105,014.98	
78,237.69	Environmental Risk Management (Conservation)	4	<u>152,706.52</u>	1,822,852.03
5,916.00	Statutory Payments to Other Authorities			6,486.00
17,950.07	Environment Agency - Precept	5		18,488.42
107,454.88	Deficit on Plant & Vehicles Account	6		242,632.96
	<u>Grant Eligible Capital Schemes</u>			
991,368.03	MLRMS - Development & Works	7	7,167,610.71	
36,154.40	Other Schemes and Studies		<u>1,475,906.15</u>	8,643,516.86
	<u>Non Grant Eligible Works</u>			
193,309.77	Improvement Works	8	<u>137,313.27</u>	137,313.27
	<u>PWLB - Loan repayments</u>			
	<u>St. Germans Pumping Station Replacement</u>	9a		
343,612.63	Principal		359,958.63	
344,628.91	Interest		<u>328,282.91</u>	688,241.54
	<u>Office/Depot relocation</u>	9b		
780,970.97	Principal		-	
<u>29,632.99</u>	Interest		<u>-</u>	-
295,750.00	Transfer to Property Realisation Fund			-
31,298.88	Deficit on Navigation Account (Waterways Management)			41,662.39
3,960,016.89	Balance In Hand on 31st March 2025			2,943,051.37
<u>10,807,637.26</u>				<u>16,393,273.33</u>

INCOME			
<u>2023/2024</u>			<u>2024/2025</u>
£		<u>Note</u>	£
4,425,441.35	Balance brought forward 1st April 2024		3,960,016.89
	Rate Income (33.00p in the £) inclusive		
3,145,937.74	of penalty and costs	10/11	3,399,512.06
20,812.58	Rent Income		25,701.58
3,429.61	Annual Contributions		978.95
71,690.12	Interest on Deposit Accounts etc		93,661.83
	Receipts in respect of work undertaken		
	for other authorities etc:-		
111,982.00	Consulting Fees		278,227.76
64,895.32	Mechanical and Electrical Services		88,541.00
262,715.45	Internal Drainage Boards Administration etc		314,780.54
730.00	Legal Fees		-
			681,549.30
424,361.97	Contribution for Pumping Highland Water (Maintenance)		779,626.05
-	Storm Recovery Grant (IDB Fund)		401,113.60
-	Contributions - Environmental Risk Management	12	-
18,002.50	Environmental Officer Contributions		29,753.25
63,316.48	Insurance Claim Receipts		10,523.68
7,452.65	Surplus on Disposal of Assets		15,603.85
295,750.00	Sale of Property	13	-
	Receipts in respect of overhead expenditure in connection		
	with the Commissioners' work for other Authorities etc.		393,299.32
40,710.04	Less: Works Equipment, Depot Telephone, Insurances etc.		317,208.97
			76,090.35
	<u>Grant Eligible Capital Schemes</u>		
1,027,522.43	Grant Due on Schemes and Studies	14	6,850,213.73
	<u>Non Grant Eligible Works</u>		
40,422.69	Future Works Account Funding		24,316.89
782,464.33	Property Realisation Fund		44,611.32
-	Write back of old provisions		-
<u>10,807,637.26</u>			<u>16,393,273.33</u>

BALANCE SHEET**2023/2024**

£

2024/2025

£

FIXED ASSETS

517,625.00	Freehold Land		517,625.00
2,168,855.50	Office/Depot		2,089,935.75
190,060.00	Operational Buildings		182,750.00
8,247,077.00	Pumping Stations		7,980,587.00
87,150.00	Investment Property		87,150.00
36,500.00	Office Equipment (Valuation)		36,500.00
2,644.50	Plant & Vehicles (Navigation)		38,180.11
651,934.25	Plant and Vehicles		816,182.57
<u>11,901,846.25</u>			<u>11,748,910.43</u>

CURRENT ASSETS

295,834.51	Stocks and Work in progress		268,038.02
753,044.65	Debtors and Prepayments	15	870,615.12
6,227,026.09	Bank and Cash balances	16	5,663,641.07
20.00	Investments		20.00
<u>7,275,925.25</u>			<u>6,802,314.21</u>

CURRENT LIABILITIES

2,227,606.16	Creditors and Accruals		2,933,033.26
7,059,021.56	Public Works Loan - (St. Germans)	9b	6,699,062.93
<u>9,286,627.72</u>			<u>9,632,096.19</u>

(2,010,702.47)**NET CURRENT ASSETS/LIABILITIES**(2,829,781.98)**9,891,143.78****NET ASSETS****8,919,128.45****FUNDS AND RESERVES**

1,897,451.25	Capital Provisions - Asset Revaluation		1,897,451.25
1,763,052.86	Capital Provisions - General Fund Revaluation		1,770,291.74
596,502.19	Capital Provisions - Revaluation Reserve		596,502.19
67,164.59	Development Contribution Account		102,490.22
42,599.73	Channel Maintenance Future Works Account (note 18)		43,607.27
18,146.23	Discharge Consents A1(M) Account		18,575.41
782,346.27	Commutated sum - (Cardea)		776,686.25
202,008.20	Sale of Land & Buildings/Property Fund	14	162,174.63
3,960,016.89	Revenue Account		2,943,051.37
140,718.90	Navigation account		170,552.36
421,136.67	Revenue future works account	18	437,745.76
<u>9,891,143.78</u>			<u>8,919,128.45</u>

A Wool
Financial Officer

NAVIGATION ACCOUNT

(Wisbech Canal Act 1794)

(Nene Navigation Act, 1753 and Middle Level Acts, 1844 and 1862)

Requirements to keep separate accounts regarding the above repealed with the Middle Level Act 2018

(Middle Level Navigation Act 2018)

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		<u>INCOME</u>	
	£		£
<u>Fees:</u>		Balance in hand on 1st April 2024	140,718.90
Registration/Licence collection	391.67	Interest	3,328.18
Waterways management	62,263.24	Registration/licence fees	200,478.35
<u>Link Route</u>		Temporary visitor passes	2,412.07
Installation of facilities	23,782.00	PaddleUK	2,371.30
<u>PaddleUK</u>		Sale of lock handles and keys	656.69
Installation of facilities	2,203.61	Services for Environment Agency	487.00
<u>Works:</u>		<u>Works:</u>	
Operation/maintenance of locks	67,592.67	Operation/maintenance of locks	67,592.67
Maintenance of channels	163,175.45	Maintenance of channels	163,175.45
<u>Improvement works:</u>		<u>Improvement works:</u>	
Structures	132,922.00	Structures	-
Watercourses	-	Watercourses	-
<u>Professional fees/Administration</u>		<u>Professional fees/Administration</u>	
Professional fees	-	Professional fees	-
Administration	29,095.21	Administration	29,095.21
<u>In accordance with Middle Level Act 2018 - 25% of income for</u>		Deficit on Operations	41,662.39
Link Route Funding at 1st April 2024	137,390.48		
Installation of facilities	50,119.59		
Less: Spent in year	(23,782.00)		
Interest to Fund	3,249.46		
	166,977.53		
General Balance at 1st April 2024	828.42		
Interest to Balances	19.59		
	848.01		
PaddleUK at 1st April 2024	2,500.00		
Contribution Received	2,371.30		
Less: Spent in year	(2,203.61)		
Interest to Fund	59.13		
	2,726.82		
	<u>651,978.21</u>		<u>651,978.21</u>

BALANCE SHEET - NAVIGATIONCAPITAL SECTION

Liabilities		Assets	
Capital Loan (Middle Level)	40,169.24	Plant & Vehicles	40,169.24

REVENUE SECTION

General Balances	848.01	Bank & Cash Balances	170,552.36
Link Route Funding	166,977.53	(Held Within MLC Banking Accounts)	
PaddleUK Funding	2,726.82		
	<u>170,552.36</u>		<u>170,552.36</u>

ADVENTURERS' ACCOUNT
(Middle Level Act 1862 - Section 16)

EXPENDITURE	£
Rates and other outgoings on properties and structures	2,945.88
Balance in Hand on 31st March, 2025	695.54
	<u>3,641.42</u>

INCOME	£
Balance in Hand on 1st April, 2024	695.54
Rent due: Fisheries	2,945.88
	<u>3,641.42</u>

Annual value of chargeable hereditaments in the Middle Level Area

	31st March 2025 £
Agricultural Land and Buildings	6,672,332
Values on which Special Levies are issued	3,617,935
	<u>10,290,267</u>

MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS**Notes to the accounts for year ended 31st March 2025**

<u>2023/2024</u>		<u>2024/2025</u>
	<u>Note 1</u>	
	<u>Salaries, Superannuation and National Insurance</u>	
£		£
1,004,385.18	Salaries	1,120,993.83
14,936.55	Travelling Expenses	11,583.24
111,307.27	National Insurance Contributions	147,094.50
144,906.98	Pension Contributions	185,151.72
<u>1,275,535.98</u>		<u>1,464,823.29</u>
The figures as shown are the gross employment costs of the officers and staff of the Commissioners. Employment costs for pumping station attendants, lock keepers, works foreman are shown within their relative individual cost centre within the accounts. The total employment costs as detailed in the Commissioners staff payroll is:		
£		£
1,502,037.50	Salaries and Wages	1,734,208.73
15,203.30	Travelling Expenses	15,653.15
-	Redundancy Costs	-
161,145.94	National Insurance Contributions	191,306.33
208,630.06	Pension Contributions	211,705.57
<u>1,887,016.80</u>		<u>2,152,873.78</u>
	<u>Note 2</u>	
£	<u>Printing, Stationery and Office Equipment</u>	£
	Expenditure includes:	
10,000.00	IT Replacement Budget	10,000.00
	<u>Note 3</u>	
£	<u>Other Administrative Expenditure</u>	£
	Expenditure includes:	
138.00	Professional Fees (Search Fees/Valuations)	102.00
4,673.65	Professional Fees (Ratepayer Challenge)	138.00
-	Professional Fees (Land Registration)	23.00
-	Professional Fees (IDB Reform)	10,000.00
-	Professional Fees (Withdrawal of MLRMS Finance)	18,388.00
17,376.05	Consultancy Fees (Engineering Staffing)	80,732.39
-	Provision for Unpaid Rates	50,000.00
22,500.00	Provision for Internal and External Audit Fees	23,500.00
<u>44,687.70</u>		<u>182,883.39</u>
	<u>Note 4</u>	
£	<u>Environmental Risk Management Works</u>	£
	Expenditure includes:	
4,616.17	Biodiversity Action Plan	-
31.60	Mink Control Project	-
716.66	St Germans Eel Pass	40,000.00
30,268.30	Badger Sett Mitigation Works	-
-	Badger Netting	2,541.87
-	Badger Licence	3,100.00
-	Water Vole Displacement	538.93
<u>35,632.73</u>		<u>46,180.80</u>

MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS**Notes to the accounts for year ended 31st March 2025**

<u>2023/2024</u>			<u>2024/2025</u>
£			£
		<u>Note 5</u>	
		<u>Environment Agency - Precept</u>	
		The Environment Agency Precept raised against the drainage authorities within the Middle Level Area has previously been paid by The Middle Level Commissioners (2008 - £300,700). From 2008/09 the Precept has been levied to, and paid by the individual authorities. Following this change, an agreement was reached with Upwell IDB that the Commissioners would make a contribution to them, based on the area which does not drain directly to the Middle Level catchment.	
£			£
2,045.07		Environment Agency - Precept	2,106.42
15,905.00		Contribution to Upwell IDB	16,382.00
<u>17,950.07</u>			<u>18,488.42</u>
		<u>Note 6</u>	
		<u>Deficit on Plant & Vehicles Account</u>	
		Annual Depreciation on plant and vehicles is shown through this account	
£			£
150,075.16		Annual Depreciation	177,609.53
		<u>Note 7</u>	
£		<u>Grant Eligible Capital Schemes</u>	£
		Expenditure incurred during the year:	
22,541.40		Horsey Toll LAPSIP grant	148,921.74
991,368.03		Middle Level River Management Scheme (MLRMS)	7,167,610.71
-		Middle Level River Management Scheme - Grant Not Received	(1,793,303.13)
-		St. Germans Radiator Repair (IDB Fund)	50,000.00
-		Bevills Leam Electrical Improvements (IDB Fund)	30,228.00
-		St. Germans Resilience (IDB Fund)	300,876.21
-		Operational Depot Resilience (IDB Fund)	145,450.00
-		Mobile Pumps (IDB Fund)	539,334.20
-		Bevills Leam Pumping Station (IDB Fund)	254,596.00
13,613.00		Alternative Upstream Storage Study	6,500.00
<u>1,027,522.43</u>			<u>6,850,213.73</u>
		<u>Note 8</u>	
£		<u>Non Grant Eligible Works</u>	£
		Expenditure incurred during the year:	
15,367.50		Woodwalton Fen storage reservoir inspections and works	71,421.25
-		Marmont Priory lock door replacement - <i>funded from navigation</i>	-
112,083.53		Catchwater Revetment -	-
7,497.48		Great Drove Culvert (Tin Dump)	-
32,925.21		Attenuation Lagood Maintenance (Cardea, Whittlesey)	24,163.49
13,222.85		St Germans P/S Impellor Inspection	-
10,190.00		St Germans P/S CCTV Improvements	-
2,023.20		St Germns P/S Fuel Monitoring	-
-		Telemetry Improvements	153.40
-		Operational Depot Resilience	6,319.38
-		Bevills Leam Pumping Station	8,770.99
-		MLRMS - Staff Time and Professional Fees	26,484.76
<u>193,309.77</u>			<u>137,313.27</u>

MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS**Notes to the accounts for year ended 31st March 2025****Note 9a****Public Works Loan Board - Loan Repayments**

These costs relate to the loan repayments to the Public Works Loan Board for loan drawdowns for the St. Germans pumping station replacement scheme.

Currently, £11,000,000.00 has been drawn, repayable over 30 years.

Loan 1 : £2,500,000.00 - March 2007	(Interest rate - 4.80%)
Loan 2 : £2,500,000.00 - November 2007	(Interest rate - 4.70%)
Loan 3 : £2,000,000.00 - April 2008	(Interest rate - 4.78%)
Loan 4 : £2,000,000.00 - May 2009	(Interest rate - 4.35%)
Loan 5 : £1,000,000.00 - December 2009	(Interest rate - 4.39%)
Loan 6 : £1,000,000.00 - February 2011	(Interest rate - 5.36%)

The annual repayments for the St Germans pumping station replacement scheme loans are:

Loan 1 :	£	158,101.10
Loan 2 :	£	156,282.94
Loan 3 :	£	126,189.34
Loan 4 :	£	119,998.80
Loan 5 :	£	60,284.16
Loan 6 :	£	67,385.20
Total :	£	688,241.54

Public Works Loan Board - Loan Repayments

During the previous year the Commissioners repaid the outstanding balance on the loan in full from the office/depot relocation fund.

2023/20242024/2025**Note 9b****Public Works Loan Board - Loan Repayments**

The balances outstanding as shown at 31st March are:

St Germans Pumping Station Replacement Scheme

£
7,059,021.56
<u>7,059,021.56</u>

£
6,699,062.93
<u>6,699,062.93</u>

Note 10**Drainage Rates and Special Levies issued by the Commissioners**

Drainage Rates issued

Penalties and costs raised

Special Levies

Irrecoverables

£
2,036,698.78
15,953.70
1,094,133.00
(847.74)
<u>3,145,937.74</u>

£
2,201,780.00
9,470.23
1,191,010.00
(2,748.17)
<u>3,399,512.06</u>

MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS**Notes to the accounts for year ended 31st March 2025****Note 11****Special Levies issued by the Commissioners**

£		£
603,637.00	Fenland District Council	656,294.00
247,449.00	Huntingdonshire District Council	269,191.00
243,047.00	Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk	265,525.00
<u>1,094,133.00</u>		<u>1,191,010.00</u>

2023/20242024/2025**Note 12****Contributions - Environmental Risk Management Projects**

£		£
15,482.50	Ecology consultancy (MLRMS Scheme)	-
<u>15,482.50</u>		<u>-</u>

Note 13**Sale of Property**

Proceeds from sales are to be held in a separate account, to be used for future capital investment.

