

UPWELL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

At a Meeting of the Upwell Internal Drainage Board
held at the Lamb and Flag Public House, Welney on Monday 28th June 2021

PRESENT

K Goodger Esq (Chairman)	C F Hartley Esq
P Clabon Esq (Vice Chairman)	J Kirk Esq
H G Bliss Esq	A Quail Esq
S A Calton Esq	J Quail Esq
R D Gladwin Esq	B Rackley Esq
C N T Rose Esq	

Miss Samantha Ablett (representing the Clerk to the Board) and Carl Nunn (District Officer) were in attendance. Messrs Will Gladwin, Paul Hartley, Sean Goodger and Alex Clabon attended as members of the public.

Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from S Hartley Esq, R S Means Esq, B Scott Esq and W Sutton Esq.

B.1972 Hales Drove, Old Croft River

Further to minute B.1939, the Chairman confirmed that the piles for the works at Hales Drove, Old Croft River had been delivered and the Board would now be requesting access so that the works could be undertaken later in the summer.

B.1973 Smart Level System/District Wide Telemetry Bid

Further to minute B.1946(iii), the Chairman reported that following the last Board meeting he had received a quotation for the installation of telemetry at the pumping stations, which was in the region of £2,400 net of VAT per pumping station and reminded Members that the Board's contribution would be 50% of the total net costs. He advised that the installation of telemetry at Cock Fen pumping station would be delayed due to the electrification work.

The Chairman enquired when the grant funding for the installation of the telemetry would be available and Miss Ablett advised she would ask the Clerk for confirmation of a date.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk advise of a date the grant funding would be made available for the installation of telemetry.

B.1974 Inspection of District

With reference to minute B.1897(iii), the Inspection of the District embraced (inter alia):-

1) Cock Fen Pumping Station

Those present viewed the pumping station and the Chairman advised the members of the public present of the planned electrification of the pumping station and that the Board were waiting for UK Power Networks to install the 3-phase electricity supply, which was anticipated to be completed in March 2022, ready for the installation of electric motors and panel in May/June 2022.

The Chairman reported that some works were required to the pumping station and referred to new support being required around the pumps underneath the corroded chequer plate, together with replacement of the corroded chequer floor plates around the pipework. The Consulting Engineer had been advised of these works but due to COVID-19 restrictions they had been delayed. The District Foreman advised that he would contact the Consulting Engineer to arrange for the repairs to be undertaken.

The District Foreman reported the dwell sensors on the automatic weedscreen cleaner were faulty and confirmed that these had been inspected by the Consulting Engineer and would be repaired in due course.

RESOLVED

That the Consulting Engineer be instructed to carry out support works around the pumps underneath the corroded chequer plate and replace both chequer floor plates around the pipework.

2) Flint House Structure, Flint House Road

Those present viewed damage to the headwall.

The Chairman reminded Members of the report received in June 2020 from the Technician for Bridge Maintenance at Norfolk County Council and of their request for works to be carried out to the headwalls and wingwalls. Whilst he acknowledged that the Board was responsible for repairs to the headwalls as these, together with the original water control structure, had been installed by the Board, he was uncertain whether the Board were also responsible for the repairs to the wingwalls as the drain was in situ before the roadway and therefore he considered Highways should be responsible. He requested that before a decision was made the Clerk revisits the Board's position regarding ownership of the structure and the repairs considered necessary.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk revisits the Board's position regarding ownership of the structure and advises the Chairman and Vice Chairman accordingly.

3) Upwell Fen Pumping Station

Those present viewed the pumping station.

The District Foreman advised that there was a problem with the time clock on the electricity meter, which could result in the electricity usage being charged at the incorrect rate. Miss Ablett reported that Anglia Farmers had requested further information and photographic evidence. The District Foreman advised that he required a camera that could be installed to

record the meter movement over a 24-hour period to identify when the peak rates were being applied.

The Chairman suggested a dashcam be used to record the meter and advised he would supply one to the pump attendant.

RESOLVED

That the Chairman provide the Board's employee with a dashcam so that the electricity meter could be monitored and photographic evidence submitted to Anglia Farmers for their review.

4) Nordelph Pumping Station

Those present viewed the pumping station.

The Vice Chairman expressed his dissatisfaction with the tidiness and amount of scrap metal stored alongside the pumping station.

Miss Ablett reminded Members of the ongoing issue with the electricity meter at the pumping station and that, as it appeared COVID-19 restrictions would be lifted shortly, she would contact Anglia Farmers to arrange a meeting on site with the Chairman, the District Foreman, UK Power Networks, the electricity supplier, the Consulting Engineer and a representative from Anglia Farmers.

The District Foreman reported he was experiencing problems with the drainage system at the Board's bungalow. This was discussed by Members and it was agreed that three quotations should be obtained for making good the pipework from the bungalow to the septic tank and installing a soakaway.

It was noted there were trees within the Board's 9 metre maintenance strip in contravention of the Board's Byelaws and which were restricting maintenance works along the drain from the Nordelph pump to Crouches reservoir, running parallel to Popham's Eau. The Chairman requested that this matter be included on the agenda for the next meeting for the Board to discuss further.

The District Foreman enquired of the rights of way past the Board's bungalow.

RESOLVED

- i) That the district foreman tidy and clear the site of the scrap metal.
- ii) That the Clerk contact Anglia Farmers to arrange a site meeting with a view to resolving the issue regarding the electricity meter.
- iii) That the Consulting Engineer be requested to obtain 3 quotations for the drainage works at the Board's bungalow.
- iv) Contravention of Byelaws – Trees planted at the drain from the Nordelph pump to Crouches Reservoir, running parallel to Popham's Eau.

That this be included as an agenda item for the next meeting of the Board.

v) That the Clerk investigate whether a right of way exists past the Board's bungalow.

5) The Old Croft Outlet

Those present inspected the debris and overgrown vegetation at the Old Croft Outlet and enquired what action was being taken.

The Chairman advised that following the last meeting the Clerk had been asked to investigate who was responsible for the removal of the debris.

The District Foreman reported that the Consulting Engineer had contacted him to ascertain the exact location, but he had heard nothing further.

RESOLVED

That the Clerk investigate who is responsible for the removal of the debris and vegetation so that arrangements can be made for its' removal.

6) Bedlam Bridge Pumping Station

Those present viewed the pumping station.