

BLACK SLUICE

INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD



Southern Works Committee Meeting

Tuesday 4th July 2023 at 3:30pm

Station Road, Swineshead, Lincolnshire PE20 3PW



Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

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Our Ref: IW/DPW/B10_1

Your Ref:

Date: 27th June 2023

To all Southern Works Committee Members

Dear Member

Southern Works Inspection and Meeting on 4th July 2023

Please find enclosed the papers for the Southern Works Committee Meeting to be held after the Inspection Tour of the southern area on Tuesday 4th July 2023.

We shall depart at 8:30am from the Boards Offices and arrive back for the meeting around 3:30pm. Tea/coffee and bacon rolls will be provided from 8:00am onwards, drinks and a lunch will be provided.

Please wear appropriate outdoor clothing and footwear for walking and possible trailer rides.

Yours sincerely

Chief Executive

AGENDA

1. Recording the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Declarations of interest.
4. To review the Southern Works Terms of Reference (**pages 1 & 2**)
5. To receive and if correct sign the Minutes of the last Meeting of the Joint Works Committee held on 4th October 2022 (**pages 3 - 14**)
6. **CONFIDENTIAL** - To receive and if correct sign the Confidential Minutes of the last Meeting of the Joint Works Committee held on 4th October 2022 (**pages 15 - 31**)
7. Matters arising.
8. To discuss the Operations Report and Inspection (**pages 32 - 52**)
 - (a) Capital Schemes Budget (**page 53**)
9. To receive the Engineer's report (**pages 54 - 57**)
 - (a) Policy No. 46: Crop Loss Compensation (**pages 58 - 63**)
10. **CONFIDENTIAL** - To receive an update on the Open Channel Transfer of raw water to the Lincolnshire Reservoir (**pages 64 - 66**)
 - (a) Joint Letter from ADA & Water Resources East (WRE) to Chairs and Chief Executives of Internal Drainage Boards in Eastern England regarding an update ahead of the new financial year (**pages 67 - 69**)
11. Rainfall (**pages 70 & 71**)
12. Any Other Business.

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

SOUTHERN WORKS COMMITTEE - 04 JULY 2023

AGENDA ITEM 04

TERMS OF REFERENCE - SOUTHERN WORKS COMMITTEE

1. **GENERAL**

The Committee shall have EIGHT members who will be appointed by the Board. A maximum of EIGHT Co-opted Members may also be appointed by the Committee.

The Membership shall include: The ONE South Holland District Council Board member and the ONE South Kesteven District Council Board member.

The Chairperson shall be elected by the committee at the triennial general meeting of the Board, being the first board meeting following an election.

Co-opted Members will be appointed by the Committee at the triennial general meeting of the Board with each Co-opted Member receiving a written invitation to join a Works Committee for a three-year term. New Co-opted Members may be approached at any time throughout the year to take up any vacancies and thereafter appointed by the Committee. It is at the Chairperson's discretion to remove Co-opted Members based on low attendance levels.

2. **MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE**

The Committee shall meet at least once in every 12-month period and a quorum shall be six members.

There should be at least one inspection of the Southern Works district each year to which all Southern Works Committee Members and Executive Committee Members should be invited.

No one other than the Committee members, **members of the public and Board Officers** shall be entitled to attend Committee Meetings, but any other persons may attend meetings **as a guest** if invited by the Committee.

3. **POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

(a) Any formal consent which requires determination before the next Board Meeting which officers cannot approve.

(b) Approve any individual works or scheme up to a value of £25,000.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

The responsibilities of the Committee shall be:

1. To monitor the Board's performance in relation to effective and efficient work solutions.
2. To monitor the Board's performance in relation to good Health & Safety practices throughout daily operations.
3. To promote best practice through employee training and awareness.
4. To promote and maintain value for money for all resources.

5. REPORTING

Minutes of meetings of the Committee shall be presented to the next meeting of the Board.

The Committee shall review its terms of reference after every triennial general meeting and its own effectiveness and recommend any necessary changes to the Board.

REVIEWED BY THE COMMITTEE:

APPROVED BY THE BOARD:

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

MINUTES

of the proceedings of a Joint Meeting of the
Northern and Southern Works Committees

held at the Offices of the Board on
4th October 2022 at 2pm

Northern Works Members

Chairperson - * Mr P Holmes

Cllr T Ashton	* Cllr R Austin
* Cllr P Bedford	* Mr M Brookes
* Mr D Casswell	Cllr M Cooper
Mr J Fowler	Cllr M Head
* Mr M Leggott	* Mr R Needham
Cllr F Pickett	* Mr J E Pocklington
Mr P Robinson	* Cllr P Skinner
* Mr R Welberry	

Southern Works Members

Chairperson - * Mr M Rollinson

* Mr W Ash	Mr J F Atkinson
* Mr V A Barker	Mr K C Casswell
Mr J Casswell	Mr R Dorrington
Mr C Dring	* Mr A Mair
Mr M Mowbray	* Cllr R Reid
* Cllr S Walsh	* Mr C Wray

(* Member Present)

In attendance: Mr I Warsap (Chief Executive)
Mr P Nicholson (Operations Manager)
Mr K Methley (Pump Engineer)
Mr M Taylor (Guest)

Mr P Holmes chaired the meeting. The Chairperson welcomed Cllr R Reid to his first meeting.

2029 Recording the meeting – Agenda Item 1

Members were informed that the meeting would be recorded.

2030 Apologies for absence - Agenda Item 2

Apologies for absence were received from Mr K Casswell, Cllr M Head, Mr M Mowbray, Mr J Fowler, Cllr F Pickett, Mr P Robinson, Mr J Atkinson, Mr R Dorrington, Mr J Casswell, Cllr M Cooper and Mr D Withnall.

It was noted that Jessica Baxter, who would usually attend meetings to take minutes, was absent today due to her attending her graduation at Lincoln Cathedral. Mr V Barker, and committee, noted their congratulations.

2031 Declarations of interest - Agenda Item 3

Declarations of interest were received from:

- Mr D Casswell – Proposed works to Drain 14/2, Mill Green Farm, South Kyme – Minute 2036(a)
- Mr V Barker - Drainage and maintenance issues – land south of the Risegate Eau, Gosberton Fen – Minute 2040(d)

2032 To consider the Joint Works Committee Terms of Reference - Agenda Item 4

The Chairperson explained that the Joint Works Committee do not require a Terms of Reference as it is a joint meeting of the Southern Works Committee and Northern Works Committee which each have individual terms of reference.