£		£
300,000.00	18 Sluice Road, Wiggshall St Germans	-
(4,250.00)	Less fees	-
<u>295,750.00</u>		<u>-</u>

Note 14**Grants due on schemes and studies**

£		£
22,541.40	Horsey Toll LAPSIP grant	148,921.74
991,368.03	MLRMS - Development & Works	5,374,307.58
13,613.00	Alternative Upstream Storage Study	6,500.00
-	St. Germans Radiator Repair (IDB Fund)	50,000.00
-	Bevills Leam Electrical Improvements (IDB Fund)	30,228.00
-	St. Germans Resilience (IDB Fund)	300,876.21
-	Operational Depot Resilience (IDB Fund)	145,450.00
-	Mobile Pumps (IDB Fund)	539,334.20
-	Bevills Leam Pumping Station (IDB Fund)	254,596.00
<u>1,027,522.43</u>		<u>5,529,729.32</u>

Note 15**Ratepayers Account - Arrears**

The Commissioners' policy for dealing with the remaining balances/queries will be carried out, and it has not been considered necessary to make provision for irrecoverables against the Ratepayers Account. as at 31st March 2025

£		£
<u>121,570.57</u>	Balance outstanding as at 31st March	<u>155,350.44</u>

Note 16**Accountant's Account**

The Commissioners balance on the main accounts held at Barclays Bank PLC as at 31st March 2025 is:

£		£
<u>6,008,371.04</u>		<u>5,445,061.23</u>

Balances are held in:

£		£
502,021.20	Current Account 1	501,382.73
15,000.00	Current Account 2	15,000.00
898,172.95	Business Premium Account 1	2,265,362.34
93,176.89	Business Premium Account 2	2,663,316.16
4,500,000.00	Treasury Deposits (4 separate deposits)	-
<u>6,008,371.04</u>		<u>5,445,061.23</u>

MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS**Notes to the accounts for year ended 31st March 2025**2023/20242024/2025**Note 17****Channel Maintenance Future Works Account**

This account is for contributions received by the Commissioners towards the increased cost of maintenance works on specific channel sections due to developments etc. Interest has been accrued on balances.

Note 18**Revenue - Future Works Account**

From 31st March 2015, The Board approved for funds raised through rating for specific works to be shown separately within the accounts. Funding has been raised for:

£		£
6,785.04	Telemetry Improvements	6,792.11
16,842.44	I.T. Replacements	7,042.87
25,510.20	Publicity	13,113.55
112,774.92	MLRMS Scheme Development	115,442.19
157,641.97	Great Drove Culvert Improvements	161,370.40
101,582.10	Marmont Priory Lock Replacement	103,984.64
-	Reservoir Consulting Fund	30,000.00
<u>421,136.67</u>		<u>437,745.76</u>
6,679.37	<u>Telemetry Fund</u>	6,785.04
105.67	Opening balance	160.47
-	Interest	(153.40)
<u>6,785.04</u>	Expenditure in year	<u>6,792.11</u>
30,768.98	<u>IT Replacement Fund</u>	16,842.44
10,000.00	Opening balance	10,000.00
486.80	Funds raised (office equipment)	398.48
(24,413.34)	Interest	(20,198.05)
<u>16,842.44</u>	Expenditure in year	<u>7,042.87</u>
23,144.04	<u>Publicity Budget</u>	25,510.20
2,000.00	Opening balance	2,000.00
366.16	Funds raised (other administration)	603.35
-	Interest	(15,000.00)
-	Transfer to Reservoir Consulting Fund	-
<u>25,510.20</u>	Expenditure in year	<u>13,113.55</u>
111,018.49	<u>MLRMS Scheme Development</u>	112,774.92
1,756.43	Opening balance	2,667.27
-	Interest	-
<u>112,774.92</u>	Expenditure in year	<u>115,442.19</u>
162,567.46	<u>Great Drove Culvert Improvements</u>	157,641.97
2,571.99	Opening balance	3,728.43
(7,497.48)	Interest	-
<u>157,641.97</u>	Expenditure in year	<u>161,370.40</u>

MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS**Notes to the accounts for year ended 31st March 2025**

<u>2023/2024</u>		<u>2024/2025</u>
	<u>Marmont Priory lock gate replacement</u>	
100,000.00	Opening balance	101,582.10
-	Funds raised	-
1,582.10	Interest	2,402.54
-	Expenditure in year	-
<u>101,582.10</u>		<u>103,984.64</u>
	<u>Reservoir Consulting Fund</u>	
-	Opening balance	-
-	Funds raised (improvement schemes)	15,000.00
-	Transfer from Publicity Budget Fund	15,000.00
-	Interest	-
-	Expenditure in year	-
<u>-</u>		<u>30,000.00</u>

Note 19 - Pensions (Local Government Pension Scheme)

The Commissioners pay an employer's contribution (21.50% in 2024-

Note 20 - Declaration Of Interest - Third Party Transactions

The Middle Level Commissioners are appointed as Clerk to a number of other drainage authorities, and also act in the capacity of consulting engineers to these bodies.

The Commissioners also carry out engineering consultancy work for other bodies if requested, but are not formally appointed as consultants to these bodies.

The drainage authorities to which the Commissioners are appointed as clerk are:

Benwick Internal Drainage Board
 Bluntisham Internal Drainage Board
 Churchfield & Plawfield Internal Drainage Board
 Conington & Holme Internal Drainage Board
 Curf & Wimblington Combined Internal Drainage Board
 Euximoor Internal Drainage Board
 Haddenham Level Drainage Commissioners
 Hundred Foot Washes Internal Drainage Board
 Hundred of Wisbech Internal Drainage Board
 Manea & Welney District Drainage Commissioners
 March East Internal Drainage Board
 March Fifth District Drainage Commissioners
 March Sixth District Drainage Commissioners
 March Third District Drainage Commissioners
 March West & White Fen Internal Drainage Board
 Needham & Laddus Internal Drainage Board
 Nightlayers Internal Drainage Board
 Nordelph Internal Drainage Board
 Over & Willingham Internal Drainage Board
 Ramsey First (Hollow) Internal Drainage Board
 Ramsey Fourth (Middlemoor) Internal Drainage Board
 Ramsey Upwood & Gt Raveley Internal Drainage Board
 Ransonmoor District Drainage Commissioners
 Sawtry Internal Drainage Board
 Sutton & Mepal Internal Drainage Board
 Swavesey Internal Drainage Board
 Upwell Internal Drainage Board
 Waldersey Internal Drainage Board
 Warboys Somersham & Pidley Internal Drainage Board

MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS**ASSETS (31st MARCH 2025)**(Revaluation previously undertaken - 31st March 1989)also see LEDGER SHEET 124 - 31st MARCH 1948

		<u>Value at</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Revaluation</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Disposal in year</u>	<u>Write-off</u>	<u>Value at</u>
		<u>31st March 2024</u>	<u>in year</u>		<u>in year</u>	<u>Proceeds</u>		<u>31st March 2025</u>
<u>FREEHOLD LAND AND BUILDINGS</u>		£				<u>of sale</u>		£
FORTY FT RIVER -	Lots 41-44 - Grazing rights on North Bank (47a3r5p)	10						10
	Lot 45 - Grazing rights on South Bank from Horseway Bridge including a strip on North side (19a2r11p)	200						200
	Lots 46 and 47 Puddock Drove from 40ft River to end of Drove near Warboys Hardlands	5						5
SIXTEEN FT RIVER -	Grazing rights on East Bank and Drove in Chatteris, Wimblington and Upwell	10						10
MAIN DRAIN -	South East side - Lots 70-85 (130a1r1p)							
MAIN DRAIN -	North West side - Lots 54-69 (127a1r1p)	500,000						500,000
LAND AT SALTERS LODE		12,000						12,000
LAND PURCHASED AT MARMONT PRIORY SLUICE		400						400
LAND PURCHASED AT GREAT DROVE, YAXLEY - (Tin Dump)		5,000						5,000
(Note (SAY) 50 acres GRASS - Balance ARABLE)								
Carried forward		517,625	-	-	-	-	-	517,625

