

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
THORNTREE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD
HELD ON TUESDAY 23rd JANUARY 2018
AT THE OFFICES OF TOWNEND CLEGG & CO, 4 BELGRAVIA, GOOLE
COMMENCING AT 08:30am

PRESENT

D. N. Hinchliffe – Chairman
J E. Hinchliffe
D S Backhouse
S Longthorp
S Hall
K Fillingham
M. J. Townend - Clerk

1. APOLOGIES

None

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Board Meeting held on the 19th December 2017 having been previously circulated to all Board Members, it was proposed Mr S Longthorp, and seconded Mr S Hall that these were a true record of the meeting. This was carried and the minutes were signed by the Chairman Mr D N Hinchliffe.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. RELEVANT CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondences to brought to the meeting by the Clerk.

5. TO APPROVE INVOICES PAID FOR PERIOD 1st NOVEMBER 2017 to 4TH JANUARY 2018

The Clerk presented a Schedule of payments for approval, these consisting of 2 direct debits in respect of electricity, and a 4 further payments being in respect 2 months bank charges and Voucher No's 9 & 10. It was proposed Mr J Hinchliffe, seconded Mr S Longthorp that the accounts be approved, and this was carried by the Board.

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk reported that outstanding rates were still due from Mr J Cawkwell, Mr M Goodfellow and Mr I Holt, and that the appropriate account rendered will be forwarded immediately requesting immediate payment.

The current bank balances were as follows:

Current Account:	£8,337.47
Deposit Account:	<u>£15,246.89</u>
Total:	£23,584.26

7. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE BOARD'S DIOVERSITY PLAN

Board members had been circulated with the Board's proposed Biodiversity plan, and it was proposed Mr S Hall, seconded Mr D Backhouse that this be adopted, and this was carried by the Board.

8. MAINTENANCE MATTERS

The Clerk reported that he was awaiting Martin Richardson's bill for the annual flail mowing of the ditches.

9. TO AGREE THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2019

The Clerk produced a copy of the estimated costs for the current year, and the proposed budget for 2018/19 year.

The accepted budget for 2017/18 had been £17,050, but the estimated actual cost was likely to be in the region £17,800, this figure could be higher depending upon the cost of the re-vamp of the website, and electricity consumed during the last quarter of the year.

The draft proposed budget for 2018/19 was presented and discussed, and it was agreed that the pump reserve account payment of £1,000 should continue to build up funds for as and when the pumps would need refurbishment.

The proposed budget for 2018/19 was £17,050, and it was proposed Mr J Hinchliffe, seconded Mr D Backhouse that the budget should be approved by the Board and this was carried.

10. TO FIX THE DRAINAGE RATES AND SPECIAL LEVY FOR 2018/19

The Clerk reported that to realise the monies of the budget, this would necessitate an increase in the drainage rate for the ensuing year from 12.5p to 12.7p in the £. It was proposed Mr K Fillingham, seconded Mr S Longthorp that the rates in the £ for the drainage rates year 2018/19, should be fixed at 12.7p in the £, and this was approved by the Board. Taking into account the special levy rateable value which stood at a rateable value of £17,952, based on a rate of 12.7p in the £ would give an amount for the special levy of £2,279.90. It was proposed Mr S Hall, seconded Mr J Hinchliffe that the special levy should be fixed in the sum of £2,279.90, and this was approved by the Board.

11. THORNE MOORS WATER LEVEL MANANGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk had met with Tim Kohler of Natural England, on the 11th January at Bank House Farm, to discuss the problems resulting from seepage from the Thorne Moors.

The Board receives no income to take the water from the Moors, and although there was no direct discharge into the Board's network of drains, there was seepage which resulted in the necessity to pump the seepage water into the River to prevent drains backing up.

This point was acknowledged by Mr Kohler, and this was as a result of the 'wetting up' of the Moors. The Thorne Moors occupies approximately 20% of the Drainage Board area, and following discussion an initial proposal was put forward whereby Natural England would make a contribution of £1,000 per year towards the costs of the running of the pumps and drains maintenance, in exchange for taking seepage water off the Moors. This payment was proposed to be reviewed every 5 years.

The Board considered this to be a fair proposal, but the Chairman did say that this was subject to Natural England's approval, and we awaited a reply from Mr Kohler in due course.

Concern was expressed by a number of the Board members as to an increase in fly tipping in the side of the road and adjoining the Board's drains, and this required some further monitoring.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:05am.