The Chief Executive referred to the paragraph highlighted in red which refers to co-opted members, noting that, currently, there is no formal recognition of who is / how individuals become co-opted members.

The Chief Executive further noted that he invited three guests to the meeting, Mr A Miles, Mr M Taylor, and Mr D Leverton, who have attended the last few works inspection tours and felt they should be formally asked to become co-opted members of the Board. The Chairperson invited Mr M Taylor to become a co-opted member, who accepted.

All AGREED that there was no requirement for the Joint Works Committee to have their own terms of reference.

The committee RESOLVED to recommend that the new paragraph (shown below) regarding co-opted members be added to the Northern and Southern Works Committee Terms of Reference.

'Co-opted Members will be appointed by the Committee at the triennial general meeting of the Board with each Co-opted Member receiving a written invitation to join a Works Committee for a three-year term. New Co-opted Members may be approached at any time throughout the year to take up any vacancies and thereafter appointed by the Committee. It is at the Chairperson's discretion to remove Co-opted Members based on low attendance levels.'

2033 Minutes of the last meeting of the Southern Works Committee Meeting - Agenda Item 5

The Minutes of the last Meeting of the Southern Works Committee held on 5th July 2022, copies of which had been circulated, were considered by the Southern Works Committee Members and it was AGREED the Minutes should be signed as a true record.

(a) JCB Hydradig Demonstration

The Chairperson noted that he has heard negative reviews of the JCB Hydradig from Welland and Deepings IDB.

Mr C Wray referenced Witham 4th IDB who would like a Mecalec, which are supposed to be very good machines.

The Operations Manager noted that the Board currently operate Twiga's, one of which is due for replacement next year.

The Board had the opportunity to view Welland and Deeping IDB's new machine, the JCB Hydradig, which gave good first impressions, it is believed that it is not a machine that can cope with the amount of flailing required of it.

(b) Water Levels - Minute 2003(l)

The Chief Executive noted that following a recent meeting of the South Lincs Water Partnership (SLWP), Thomas Enright (Environment Agency (EA)) introduced himself as the current EA Drought Lead, noting that we are heading into 2023 in a significant drought. Also noting that of the 40mm of rain received in August 2022, only 4mm of that actually made it to ground water. Long term rainfall, at an average of +125% would be constantly required to relieve the drought status.

The Chief Executive further added that himself, the Operations Manager and Pump Engineer have been reviewing the Board's water level pumping regime, in light of the current drought situation.

The Chief Executive referred to pumping stations where there is no gravity channel explaining that because there is no gravity, the Board therefore must pump.

The Chief Executive explained the proposed plans to dramatically lift water levels to the Soffit levels of each suction bay platform and control the water at that height, which dramatically reduces the frequency of pumping. This not only helps aquatic biodiversity and assists in water for irrigation in the Spring, but also reduces pumping costs to the Board. The Chief Executive reassured the committee, that if a lot of rainfall was received, or an event declared, then levels would be reduced to be able to cater at normal event levels.

The Operations Manager added that the new proposed levels are only for in periods of drought. Further displaying on screen, a spreadsheet showing current target summer levels, winter levels and the emergency profile level (EPL). Taking these levels into consideration, the operations team have estimated the deck levels at the pumping stations.

The Operations Manager further explained that at some pumping stations there is no control over the gravitation, some pumping stations have a tilting gate which is a control mechanism to lift and lower to stop the outfall being at the same level as the outfall source i.e., South Forty Foot Drain.

The Operations Manager noted there are some circumstances such as Wyberton Marsh Pumping Station which doesn't gravitate, but is classed as a critical watercourse, and therefore the Board has got to consider whether increasing levels in this particular case would be beneficial, the operations team being of the opinion that it wouldn't be suitable.

The Operations Manager referred to those highlighted in green on screen, noting these are the pumping stations where it is proposed to raise levels in those catchments.

The Operations Manager noted another benefit of increased levels, protecting the environment, e.g., the required oxygenation levels for fish.

The Chief Executive noted that, generally the Board pump down 300mm from the commencement level, which is based on historic figures. The operations team have therefore considered what level it could be allowed up to, as opposed to what level to allow it to go down to. The suction bay being the maximum levels for future water retention.

An example pumping trend for Dunsby was displayed on screen, Dunsby pumps every two days currently, it being thought that it would take an estimated 18.5 days to reach the proposed increased start level (0.6, increased from -0.2).

Mr M Brookes questioned how much longer it will take to pump down to the stop level when required from the increased levels?

Mr V Barker noted that in around three weeks' time, the EA will reduce the level in the South Forty Foot Drain to around -0.6, which would allow gravitation. It was clarified that the pumps where it is proposed to increase the levels are not gravitational.

Cllr R Austin noted his surprise that there isn't a direct relationship between the volume of water and electricity cost, noting that surely the electricity cost will remain the same as there is still the same volume of water to pump?

Mr V Barker noted the sharp increase on the ammeter when the pumps are started, before it settles again, therefore noting that if the number of times it is started up can be reduced then there will be a cost saving.

The Chief Executive noted the in relation to a one pump pumping station, if the Board were to move forward to the proposed new pumping profile, it is a £250 a year saving per pump.

The Chief Executive noted the public perception and concern that levels are higher.

The Chief Executive concluded that the notion is that on the non-gravitational pumping stations that Board's Officers would like to trial the new proposed levels, if the weather allows i.e., there is no significant rainfall.

Mr W Ash questioned if catchments have been surveyed, in reference to low points? The Operations Manager confirmed that the new levels are only proposed for dry times.

Mr C Wray questioned if the levels should be, perhaps, 50mm less, to allow for any sudden rainfall? The pumps could then be run when electricity is cheapest, as opposed to waiting until it reaches the top point and then having to pump immediately. Mr K Methley agreed that he had also thought about a night period lower level.

Mr J Pocklington felt it was a good idea, questioning if there is a business cap on the electricity for six months? The Chief Executive confirmed that although it is capped, it is believed that the Board's energy price is going to be double.