	<u>Value at</u> <u>31st March 2024</u>	<u>Additions</u> <u>in year</u>	<u>Revaluation</u>	<u>Depreciation</u> <u>in year</u>	<u>Proceeds</u> <u>of sale</u>	<u>Write-off</u>	<u>Value at</u> <u>31st March 2025</u>
<u>OFFICE - DEPOT</u>							
LAND AT WHITTLESEY ROAD	58,000						58,000
BUILDING	1,986,109			55,169			1,930,940
SOLAR PANELS	12,745			1,418			11,327
STANDBY GENERATOR - OFFICE	12,002			1,333			10,669
MACHINERY STORE - DEPOT	20,000			1,000			19,000
TEMPORARY OFFICES - (Bank Raising)	80,000			20,000			60,000
	2,168,856	-	-	78,920	-	-	2,089,936
<u>OPERATIONAL BUILDINGS</u>							
Cottage at St Germans (31 SLUICE ROAD)	43,420			1,670.00			41,750
STANGROUND NEW SLUICE HOUSE AND GARAGE	56,940			2,190.00			54,750
SALTERS LODGE COTTAGE	89,700			3,450.00			86,250
	190,060	-	-	7,310	-	-	182,750
<u>PUMPING STATIONS</u>							
BEVILLS LEAM PUMPING STATION	1			-			1
St GERMAN'S PUMPING STATION							
Building - (50 Year Straight Line)	7,029,904			130,814	-		6,899,090
Pump - (30 Year Straight Line)	1,217,171			135,676	-		1,081,495
Controls - (15 Year Straight Line)	1			-	-		1
	8,247,077	-	-	266,490	-	-	7,980,587

	<u>Value at</u> <u>31st March 2024</u>	<u>Additions</u> <u>in year</u>	<u>Revaluation</u>	<u>Depreciation</u> <u>in year</u>	<u>Proceeds</u> <u>of sale</u>	<u>Write-off</u>	<u>Value at</u> <u>31st March 2025</u>
<u>INVESTMENT PROPERTY</u>							
33 SLUICE ROAD, St GERMANS (Former engineer's house)	87,150						87,150
	87,150	-	-	-	-	-	87,150
<u>OFFICE EQUIPMENT</u>							
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	36,500		-	-			36,500

Middle Level Commissioners**Plant & Vehicles - 2024/2025**

Asset	Date of Purchase	Purchase £	Depn Period	Annual Depn	Value at 31.03.2024	Additions	Disposals	Depreciation in year	Value at 31.03.2025
J.C.B - AE72 AZJ	09/11/2022	94,675	8 years	11,834	77,909	-		11,834	66,075
Fork lift truck		3,000		-	1	-		-	1
BIC Boat	Jan-21	600	10 years	60	410	-		60	350
Conver weed boat '20	August '20	81,900	10 years	8,190	52,553	-		8,190	44,363
Ford New Holland '21 - AE22 EEM	Jul-21	119,829	10 years	11,983	87,874	-		11,983	75,891
Conver weed boat 2019	2019	87,565	10 years	8,757	43,785	-		8,756	35,029
Hemos weed boat '05	2005	40,135	10 years	2,300	9,776	-		2,300	7,476
Hemos weed boat '08	March. 08	38,326	10 years	3,833	1	-		-	1
Top mower	2006/2007	5,300	6 years	883	1	-		-	1
Spearhead mower -	Apr-20	221,000	8 years	27,625	112,802	-		27,625	85,177
Hemos weed boat	May-15	70,714	10 years	7,071	8,251	-		7,071	1,180
Flat bed trailer	July '24	5,250	10 years	525	-	5,250		350	4,900
Mardhall H/D 16 Tonne trailer	31/01/2018	11,025	10 years	1,103	4,226	-		1,103	3,124
Ifor Williams trailer	Jan-21	2,740	10 years	274	1,872	-		274	1,598
Top mower		5,000	6 years	-	1	-		-	1
Marshall - H/D 14 Trailer	Aug-17	8,647	10 years	865	2,953	-		865	2,088
M F tractor - AE17 EDO	Dec. 2016	88,000	6 years	14,667	1	-		-	1
M F tractor (weights/lights)	Dec. 2017	2,137	6 years	356	1	-		-	1
Herder flail mower	Mar. 16	64,050	6 years	10,675	1	-		-	1
Paxton galvanised Trailer	2008/09	7,000	10 years	700	1	-		-	1
Front Loader	22/10/2008	6,490	6 years	1,082	1	-		-	1
Diesel Bowser	01/06/2014	5,208	10 years	521	129	-		128	1
Slubbing Bucket	01/06/2014	2,570	5 years	514	1	-		-	1
Muck Fork	30/09/2024	2,472	4 years	-	-	2,472		309	2,163
Fuel tank	01/03/2022	1,234	10 years	123	988	-		123	865
2 x chainsaws	20/02/2023	1,048	3 years	349	670	-		349	321
2 x Klipo mowers	20/02/2023	1,305	3 years	435	834	-		435	399
Timemaster mower	20/02/2023	1,199	3 years	400	766	-		400	366
Cut of saw	31/03/2023	700	3 years	233	467	-		233	234
Outboard motor	01/07/2023	2,096	4 years	524	1,746	-		524	1,222
6" pump	01/09/2023	4,583	4 years	1,146	4,010	-		1,146	2,864
Dam boards	01/12/2023	9,470	4 years	2,368	8,878	-		2,368	6,511
Fork and grab attachment	01/03/2024	3,389	4 years	847	3,389	-		847	2,542
Weed Grab	31/08/2024	2,472	4 years	618	-	2,472		361	2,111
Top mower	01/03/2022	8,500	6 years	1,416	5,668	-		1,416	4,252
Cherry Picker (2013)	31/03/2013	8,500	6 years	1,417	1	-		-	1
Chipper (2016)	11/08/2016	17,129	5 years	3,426	1	-		-	1
Votex Landmaster 275 mower	05/06/2019	9,795	6 years	1,633	2,041	-		1,633	408
Herder Cavalier flail mower '21	01/12/2021	71,500	6 years	11,917	44,687	-		11,917	32,770
Clas Tractor - AE74 BXR	09/10/2024	95,300	6 years	-	-	95,300		6,618	88,682
KRM Atlas 5000P Flail Mower	05/08/2024	22,190	6 years	-	-	22,190		2,157	20,033
Hydraulic Winch	Nov-22	15,000	6 years	2,500	11,667	-		2,500	9,167
Ford Ranger - FP20 ZXV - navigation	11/08/2020	22,582	4 years	5,645	1,883	-		1,882	1
FP20 ZXV	Jukly 2022	1,781	16 months	1,335	1	-		-	1
Navigation - Dory boat	March '20	4,000	4 years	1,000	1	-		-	1
Navigation - outboard motor	01/07/2021	2,277	4 years	569	760	-		569	191
Navigation - Waste Pump	31/08/2024		4 years	13		51		7	43
Citroen Birlingo BW23 YZX	Aug. 2023	20,595	4 years	5,148	17,592	-		5,148	12,444
Citroen Birlingo BW23 YZS	Aug. 2023	20,595	4 years	5,148	17,592	-		5,148	12,444
Ford Ranger (dave) - BC23 YGY	01/07/2023	39,500	4 years	9,875	32,917	-		9,875	23,042
Ford Ranger (dave) - BC23 YGY	01/08/2023	2,337	4 years	584	1,948	-		584	1,364
Ford Transit (fitters) - AK16 HYH	30/04/2016	19,409	4 years	4,852	1	-		-	1
Ford Ranger - EK21 XGW	09/01/2023	31,491	4 years	7,873	22,306	-		7,873	14,433
Ford Ranger - EK21 XGW	Jan '23	1,940	4 years	485	1,374	-		485	889
Misubishi L200 - AU67 HSE		18,162	4 years	4,540	1	-		-	1
Ford Ranger (JC) - AE72 JZC	24/10/2022	29,923	4 years	7,480	19,326	-	11,846	7,480	-
Mitsubishi - AE64 NSN	01/09/2014	14,744	4 years	3,686	1	-		-	1
Toyota - AO64 ZNV	01/02/2015	15,934	4 years	3,983	1	-		-	1
Transit Custom - AG19 KCO	12/08/2019	21,390	4 years	5,347	1	-		-	1
VW Amorak (JF) - AF73 UOV	01/07/2023	47,180	4 years	11,795	41,283	-		11,795	29,488
Hard-top - AF 73 UOV	01/02/2024	2,985	4 years	746	2,612	-		746	1,866
Ford Ranger - EN18 HXA	01/07/2018	23,563	4 years	5,981	1	-	1	-	-
Hard top - EN18 HXA	01/07/2018	1,329	4 years	332	-	-		-	-
Peugeot Parler 1000 - AK71 XZT	24/01/2022	14,435	4 years	3,609	6,615	-		3,609	3,006
Iveco Tipper - BL12 LCZ	01/08/2012	31,750	4 years	7,938	1	-		-	1
Nissan - AE66 MXJ	Oct-16	15,629	4 years	3,907	1	-		-	1
Ford Ranger - YR74 USP	17/09/2024	38,978	4 years	-	-	38,978		4,872	34,106
Ford Ranger - YR74 USP - Hard Top	28/08/2024	3,024	4 years			3,024		378	2,646
Ford Ranger - AK74 FXH	15/11/2024	28,526	4 years			28,526		2,377	26,149
Ford Ranger - AK74 FXH - Hard Top	16/10/2024	1,603	4 years	-	-	2,020		168	1,852
Ford Ranger - YK74 RLA	February 2025	40,525	4 years			40,525		844	39,681
Ford Ranger - YO74 LWC	February 2025	41,500	4 years			41,500		865	40,635
Ford Ranger - AF74 YWJ	February 2025	38,750	4 years			38,750		807	37,943
Ford Ranger - AK25 KDV	February 2025	31,049	4 years			31,049		647	30,402
Ford Ranger - AK25 KDV-Hard Top	February 2025	3,024	4 years			3,024		63	2,961
Tipper Truck - AF25 MKM	February 2025	37,375	4 years			37,375		779	36,596
End		1,916,926		245,038	654,579	392,506	- 11,847	180,875	854,363

