

IMBANKING COMMISSIONERS

At a Meeting of the Commissioners for Imbanking Fen Lands and Low Grounds within the Parishes of
Chatteris, Doddington and Wimblington
hosted at the Middle Level Offices, March on Tuesday 12th May 2026

Present:

M E Heading Esq (Chairman)
R Gowler Esq (Vice Chairman)
Ms A Morris

R Mason Esq
D Nicholas Esq

P Burrows (Clerk & MLC Chief Executive) was in attendance.

Welcome and Apologies

C.246 Declarations of Interest

The Clerk reminded Members of the importance of declaring an interest in any matter included in today's agenda.

C.228 Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising

There were no Matters Arising and the Minutes of the Last Meeting were agreed.

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Commissioners held on the 13th May 2025 are recorded correctly and that they be confirmed and signed.

C.247 Constitution and Membership

The Commissioners agreed that Mr Heading be reappointed as Chairman of the Commissioners. This was proposed by Ms Morris and seconded by Mr R Gowler

The Commissioners agreed that Mr R Gowler be reappointed as Vice Chairman of the Commissioners. This was proposed by Mr Heading and seconded by Ms Morris.

RESOLVED

That Mr Heading be appointed as Chairman of the Commissioners.

That Mr R Gowler be appointed as Vice Chairman of the Commissioners.

C.248 Commissioners Financial Statement

The Commissioners considered and approved a financial statement showing the sum of £20,390.84 was standing to the credit of the Commissioners on the 31st March 2026.

Mr Burrows highlighted that the Commissioners, have no online presence and that it would be prudent to have a web-page on the MLC website to host minutes and financial statements.

RESOLVED

MLC to create a webpage to host the Commissioners meeting minutes and financial statement.

C.249 Use of Commissioners Funds

Mr Burrows confirmed that the Commissioners land has not been formally registered with Land Registry and is part of a pending package of registrations that needs to be scoped and developed. He added that Land Registry can take 18-months once applications have been submitted. Ms Morris asked whether the Commissioners funds could be used to register Curf & Wimblington IDB's herbage land that the IDB resolved to register.

RESOLVED

Consider use of funds for Curf & Wimblington IDB's land registration in due course.

C.250 Land at Turf Fen, Chatteris and Assets

The Commissioners agreed that no change in the rental level is required.

Mr Burrows advised that Ms S Lloyd, given other priorities, had not yet been able to assess the land for Biodiversity Net Gain potential. This action was therefore carried forward.

C.251 Risk Management Assessment

Revaluation of Commissioners Assets.

The Clerk was asked to establish when the land was last valued. It was decided to hold back on a revaluation until the BNG potential of the land had been established.

The Future

Mr Burrows suggested that given the IDB amalgamation agenda, it would be prudent to establish with Defra what the process would be to dissolve/abolish the Commissioners and delegate their function and assets to either Curf & Wimblington IDB (or future amalgamated IDB) and/or the Middle Level Commissioners. This was supported by the Commissioners.

RESOLVED

That no changes be made to the valuation at this time.

That the clerk explore the process for abolishing the Commissioners with Defra

C.252 Date of Next Meeting

RESOLVED

That the next meeting of the Commissioners be held on Tuesday 11th May 2027 at the Middle Level Offices at 4.00pm.

C.253 Any Other Business

Nothing further was raised, and the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting closed at 4.15pm

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Chair

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Date