Mr M Brookes noted that there is still the same volume of water to pump, just over a longer period? In the case of Dunsby, over an 18-day period instead of every 2 days? The Operations Manager noted that they have completed calculations, and it is a trial, so if it doesn't work to the extent expected, the Board's Officers can re-think.

The Chairperson also noted the consideration of the continuous running of the pumps.

All AGREED to trial the proposed new pumping profiles.

2035 Minutes of the last meeting of the Northern Works Committee Meeting - Agenda Item 7

The Minutes of the last Meeting of the Northern Works Committee held on 19th July 2022, copies of which had been circulated, were considered by the Northern Works Committee Members and it was AGREED the Minutes should be signed as a true record.

2036 Matters arising from the Northern Works Committee Meeting - Agenda Item 8

(a) Proposed works to Drain 14/2, Mill Green Farm, South Kyme - Minute 2012(a)

The Chief Executive referenced this, and Mr D Casswell's proposal for the Board to give up the drain. It being confirmed that the field adjacent to the drain has been gripped and runs away from the drain and Mr D Casswell farms all the surrounding land to the drain.

A map showing the drain was shown on screen, with Mr D Casswell confirming that he would pipe the section shown in red initially (115 metres) and take on riparian maintenance of the remaining 280 metres, shown in green.

The Operations Manager noted that there will be a formal process to go through in order to give up a maintained drain.

Opinions were invited, no members had anything further to say.

The Chief Executive noted that the Board's Officer's will be in contact with Mr D Casswell regarding this.

2037 To receive a report on Engineering Works for 2022 - Agenda Item 9

The Operations Manager presented the Report on Engineering Works, and referred the Committee to the Capital Scheme Budget mentioned within the report:

2022/23 Defra/EA Funded Grant in Aid (GiA) Schemes

(a) North Forty Foot Cleansing / Revetment & Langrick Road pipeline, lining/replacement works

This scheme is still ongoing, the majority of the 85m section of piped watercourse 12/2 from manhole chamber 5 has been replaced. Tenders having been requested for the 78m section through the garden of 24 Langrick Road and the 30m section from the last manhole chamber to the outfall into the North Forty Foot. The last 30m section being the responsibility of LCC who have agreed to contribute when costs are established. This was shown in red on the map displayed on screen.

The Operations Manager referred to the North Forty Food Drain (NFFD) and the maintenance and desilting of it, particularly noting the section of it that is residential either side (Cooks Lock), making maintenance of it more difficult. Photographs of structures on the bank sides, both consented and unconsented, were displayed on screen. All adjacent property owners were written to, informing them of their responsibility should any structure fail and enter the watercourse, outlining that they would be responsible for the cost to the Board for removing it.

Mr D Casswell questioned if any unconsented structures had to be removed? The Operations Manager responded no, as there was nothing causing immediate concern of failure.

The Operations Manager continued that the silt was pumped into a holding lagoon, in which the silt separates from the water and sits on the base of the lagoon, whilst the clean water is then transferred back into the watercourse. The lagoon is left to dry and then spread over the farmland. This has been completed and the land now being cropped again. Mr J Pocklington, who farms the land noted that there is one wet spot and a section of watercourse that requires cleaning out, however, other than that, it has been completed well. The Operations Manager noted that discussion needs to be had around what the Board are responsible for, noting that they will maintain the watercourse back to its original state before the Board were on site, but anything beyond that requires further discussion.

The Operations Manager concluded that it is anticipated that this scheme will be completed this financial year.

(b) Sempringham Fen Weedscreen Cleaner / Pumping Station refurbishment

The Operations Manager noted the challenge experienced around the land lease agreement with The Crown Estate. The land is required as this is where the dump area is proposed to be built.

The Board do own land the other side of the pumping station, however, it is not suitable for the dump area. Drawings were displayed on screen; it being noted that this scheme is estimated to be completed by March 2023.

(c) Remote monitoring, telemetry H&S Scheme

All the Board's pumps are now remotely operational, meaning that pump profiles can be changed from a mobile / laptop / tablet.

All sites have now also got CCTV and so can be monitored.

(d) Black Sluice Catchment Study

Funding has now been achieved for this scheme for £385,000. It will bring the individual catchment studies together to give an overall view of the Board's catchment, enabling identification of potential funding opportunities and merging of catchments, reducing the number of pumping stations required.

The Chairperson noted the potential impact of the South Lincs Reservoir (SLR).

(e) South Forty Foot Upper Catchment Natural Flood Management (NFM)

This work is still ongoing, Lesley Sharpe, appointed by the Board to conduct the surveys and be the landowner / farmer consultant has provided lots of information and identified various sites which would be suitable to implement some of the proposed interventions. It was noted that the materials are ready to implement some of these works but have not yet been achieved.

(f) Swaton Natural Flood Management (NFM) Schemes

The first of three sites identified to attenuate flows in the Swaton catchment has been completed, it estimated that the remaining two sites will be complete by March 2023. A map showing the sites was displayed on screen.

Mr V Barker noted that the South Lincs Reservoir (SLR) could wipe out these works, suggesting that no more works should continue in light of this. The Operations Manager noted that it is the Environment Agency (EA) funding the work. Mr V Barker referenced the Terms of Reference – '*To promote and maintain value for money*'. The Operations Manager noted that it has been discussed with the EA, noting that the agreements with the landowners for this scheme are for ten years, noting that it is estimated that the reservoir will not be in operation for another 17 years.

Mr M Rollinson noted that he often travels by the site on the A52, noting that it is making good progress and is quite some engineering.

(g) Information on site inspection at Trinity College

A meeting has been held with the Environment Agency (EA), at which the recommendations for all four sites (Trinity College, Damford, South Kyme and Ewerby), were discussed.

Stantec have provided a quote to provide the specification of the works at £50,000. The EA wish to investigate with their own consultants.

2022/23 BSIDB Funded Capital Schemes

(h) Major Slip Repairs

The Operations Manager highlighted 'yellow shield' symbol shown on the map, which identifies the bank slips in need or repair. Some slips have already been completed, however, almost all the allocated budget has been used already.

(i) Jetting to Major Pipelines – Estimate £20,000

It is anticipated that the remaining works in Kirton and Donington will be completed this year.