SUMMARY

	<u>Value at</u> <u>31st March 2024</u>	<u>Additions</u> <u>in year</u>	<u>Revaluation</u>	<u>Depreciation</u> <u>in year</u>	<u>Disposal in year</u> <u>Proceeds</u> <u>of sale</u>	<u>Write-off</u>	<u>Value at</u> <u>31st March 2025</u>
FREEHOLD LAND	517,625	-	-	-	-	-	517,625
OFFICE - DEPOT	2,168,856	-	-	78,920	-	-	2,089,936
OPERATIONAL BUILDINGS	190,060	-	-	7,310	-	-	182,750
PUMPING STATIONS	8,247,077	-	-	266,490	-	-	7,980,587
INVESTMENT PROPERTY	87,150	-	-	-	-	-	87,150
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	-	-	-	36,500
	<u>11,210,768</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>352,720</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,894,548</u>
PLANT & VEHICLES	654,579	392,506	-	180,875	11,847	-	854,363
LIGHT PLANT	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
	<u>11,865,346</u>	<u>392,506</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>533,594</u>	<u>11,847</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,748,910</u>
					Per Accounts		11,748,910

Middle Level Commissioners**PUBLIC WORKS LOAN BOARD****St GERMANS PUMPING STATION REPLACEMENT - LOAN FINANCING**

Estimated 2024/2025	688,242
Probable Actual 2024/2025	688,242
Estimated 2025/2026	688,242

Loans taken out:

	£	Interst rate	Half yearly repayment	<u>Date of advance</u>
Loan 1	2.5 million	4.80%	79,050.55	23rd March 2007
Loan 2	2.5 million	4.70%	78,141.47	23rd November 2007
Loan 3	2.0 million	4.78%	63,094.67	4th April 2008
Loan 4	2.0 million	4.35%	59,999.40	5th May 2009
Loan 5	1.0 million	4.39%	30,142.08	23rd December 2009
Loan 6	1.0 million	5.36%	33,692.60	23rd February 2011
			<u>344,120.77</u>	

All loans repayable over 30 years

Annual repayment 688,241.54

Payments made 2023/2024

	Principal	Interest	Total
Loan 1	42,668.37	36,382.18	79,050.55
Loan 1	43,692.41	35,358.14	79,050.55
Loan 2	41,735.89	36,405.58	78,141.47
Loan 2	42,716.68	35,424.79	78,141.47
Loan 3	32,567.28	30,527.39	63,094.67
Loan 3	33,345.64	29,749.03	63,094.67
Loan 4	31,463.54	28,535.86	59,999.40
Loan 4	32,147.87	27,851.53	59,999.40
Loan 5	15,376.38	14,765.70	30,142.08
Loan 5	15,713.89	14,428.19	30,142.08
Loan 6	14,076.71	19,615.89	33,692.60
Loan 6	14,453.97	19,238.63	33,692.60
	<u>359,958.63</u>	<u>328,282.91</u>	<u>688,241.54</u>

Loan Balances as at 31st March 2025

Loan 1	1,429,563.46	<u>Balance reconciliation:</u>	
Loan 2	1,464,721.05		
Loan 3	1,211,383.75	Balance at 01.04.2024	7,059,021.56
Loan 4	1,248,382.34		
Loan 5	641,606.94	Repayments 2024/25	(359,958.63)
Loan 6	703,405.39		
	<u>6,699,062.93</u>	Balance at 31.03.2025	<u>6,699,062.93</u>

Provision for repayments 2025/2026

	<u>1/2 yearly</u>	<u>Yearly</u>
Loan 1	79,050.55	158,101.10
Loan 2	78,141.47	156,282.94
Loan 3	63,094.67	126,189.34
Loan 4	59,999.40	119,998.80
Loan 5	30,142.08	60,284.16
Loan 6	33,692.60	67,385.20
		<u>0.00</u>
		688,241.54



United Kingdom

Debt Management

Office

PWLB lending facility

OFFICIAL

T 020 7862 6610
E pwlb@dmo.gov.uk
www.dmo.gov.uk

BALANCE OUTSTANDING AS AT 31 Mar 2025
7 April 2025
MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS (CAMBS)

LOAN REFERENCE NUMBER	REPAYMENT DATES	LOAN TYPE	REPAYMENT METHOD	PRINCIPAL BALANCE OUTSTANDING (£)
PW493141	23 Mar - 23 Sep	FIXED	ANNUITY	£1,429,563.46
PW494088	23 Mar - 23 Sep	FIXED	ANNUITY	£1,464,721.05
PW496351	23 Mar - 23 Sep	FIXED	ANNUITY	£641,606.94
PW494569	23 Mar - 23 Sep	FIXED	ANNUITY	£1,211,383.75
PW495482	23 Mar - 23 Sep	FIXED	ANNUITY	£1,248,382.34
PW498342	23 Mar - 23 Sep	FIXED	ANNUITY	£703,405.39
TOTAL OUTSTANDING BALANCE:				6,699,062.93
TOTAL NUMBER OF LOANS:				6

This report reflects scheduled transactions only, as such, early or late repayments are not reflected. Please contact pwlb@dmo.gov.uk if you have any queries.

Middle Level CommissionersComparison of Accounts to Budget, Estimated out-turn 2024/2025

	Approved Estimates 2024/2025	Adjust. for comparison	Estimated Out-turn 2024/2025	Accounts 2024/2025
<u>Administration</u>				
Statutory payments	1,771,500		1,860,691	1,849,028
	6,500		6,486	6,486
	1,778,000		1,867,177	1,855,514
<u>Works</u>				
St Germans P/S	703,000		663,920	664,564
Bevills Leam P/S	189,750		196,165	192,790
Structures	106,000		92,473	92,473
Weed Control, banks & channels	609,000		615,843	615,303
Conservation works	156,400		124,990	122,953
Property	129,000		105,015	105,015
	1,893,150		1,798,406	1,793,099
<u>Improvement works</u>				
Telemetry Improvements	10,000		153	153
Bank raising - works	2,000,000		7,172,337	7,167,611
Gt Drove culvert (Tin Dump)	10,000		-	-
Maintenance Cardea attenuation lagoons	30,000		24,163	24,163
Marmont Priory lock door replacement	25,000		-	-
St Germans impellor inspection	15,000		-	-
St Germans fuel monitoring	10,000		-	-
Horsely Toll LAPSIP works	130,000		138,783	148,922
Installation of moorings	50,000		-	-
Alternative upstream storage	144,500		6,500	6,500
Woodwalton Fen Reservoir	12,500		71,421	71,421
Horsely Toll System Study	75,000		-	-
Revetment/Bank Slip Repairs	100,000		-	-
St Germans Radiator Repair	25,000		50,000	50,000
Bevills Leam Electrical Improvements	25,000		30,228	30,228
St Germans Depot Resilience	-		300,876	300,876
MLC Operational Depot Resilience	-		151,769	151,769
Mobile Pumps	-		539,334	539,334
Bevills Leam Depot Resilience	-		263,367	263,367
MLRMS - Staff Time and Professional Fees	-		-	26,485
	2,662,000		8,748,931	8,780,830
<u>Deduct Grants and Contributions</u>				
Telemetry Improvements	-		-	153
Bank raising - works	2,000,000		5,744,552	5,374,308
Gt Drove culvert (Tin Dump)	10,000		-	-
Maintenance Cardea attenuation lagoons	30,000		24,163	24,163
Marmont Priory lock door replacement	25,000		-	-
Horsely Toll LAPSIP works	205,000		138,783	148,922
Installation of moorings	50,000		-	-
Alternative upstream storage	144,500		6,483	6,500
St Germans Radiator Repair	-		50,000	50,000
Bevills Leam Electrical Improvements	-		30,228	30,228
St Germans Depot Resilience	-		300,876	300,876
MLC Operational Depot Resilience	-		151,769	145,450
Mobile Pumps	-		539,334	539,334
Bevills Leam Depot Resilience	-		263,367	254,596
	2,464,500		7,249,555	6,874,531
<u>Plant & Vehicles</u>	65,000		158,588	151,746
<u>Precept - Environment Agency</u>	18,490		18,488	18,488
<u>Receipts</u>				
Highland water	765,000		779,626	779,626
Storm Recovery Grant	-		401,114	401,114
Fees, admin etc.				
Consultancy	203,500		330,967	366,769
IDB admin.	270,000		321,481	314,781
Balances	(78,500)		(44,611)	(44,611)
	395,000		607,837	636,937.98
Income from rents, bank interest etc.	95,583		120,340	120,342
Insurance Claims	-		-	10,524
Write back of old provisions	-		-	-