(j) Alternative programme access works – Estimate £20,000

Works are to continue this year to enable this programme of alternate bank maintenance.

(k) Pumping Station Schemes

(i) Dyke Fen Pumping Station refurbish 1 pump motor – Estimate £3,000

One of the electric motors that drives the pump will be removed for refurbishment.

(ii) Dunsby Fen Pumping Station refurbish 1 pump motor – Estimate £3,000

This has now been completed.

(iii) Gosberton Fen Pumping Station refurbish 1 pump motor – Estimate £4,000

One of the electric motors that drives the pump will be removed for refurbishment.

2023/24 Defra / EA FCERM GiA Schemes

(l) Natural Flood Management (NFM) Studies - £150,000

It is anticipated that another bid will be made for further funding for these studies, it being believed that there are more sites for potential NFM work.

(m) Central Catchment Amalgamation Study - £100,000

This is a continuation of the whole catchment study, to go into further detail and concepts from the initial study.

2023/24 Board Funded Capital Schemes

(n) **Quadring North Fen roadside revetment - Estimate £24,000**

Repair is required to some bank slippage along the roadside and the road will be required to be closed to complete the works. A meeting has been held with Lincolnshire County Council (LCC), but another will be held prior to commencing works.

(o) **Dyke Fen Pumping Station pump and pump motor refurbishment - Estimate £25,000**

Part of ongoing preventative maintenance at this pumping station, includes the refurbishment of the pump and pump motor to one of the pumps.

(p) **Jetting to major pipelines - Estimate £75,000**

It is proposed that these works should go out to tender for completion in 2023/24.

(q) **Pumping Station Schemes**

(i) **Great Hale Pumping Station Pump Refurbishment – Estimate £75,000**

It is proposed to replace the moving parts to include the trolley and control cabling.

(ii) **Kirton Marsh Pumping Station New Roof - Estimate £11,000**

A new Apex design roof is proposed for this station. This has been deferred from 2022/23.

Drain Maintenance

(r) **Annual Summer Flailmowing/Cutting**

A map showing works was shown on screen, indicating that 355km has been cut and 482km has been flailed to date.

(s) **Proposed Desilting, Bushing, and Cleansing Works**

The Operations Manager referenced the map within the agenda outlining proposed cleaning works.

The total length of proposed watercourse for 2022/23 is 48 km. The total length of watercourses cleansed over the 2021/22 season was 42 km. Ideally, the Board promotes a 10-year cycle for desilting, however, some may require doing more frequently than this and some less frequently.

Mr J Pocklington noted that letters have been sent to landowners / occupiers adjacent, noting that he is a landowner and has not received a letter. The Operations Manager noted that he will review this.

Pumping Station Maintenance

- (t) At the end of September (Period 5) the budget for maintenance works is £165,613 with the actual expenditure being £151,874 which includes estimated electricity payments.

Health and Safety

- (u) A new five-year contract with Cope Safety Management commenced June 2019.

External Partnerships, Strategies & Agreements

- (v) **EA/BSIDB Public Sector Cooperation Agreement (PSCA)**

A map showing the Environment Agency (EA) PSCA cutting works was displayed on screen.

Within the last month, the Board has also been asked to provide a quote to flail the banks from water line to top of field side crest level from Black Hole Drove up to the A52.

The Operations Manager noted the previous good work, around 4/5 years ago to remove the vegetation, but noted that it is starting to get established again in the margin that the Board's machine can't reach.

The Operations Manager also noted that the Board is trying to encourage the EA to remove some of the fringes of the watercourse that are starting to encroach again.

The Operations Manager added that he is now in receipt of the outstanding report, which has indicated that there is more silt to be removed between the A52 and the A17 (9km), the EA has suggested they would like to spread the work out over three years, however, this would not be the preference of the Board's contractor who would rather do the work continuously.

Mr M Rollinson noted that it was actually debushed for a further section than the 9km, to the Helpringham Eau, questioning whether the Board will be providing a price to maintain that section also? The Operations Manager confirmed this.

Mr V Barker added that if the reeds are not kept from out of the bottom of the drain, when there is a fluvial event and there is water and silt going down, the reeds steady the water and causes more silt dropping out on the banks.

2038 **Confidential – Update on the South Lincs Reservoir (SLR) - Agenda Item 10**

It was agreed and thereby RESOLVED to exclude the public from the next part of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

2039 Report on Rainfall - Agenda Item 11

The rainfall figures at Swineshead and Black Hole Drove were circulated. The Committee RESOLVED that this report be noted.

2040 Any Other Business - Agenda Item 12

(a) 9 metre byelaw issue - Dyke Fen

The Operations Manager informed the committee of the unconsented fence along the south bank of drain 28/11, posing the following question, '*do the Board allow the unconsented fence to remain and issue letter to landowner regarding removal of fence given reasonable notice by Board, or do we issue enforcement notice to have the fence re-located to at least 9 metres away from bank top and have gates installed to allow Board access?*'

The Operations Manager noted that it has been erected because they have started to graze cattle on the adjacent field.

Mr D Casswell noted that if it was a hedge there is a height that is permissible.

Mr M Taylor added that there is another fence on the A151 west to Twenty Pumping Station and that it is all overgrown.

The Chairperson was of the opinion that a byelaw is a byelaw and should be adhered to.

Mr R Needham agreed, also noting the problems that may occur if the fence was damaged.

(b) Bourne Fen Integrated Catchment Water Management Pilot Project (Phase 1 & 2) 2022-24

The Operations Manager informed the committee of this project, noting its aim to redirect the Weir Dike around the site, which will be a wetland and low-level water polishing and transfer reservoir wetted area, showing an indicative layout on screen. There is also an expectation that the Board will be involved with delivering the works.

The Chief Executive highlighted the various elements of the scheme shown on the illustration, confirming that the new cut Weir Dike drain diversion will be maintained by the Board.

(c) Transformer Issues, Gosberton Pumping Station

The Operations Manager noted that the Board own a number of transformers at the larger pumping stations (9 in total).

The Board have had tests carried out on the transformers and the one at Gosberton, which also provides Dowsby Fen, is at point of failure.

Initial enquiries with EME power systems who completed the transformer testing have supplied a replacement price for 800kva of £65,120 and for a 500kva £57,900. EME have recommend that the 800kva is required as the transformer should not operate above 75% capacity. The Board's Officers have questioned and looked into this and found that the maximum demand required is 430kva and so it may be that the 800kva is required.

The Pump Engineer has also investigated the option of removing the transformer and having a direct LV connection supply installed. Western Power Distribution have estimated £141,000 subject to a site visit and a formal connection offer.

The Operations Manager noted that it is not known how long it will continue to work for, and it is also not known what will happen when it does stop working i.e., whether it could catch fire, blow up etc. It was confirmed that the current transformer is 750-800kva.

Mr V Barker questioned whether the electricity is cheaper because the Board are using their own transformer? It was noted that it is no cheaper, but that the Finance Manager has looked into it.

All AGREED to recommend that a replacement transformer (800kva) be installed.

(d) Drainage and maintenance issues – land south of the Risegate Eau, Gosberton Fen

The Operations Manager noted that this runs from Beech Bank across open farmland and outfalls into the Risegate Eau. Due to the low-lying land within the area, one of the landowners has asked whether there is anything the Board can do to improve the capacity / conveyance of the drain. Initially, the Operations Manager noted that maintenance can be increased and so that has been done, increasing from once a year to up to three times a year. It was also agreed to look at revisiting a survey of the site to see if there is any opportunity to putting a bucket on a machine and removing any silt. The survey has been carried out and results were displayed on screen, it being noted that at 300 metres there is a difference in level and so there may be opportunity to remove some of the bed at this section, however, it is not guaranteed that this will help with conveyance. There could possibly be opportunity to widen the drain, but that would only increase storage. The drain could also only be deepened if the outfall was lowered, however, a cost benefit exercise would need to be carried out to identify if the benefit would outweigh the cost.

Mr V Barker noted that it is a good survey but that it doesn't show the width of the bed in the watercourse, noting that when it gets to 400 metres away from the outfall, the watercourse is considerably wider, where the bed is high, its very narrow, of the opinion that if some were taken out of the bed and banks it would make a lot of difference. Mr V Barker thanked the Board for the survey.

The stability of the bank was noted, it being suggested that it may be beneficial to complete a little bit and asses the condition before continuing.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 16:37.

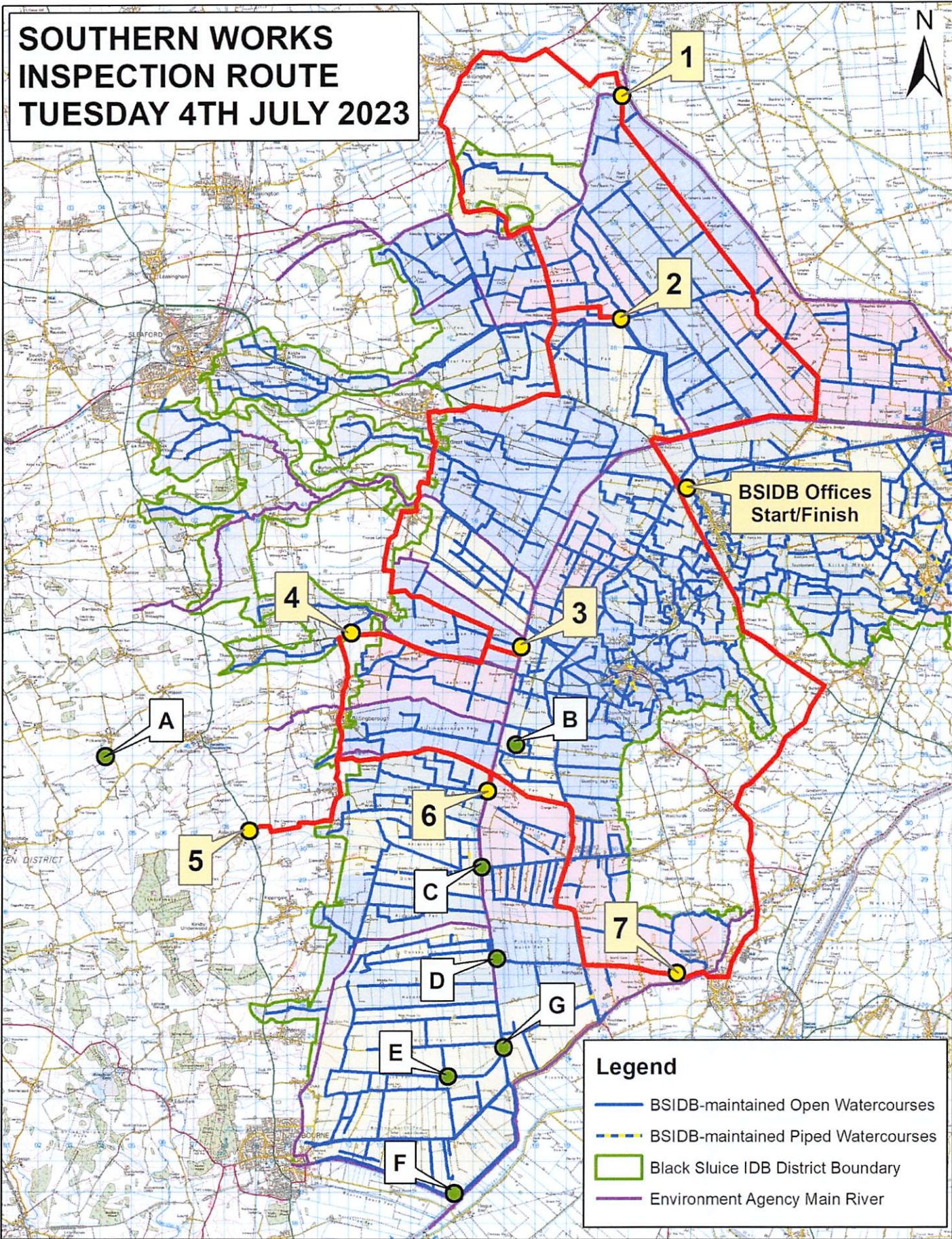


BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD



**SOUTHERN WORKS
COMMITTEE INSPECTION
Tuesday 4th July 2023**

**SOUTHERN WORKS
INSPECTION ROUTE
TUESDAY 4TH JULY 2023**



Legend

- BSIDB-maintained Open Watercourses
- - - BSIDB-maintained Piped Watercourses
- ▭ Black Sluice IDB District Boundary
- Environment Agency Main River



Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board
 Station Road, Swineshead,
 Boston, Lincolnshire PE20 3PW
 Tel: 01205 821440
 Email: mailbox@blacksluiceidb.gov.uk

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Date: June 2023
Scale: 1:150,000

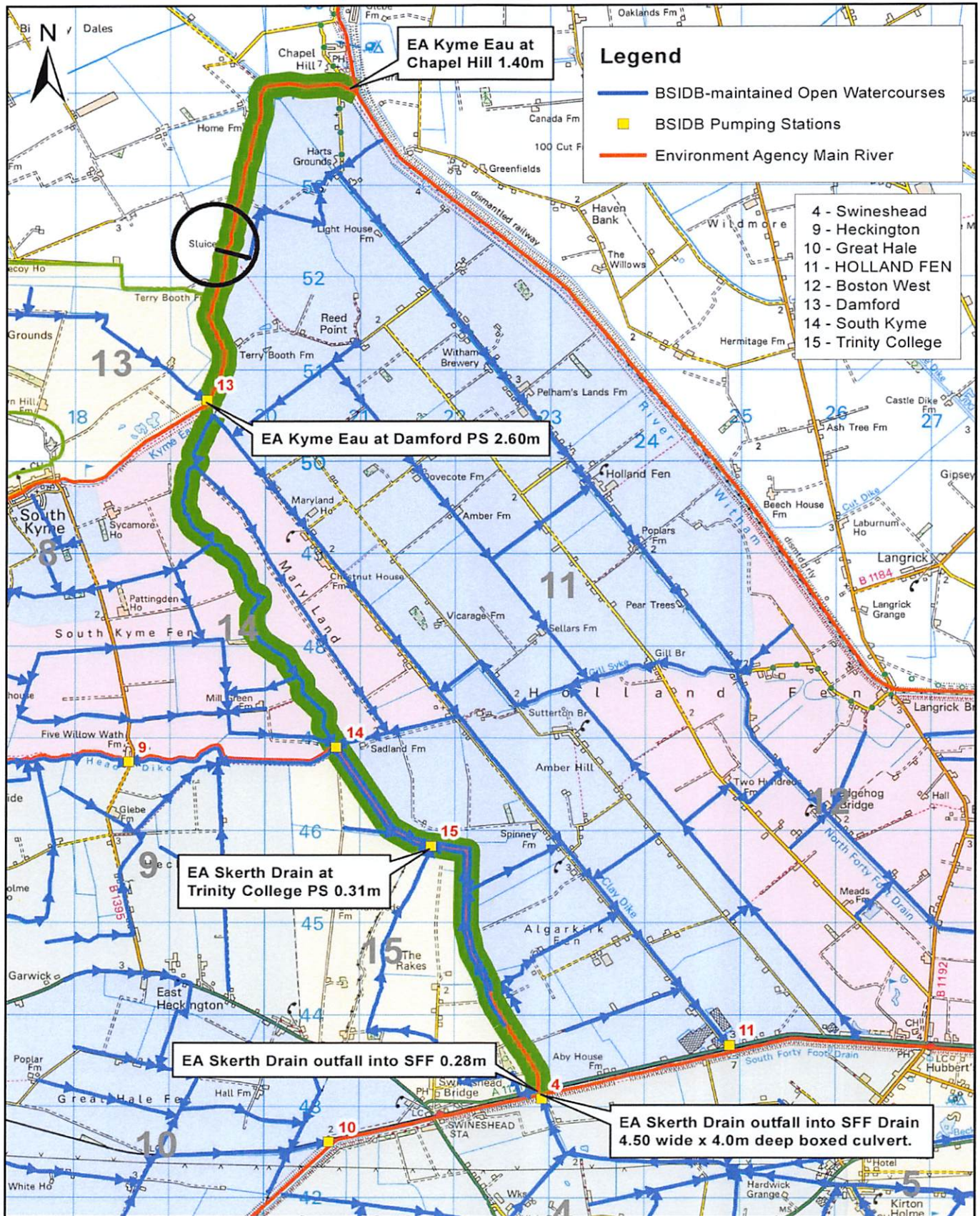
SOUTHERN WORKS COMMITTEE
INSPECTION ITINERARY
TUESDAY 4TH JULY 2023

BSIDB Offices

1	Chapel Hill	View/discuss Open Water Transfer (OWT)
2	South Kyme Pumping Station	View/discuss Open Water Transfer (OWT)
3	Swaton Pump Station	View/discuss Open Water Transfer (OWT) (Tea/Coffee)
4	A52 Spanby	View/discuss Swaton Natural Flood Management (NFM) Works
A	<i>Pickworth</i>	<i><u>Point of Interest</u> - Upper Catchment NFM Works (Pickworth & Dembleby)</i>
5	Robin Hood & Little John, Aslackby	Lunch
B	<i>North Drove Quadring Fen</i>	<i><u>Point of Interest</u> – Proposed revetment Drain 31/3</i>
C	<i>Gosberton Fen Pump Station</i>	<i><u>Point of Interest</u> – Replacement Transformer</i>
D	<i>Pinchbeck North Fen Pump Station</i>	<i><u>Point of Interest</u> – matters regarding Drain 26/2</i>
6	Sempringham Pump Station	View/discuss refurbishment works
E	<i>Dyke Fen Pump Station</i>	<i><u>Point of Interest</u> – Pump & motor refurbishment</i>
F	<i>BSIDB Borrow Pits Bourne North Fen</i>	<i><u>Point of Interest</u> Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust proposals</i>
G	<i>Guthram Gowt</i>	<i><u>Point of Interest</u> – Proposed desilting works South Forty Foot Drain – Guthram to Black Hole Drove</i>
7	Northgate West Pinchbeck	Discuss remaining works Drain 22/31 Graft Drain
	BSIDB Offices	Northern Works Committee Meeting

1 - Chapel Hill - View/Discuss Open Water Transfer (OWT) project

2 - South Kyme Pumping Station - View/Discuss Open Water Transfer (OWT) project



Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board
 Station Road, Swineshead,
 Boston, Lincolnshire PE20 3PW
 Tel: 01205 821440
 Email: mailbox@blacksluiceidb.gov.uk