Middle Level Commissioners**Comparison of Accounts to Budget. Estimated out-turn 2024/2025****SUMMARY**

	Approved Estimates 2024/2025	Adjust. for comparison	Estimated Out-turn 2024/2025	Accounts 2024/2025	Estimates - Accounts plus/minus
Administration	1,778,000		1,867,177	1,855,514	(11,663)
Works	1,893,150		1,798,406	1,793,099	(5,307)
Improvement Works	2,662,000		8,748,931	8,780,830	31,899
Plant & Vehicles	65,000		158,588	151,746	(6,842)
Environment Agency Precept	18,490		18,488	18,488	-
Loan Repayments					
St. Germans pumping station replacement	688,242		688,242	688,242	-
Replacement of 2023/2024 Balance Reduction	180,000		-	-	-
	7,284,882		13,279,832	13,287,919	8,087
<u>Less Income</u>					
Highland Water (maintenance)	765,000		779,626	779,626	-
Storm Recovery Grant	-		401,114	401,114	
Grants and contributions	2,464,500		7,249,555	6,874,531	(375,024)
Fees, admin. Etc	473,500		652,448	681,549	29,101
Rents, bank interest etc.	95,583		120,340	120,342	2
Insurance Claims	-		-	10,524	
Write back of old provisions					
Contribution from Navigation	15,000		(39,975)	(40,855)	(880)
Use of balances	78,500		44,611	44,611	-
Net amount to be met from rates and S. Levy	3,392,799		4,072,113	4,416,478	344,365
Rates raised	33.00p		33.00p	33.00p	
General Fund					
Opening Balance	3,960,017		3,960,017	3,960,017	3,280,703
Prior year adjustment (St Germans stocks)					
Rates raise	3,392,799		3,392,799	3,399,512	6,713
Net Expenditure	3,392,799		4,072,113	4,416,478	344,365
Transfer to General Balances	180,000		-	-	-
Closing balance	4,140,017		3,280,703	2,943,051	2,943,051

Middle Level CommissionersYear Ended 31st March 2025

Date		<u>2023/2024</u>	<u>2024/2025</u>
Balances	General Fund	5,964,213.66	5,048,299.09
B/Fwd		- 5,964,213.66	- 5,048,299.09
Rates and Special Levies	Rate income	3,145,937.74	3,399,512.06
		3,145,937.74	3,399,512.06
	Rent Income	20,812.58	25,701.58
	Annual Contributions	3,429.61	978.95
	Interest on deposit accounts	71,690.12	93,661.83
	Interest on investments	-	-
	Revaluation of investments	-	-
	Consulting fees	111,982.00	278,227.76
	Mechanical & Electrical Services	64,895.32	88,541.00
	IDB administration	262,715.45	314,780.54
	Legal Fees	730.00	-
	Highland Water Administration	-	-
	Highland Water Contribution (Maintenance)	424,361.97	779,626.05
	Contributions Received	-	-
	Environmental Officer Contributions	18,002.50	29,753.25
	Insurance Claim Receipts	63,316.48	10,523.68
	Contributions - Banks & Channels	-	-
	Navigation - Licences/Registrattion	215,734.86	205,748.72
	Conservation Project Contributions	-	-
	Landing Stage Construction Contributions	-	-
	Works Administration Surplus	40,710.04	76,090.35
	Surplus on Plant Operations Account	42,620.28	-
	Rechargeable Works for Other Authorities	346,585.20	325,432.32
	<u>Grant aid received</u>	-	-
	Revenue schemes	-	-
	St Germans p/s	-	-
	Storm Recovery Grant - (IDB Fund)	-	401,113.60
	Proceeds of Sale - Disposal of Plant	12,960.65	27,201.00
	Sale Proceeds - Equipment	-	250.00
	Increase in value of consumable stores	-	-
	Development contributions	12,701.74	33,737.10
	Interest - Development contributions a/c	848.24	1,588.53
	Interest - Future works account	13,361.03	19,511.01
	Interest - Discharge consents A1(M)	282.62	429.18
	Interest - Relocation fund	3,797.05	4,777.75
	Interest - Revenue future works	6,869.15	9,960.40
	Interest - Navigation	1,405.90	3,328.18
	Government Grant	1,027,522.43	6,850,213.73
	Commuted sum (Cardea)	-	-
	Sale Proceeds - Buildings	300,000.00	-
	Write back of old provisions	-	-
All other income		3,067,335.22	9,581,176.51

Middle Level Commissioners		2023/2024	2024/2025
Year Ended 31st March 2025			
Staff costs	<u>Wages and salaries</u>		
	Gross payments	1,502,037.50	1,734,208.73
	Travel	-	-
	Wages/salary	1,502,037.50	1,734,208.73
	Travel	15,203.30	16,587.93
	NIC	161,145.94	191,306.33
	Pension	208,630.06	211,705.57
		1,887,016.80	2,153,808.56
	Class 1a NIC	2,589.39	3,166.83
	<u>Training</u>		
	Staff	896.00	4,460.63
	Workforce	8,058.47	14,192.99
	Redundancy costs	-	-
		1,898,560.66	2,175,629.01
	1,898,560.66	2,175,629.01	
Loan interest/ capital repayments	<u>St Germans Pumping Station Replacement</u>		
	Principal	343,612.63	359,958.63
	Interest	344,628.91	328,282.91
	<u>Office/Depot relocation</u>		
	Principal	780,970.97	-
	29,632.99	-	
	1,498,845.50	688,241.54	
All other payments	St Germans Pumping Station	1,032,476.31	664,564.34
	Bevills Leam pumping station	410,293.90	192,789.79
	Maintenace of watercourses other structures	688,032.62	707,776.40
	Property	71,420.90	105,014.98
	Environmental Risk Management (Conservation)	78,237.69	152,706.52
	Navigation - Maintenance of waterways	71,350.45	58,733.02
	Schemes and studies:		
	Grant eleigible schemes and studies	1,027,522.43	8,643,516.86
	Non grant eligible schemes and studies	188,309.77	137,313.27
	Improvements - Navigation	27,237.45	158,907.61
	IT budget (print/stat/equip)	- 10,000.00	- 10,000.00
	Telemetry budget (schemes & studies)	-	-
	Publicity budget (other admin)	- 2,000.00	- 2,000.00
	Reservoir Consulting Fund		- 15,000.00
	Improvement- replace marn(schemes & studies)	90,004.32	-
	Improvement - Gt Drove cilvert	-	-
	Telemetry budget	-	-
	Publicity budget	-	-
	Capital expenditure - Plant and vehicles	164,230.16	412,703.71
	Capital expenditure - Land & buildings	5,000.00	-
	salaries	1,193,231.54	1,494,494.10
	Travelling expenses	33,717.95	42,435.11
	Printing, stationery & office equipment	47,649.39	19,852.61
	Maintenance of offices	46,919.45	45,637.29
	Other administrative expenditure	92,006.43	246,609.38
	depreciation of offices and office equipment	-	-
	Statutory payments to other authorities	5,916.00	6,486.00
	Environment Agency precept	17,950.07	18,488.42
	Deficit on plant & Vehicles account	-	65,023.43
	Decrease in value of consumable stores	-	-
	Additional security measures at new depot	-	-
	Rechargeable works for other authorities	346,585.20	325,432.32
	IDB pumping station telemetry support scheme	-	-
	Fees - sale of Buildings	4,250.00	-
		5,630,342.03	13,471,485.16