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Date: October 2022

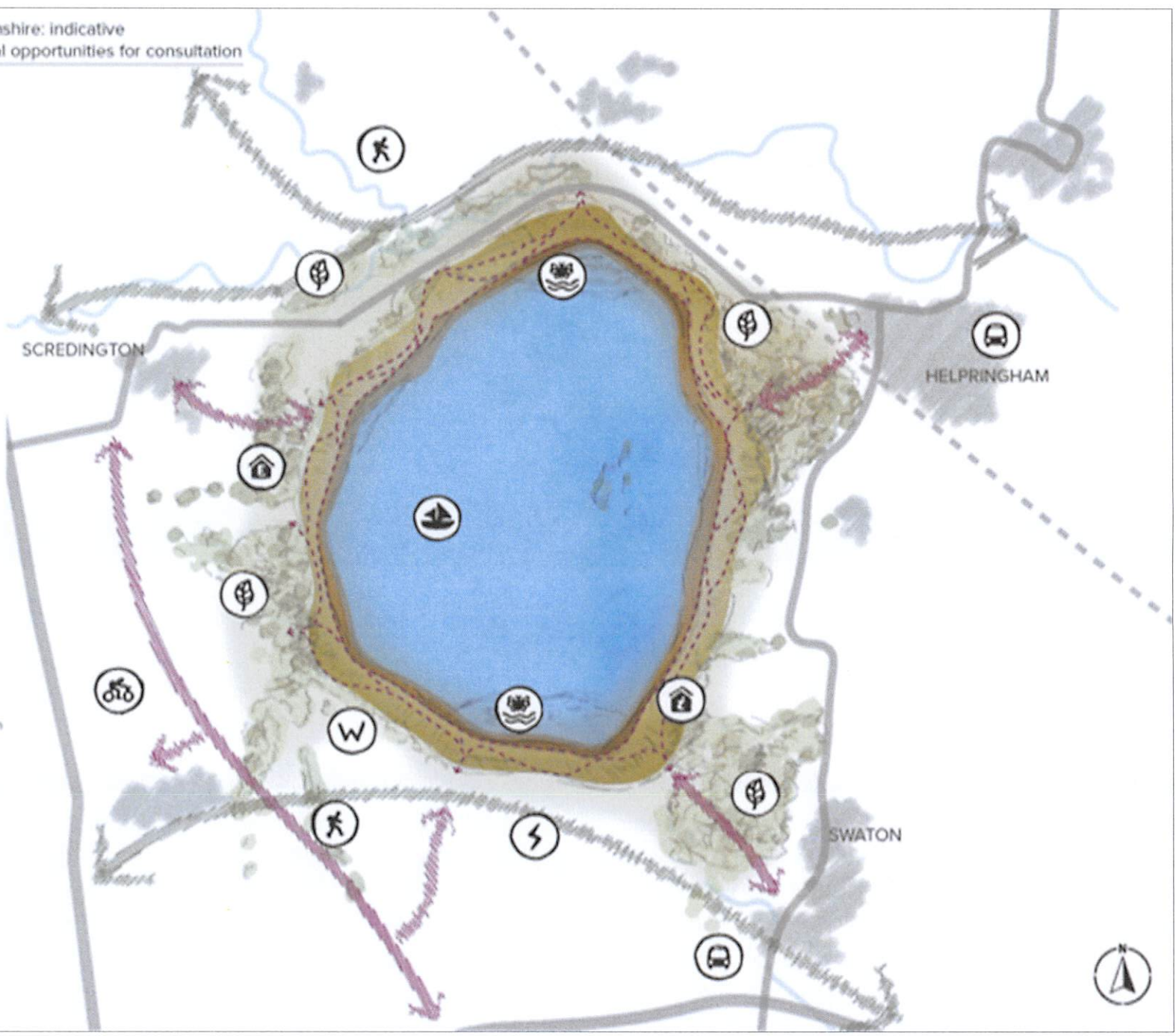
Scale: 1:50,000

3 - Swaton Pumping Station - View/Discuss Open Water Transfer (OWT) project
View Helpringham Eau Outfall

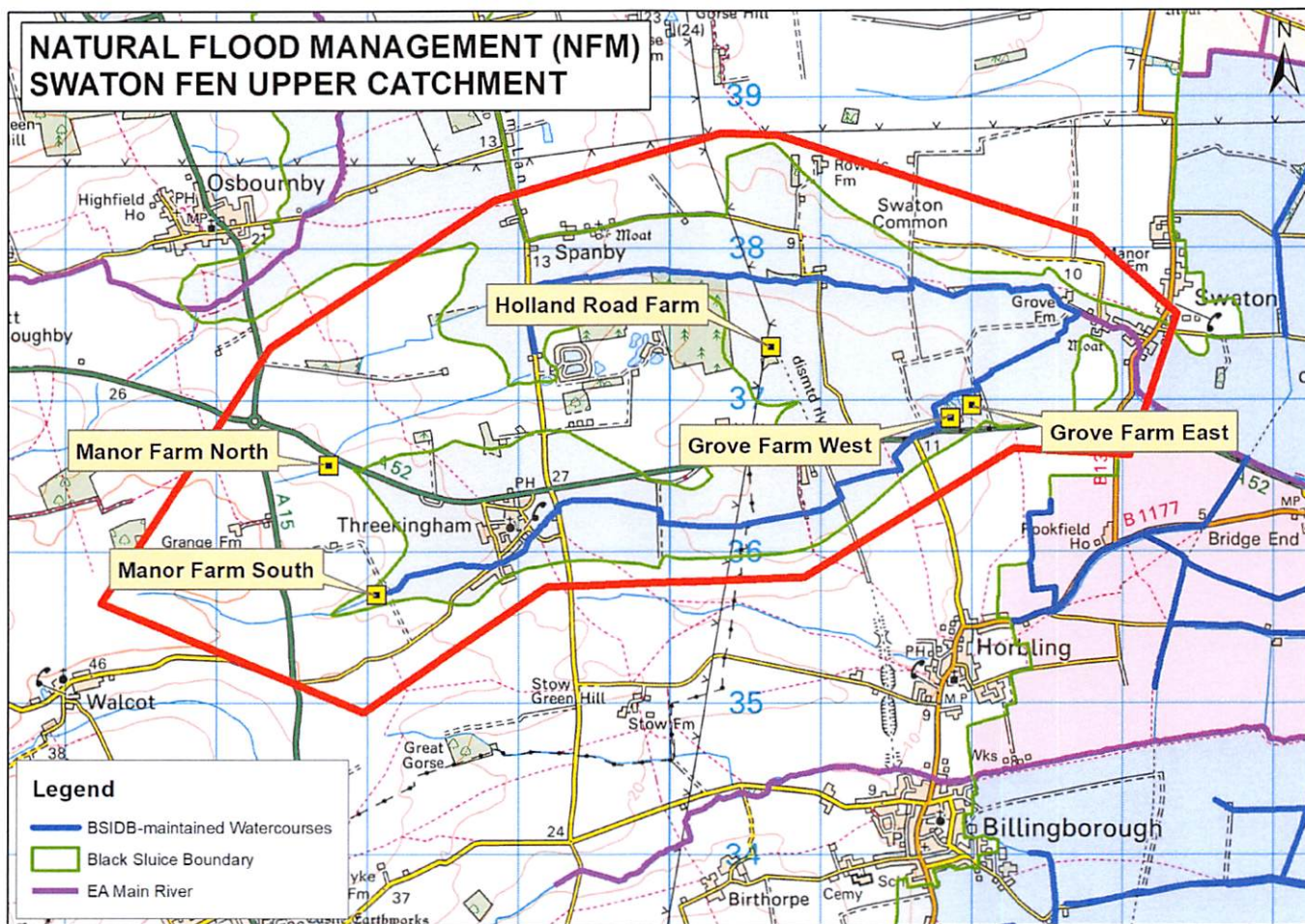
Proposed Reservoir in Lincolnshire: indicative community and environmental opportunities for consultation