<u>Middle Level Commissioners</u>		<u>2023/2024</u>	<u>2024/2025</u>
<u>Year Ended 31st March 2025</u>			
	B/FWD	5,630,342.03	13,471,485.16
	<u>Wages and salaries</u>		
	Gross payments	1,502,037.50	1,734,208.73
	travel	-	
	Wages/salary	1,502,037.50	1,734,208.73
	Travel	15,203.30	16,587.93
	NIC	161,145.94	191,306.33
	Pension	208,630.06	211,705.57
		1,887,016.80	2,153,808.56
	Class 1a NIC	2,589.39	3,166.83
	Training		
	Staff	896.00	4,460.63
	Workforce	8,058.47	14,192.99
	Redundancy costs	-	
		1,898,560.66	2,175,629.01
		(1,898,560.66)	(2,175,629.01)
All other payments		3,731,781.37	11,295,856.15
Balances C/Fwd	General Fund	5,048,299.09	3,869,260.96
		- 5,048,299.09	3,869,260.96
Cash & short term investments	Accountants account	502,021.20	501,382.73
	Accountants account	15,000.00	15,000.00
	Business Premium	898,172.95	2,265,362.34
	Business Premium	93,176.89	2,663,316.16
	Treasury Deposits	4,500,000.00	-
	National Savings	218,505.05	218,507.66
	Cash	150.00	72.18
		6,227,026.09	5,663,641.07
term assets	Freehold land	517,625.00	517,625.00
	Office/depot relocation	3,018,030.00	3,018,030.00
	Pumping stations	42,771,096.00	42,771,096.00
	Operational buildings	365,500.00	365,500.00
	Investment property	87,150.00	87,150.00
	Plant & Vehicles	1,536,390.00	1,865,891.00
	Office equipment	-	
	Investments	20.00	20.00
		48,295,811.00	48,625,312.00
Borrowings	<u>Public Works Loan Board</u>		
	St Germans pumping station replacement	7,059,021.56	6,699,062.93
	Office/Depot relocation	-	-
		7,059,021.56	6,699,062.93

Middle Level CommissionersSummary of bank accounts as at 31st March 2025Accountants Account - 1

	Per Statement	501,591.05	
Less:	O/S Cheques	(436.99)	
Plus:	O/S Lodgements	<u>228.67</u>	
			501,382.73

Business Premium - 1

	Per Statement	2,265,362.34	
Less:	O/S Cheques	-	
Plus:	O/S Lodgements	<u>-</u>	
			2,265,362.34

Current Account 2

	Per Statement	15,000.00	
Less:	O/S Cheques	-	
Plus:	O/S Lodgements	<u>-</u>	
			15,000.00

Business Premium - 2

	Per Statement	2,663,316.16	
Less:	O/S Cheques	-	
Plus:	O/S Lodgements	<u>-</u>	
			2,663,316.16

National Savings account

	Per Statement	218,507.66	
Less:	O/S Cheques	-	
Plus:	O/S Lodgements	<u>-</u>	
			218,507.66

Petty cash 72.18

72.18

5,663,641.07

Per Accounts

5,663,641.07

**MIDDLE LEVEL COMMISSIONERS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS AND PUBLICATION OF
UNAUDITED ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN**

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2025

Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 Sections 26 and 27
The Accounts and Audit Regulations (England) 2015 (SI 2015/234)

NOTICE

- 1** Date of announcement **25th June 2025**

- 2** Each year the Board's Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) needs to be reviewed by an external auditor appointed by Smaller Authorities' Audit Appointments Ltd. The unaudited AGAR has been published with this notice. As it has yet to be reviewed by the appointed auditor it may be subject to change as a result of that review.
Any person interested has the right to inspect and make copies of the accounting records for the financial year to which the audit relates and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts and other documents relating to those records must be made available for inspection by any person interested.
For the year ended 31st March 2025 these documents will be available on reasonable notice by application to:

The Clerk,
Middle Level Offices,
85 Whittlesey Road,
March, Cambs.
PE15 0AH
01354 653232

between the hours of 9.00am and 4.00pm
Monday to Friday

Commencing on **Monday 30th June 2025**

and ending on **Friday 8th August 2025**

- 3 Local Government Electors and their representatives also have:**
 - . The opportunity to question the appointed auditor about the accounting records; and
 - . The right to make an objection, which concerns a matter in respect of which the appointed auditor could either make a public interest report or apply to the court for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful. Written notice of an objection must first be given to the auditor and a copy sent to the Board.

The appointed auditor can be contacted at the address in paragraph 4 below for this purpose between the above dates only.

- 4** The Board's AGAR is subject to review by the appointed auditor under the provisions of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 and the NAO's Code of Audit Practice 2015. The appointed auditor is:

PKF Littlejohn LLP (Ref: SBA Team)
15 Westferry Circus
Canary Wharf
London E14 4HD
Email: sba@pkf-l.com

- 5** This announcement is made by: **Mr. A. Wool**
Responsible Financial Officer

Middle Level Commissioners**Annual Return 2024/2025****Draft - Subject to Audit**

Date	<u>2023/2024</u>	<u>2024/2025</u>
Balances	5,964,214	5,048,299
Rates and Special Levies	3,145,938	3,399,512
All other income	3,067,335	9,581,177
Staff costs	1,898,561	2,175,629
Loan interest/ capital repayments	1,498,846	688,242
All other payments	3,731,781	11,295,856
Balances c/fwd	5,048,299	3,869,261
Cash & short term investments	6,227,026	5,663,641
Fixed/Long term assets	48,295,811	48,625,312
Total Borrowings	7,059,022	6,699,063

Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25 for

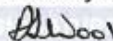
Middle Level Commissioners

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2024 £	31 March 2025 £	
1. Balances brought forward	5,964,214	5,048,299	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	3,145,938	3,399,512	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	3,067,335	9,581,177	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	1,898,561	2,175,629	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	1,498,846	688,242	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	3,731,781	11,295,856	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	5,048,299	3,869,261	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	6,227,026	5,663,641	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	48,295,811	48,625,312	The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.
10. Total borrowings	7,059,022	6,699,063	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

For Local Councils Only	Yes	No	N/A	
11a. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)				The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.
11b. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)				The figures in the accounting statements above exclude any Trust transactions.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2025 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

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


 Date 17/06/2025

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

DD/MM/YYYY
 as recorded in minute reference:
 MINUTE REFERENCE
 Signed by Chair of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved
 SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Middle Level Commissioners

Annual Return 2024/2025

Reconciliation of balances to cash

Date	<u>2023/2024</u>	<u>2024/2025</u>
Balances and reserves	5,048,299	3,869,261
Creditors as at 31/03/25	2,227,606	2,933,033
Public Works Loan	-	-
Stock valuation	(295,835)	(268,038)
Sundry Debtors	(753,044)	(870,615)
Total Cash and Investments	<u>6,227,026</u>	<u>5,663,641</u>

Middle Level Commissioners**Asset Valuation - Annual Return****Valuations for Annual Return**

<u>2023/2024</u>	<u>2024/2025</u>	<u>FREEHOLD LAND AND BUILDINGS</u>	
10	10	FORTY FT RIVER -	Lots 41-44 - Grazing rights on North Bank (47a3r5p)
200	200		Lot 45 - Grazing rights on South Bank from Horseway Bridge including a strip on North side (19a2r11p)
5	5		Lots 46 and 47 Puddock Drove from 40ft River to end of Drove near Warboys hardlands
10	10	SIXTEEN FT RIVER -	Grazing rights on East Bank and Drove in Chatteris, Wimblington and Upwell
500,000	500,000	MAIN DRAIN -	South East side - Lots 70-85 (130a1r1p)
12,000	12,000	MAIN DRAIN -	North West side - Lots 54-69 (127a1r1p)
400	400	LAND AT SALTERS LODE	
5,000	5,000	LAND PURCHASED AT MARMONT PRIORY SLUICE	
517,625	517,625	LAND PURCHASED AT GREAT DROVE, YAXLEY	

(Note (SAY) 50 acres GRASS - balance ARABLE)

Carried forward

Freehold land and buildings are valued as per the management accounts

OFFICE - DEPOT

58,000	58,000	LAND AT WHITTLESEY ROAD
1,225,000	1,225,000 <i>depot</i>	BUILDING
1,561,815	1,561,815 <i>office</i>	
28,215	28,215	SOLAR PANELS
20,000	20,000	STANDBY GENERATOR
25,000	25,000	DEPOT MACHINERY STORE
100,000	100,000	TEMPORARY OFFICES
3,018,030	3,018,030	

The office/depot is valued at original costs.

OPERATIONAL BUILDINGS

83,500	83,500	Cottage at St Germans (J VAN-DYKE, 31 SLUICE ROAD)
109,500	109,500	STANGROUND NEW SLUICE HOUSE AND GARAGE
172,500	172,500	SALTERS LODGE COTTAGE
365,500	365,500	

Operational buildings are valued in accordance with the valuations agreed with the Internal auditor, which has been used for the completion of the financial accounts.

PUMPING STATIONS

4,598,596	4,598,596	BEVILLS LEAM PUMPING STATION
3,700	3,700	Standby power generator
4,602,296	4,602,296	
25,038,797	25,038,797	St GERMANS PUMPING STATION
8,150,081	8,150,081	Building (50 year straight line)
4,979,922	4,979,922	Pump (30 year straight line)
		Controls (15 year straight line)
42,771,096	42,771,096	

Bevills leam pumping station has been valued in accordance with the valuations agreed with the Internal auditor, which has been used for the completion of the financial accounts. The addition of the standby power generator since the valuation has been added.

St Germans pumping station has been valued at original costs (gross).

INVESTMENT PROPERTY

87,150	87,150
87,150	87,150

33 SLUICE ROAD, St GERMANS (Former engineer's house)

Operational buildings are valued in accordance with the valuations agreed with the Internal auditor, which has been used for the completion of the financial accounts.

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

- -

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

For the purposes of the annual return, as all individual items are below the De minimis limit, no value has been included.

PLANT AND VEHICLES

94,675	94,675	J.C.B
3,000	3,000	Fork lift truck
600	600	BIC boat
81,900	81,900	Conver weed boat
119,829	119,829	Ford New Holland - AE22 EEM
51,635	51,635	Hemos weed boat '05
38,326	38,326	Hemos weed boat '08
87,565	87,565	Conver weed boat
5,300	5,300	Top mower
221,000	221,000	Spearhead mower
70,714	70,714	Hemos weed boat
11,025	11,025	16 tonne trailer
2,740	2,740	Ifor Williams trailer
5,000	5,000	Top mower
8,647	8,647	Trailer

88,000	88,000	M F Tractor - AE17 EDO
2,137	2,137	M F Tractor - AE17 EDO (weights & lights)
64,050	64,050	Herder flail mower
7,000	7,000	Trailer
6,490	6,490	Front Loader
5,208	5,208	Diesel Bowser
2,570	2,570	slubbing bucket
1,234	1,234	Mobile fuel tank
1,048	1,048	2 x chainsaws
1,305	1,305	2 x klipo mowers
1,199	1,199	Timemaster mower
700	700	Cut-of saw
2,096	2,096	Outboard motor
4,583	4,583	6" pump
9,470	9,470	Dam boards
3,389	3,389	Fork and grab attachment
8,500	8,500	cherry picker
8,500	8,500	Top mower
17,129	17,129	Chipper (2016)
9,795	9,795	Vortex landmaster mower
71,500	71,500	Herder cavalier mower
15,000	15,000	Hydraulic winch
4,000	4,000	Dory boat - (Navigation)
2,277	2,277	Outboard motor (Navigation)
22,582	22,582	Ford Ranger - FP20 ZXV
1,781	1,781	Hard-top - FP20 ZXV
20,595	20,595	Citroen Birlingo - BW23 ZYZX
20,595	20,595	Citroen Birlingo - BW23 YZS
39,500	39,500	Ford Ranger - BC23 YGY
2,337	2,337	Hard-top - BC23 YGY
19,409	19,409	Transit - AK16 HYH

31,491	31,491	Ford Ranger - EK21 XGW
1,940	1,940	Hard-top - EK21 XGW
18,162	18,162	Nissan Truck - AU67 HSE
29,923	-	Ford ranger - AE72 JZC
14,744	14,744	Mitsubishi - AE64 NSN
15,934	15,934	Toyota - AO64 NSN
21,390	21,390	Transit Custom - AK19 KCO
47,180	47,180	VW Amorak - AF67 YMC
2,985	2,985	Hard-top - AF67 YMC
23,563	-	Ford Ranger - EN18 HXA
1,329	-	Hard top - EN18 HXA
14,435	14,435	Peugeot van - AK71 XZT
31,750	31,750	Iveco Tipper - BL12 LCZ
15,629	15,629	Nissan - AE66 MXJ
-	2,472	Muck Fork
-	38,978	Ford Ranger - YR74 USP
-	3,024	Ford Ranger - YR74 USP - Hard Top
-	28,526	Ford Ranger - AK74 FXH
-	1,603	Ford Ranger - AK74 FXH - Hard Top
-	40,525	Ford Ranger - YK74 RLA
-	41,500	Ford Ranger - YO74 LWC
-	38,750	Ford Ranger - AF74 YWJ
-	31,049	Ford Ranger - AK25 KDV
-	3,024	Ford Ranger - AK25 KDV-Hard Top
-	37,375	Tipper Truck - AF25 MKM
-	95,300	Claas Tractor - AE74 BXR
-	22,190	KRM Atlas 5000P Flail Mower
1,536,390	1,865,891	Plant and vehicles are valued at original cost, and where this is not known, at the engineers valuation of likely original cost.
(54,815)		
384,316		
1,865,891		

Middle Level CommissionersAnnual Return Asset ValuationValuations for Annual Return2023/20242024/2025

517,625

517,625

FREEHOLD LAND

3,018,030

3,018,030

OFFICE - DEPOT

365,500

365,500

OPERATIONAL BUILDINGS

42,771,096

42,771,096

PUMPING STATIONS

87,150

87,150

INVESTMENT PROPERTY

-

-

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

46,759,401

46,759,401

1,536,390

1,865,891

PLANT & VEHICLES

48,295,791

48,625,292

20

20

INVESTMENTS

48,295,811

48,625,312

Valuations for Management AccountsValue at
31st March 2024Value at
31st March 202

517,625

517,625

2,168,856

2,089,936

190,060

182,750

8,247,077

7,980,587

87,150

87,150

36,500

36,500

11,247,268

10,894,548

660,083

854,363

11,907,350

11,748,910

Mr Wool introduced the accounts by explaining that this was his first year presenting the figures and that they have been simplified from previous years. Mr Wool invited comment from the Board either during or after the meeting.

He referred to Board to Page 14 of his report, advising that the general fund had reduced to £1,016,966 which calculates as a 30% overspend against budget. This has been compounded by the previous year's 14% overspend caused by the exceptional weather and high energy costs. This has reduced the general fund balance to £2,943,051 over the last 2 years. The £400k Storm Recovery Grant funding has improved the situation slightly.

Referring to Page 20 and the Middle Level River Management Scheme and note 7, £7.167,610 has been spent during 2024/25 with £1,793,303 of grant funding having not been received. The general fund would have been in a healthy position if this had not happened. The overspend of £1.1 million has not allowed for the outstanding grant claim of approximately £372,000.

Mr Wool asked for questions from the room, and with no questions the Board was asked for their approval.

Mr Miscandlon congratulated Mr Wool on producing the report alongside all of the other additional works that he has undertaken recently.

With a show of hands the Board approved the report.

Mr Heading added that it had been a relief that we had a relatively dry winter, and the situation would have been very different if this were not the case.

The Clerk asked for the Boards approval of the Annual Governance Statement which was given.

RESOLVED

That the Annual Accounts and Navigation Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2025 be approved and the Chair authorised to sign the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2025.

That the Chair be authorised to sign the Annual Governance Statement on behalf of the Board, for the financial year ending 31st March 2025.

B.3886 Any other business

Mrs Martin reminded the Board that the next meeting would be held on Thursday 6th November 2025 commencing at 9.30am.

With nothing further raised, the Chair closed the meeting at 10.00am and the Board progressed onto the District Inspection.

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Chair

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Date