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

-  Education Centre
-  Visitor Centre
-  Footpath improvements
-  New cycleway provision
-  Sustainable transport opportunities
-  Renewable energy opportunities
-  Sailing/ watersports
-  Biodiversity opportunities
-  Water treatment works
-  Wetland habitat areas within reservoir
-  Multi-use recreation routes
-  Opportunities for cycle/footpath connections
-  Opportunities for connecting infrastructure enhancement



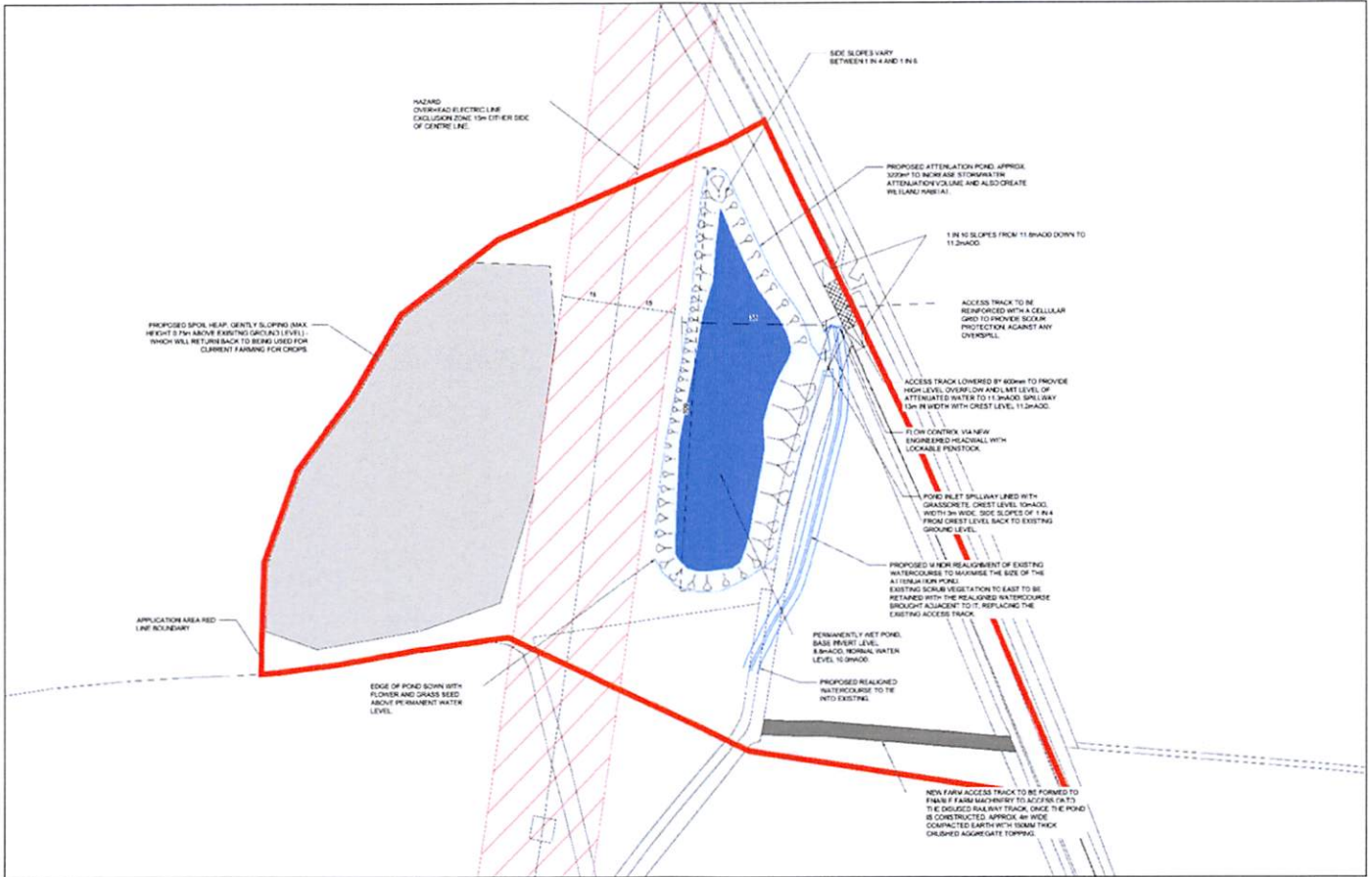
4 - Swaton Catchment Natural Flood Management (NFM) Scheme - Update



Swaton Natural Flood Management (NFM) scheme

c£1,000,000

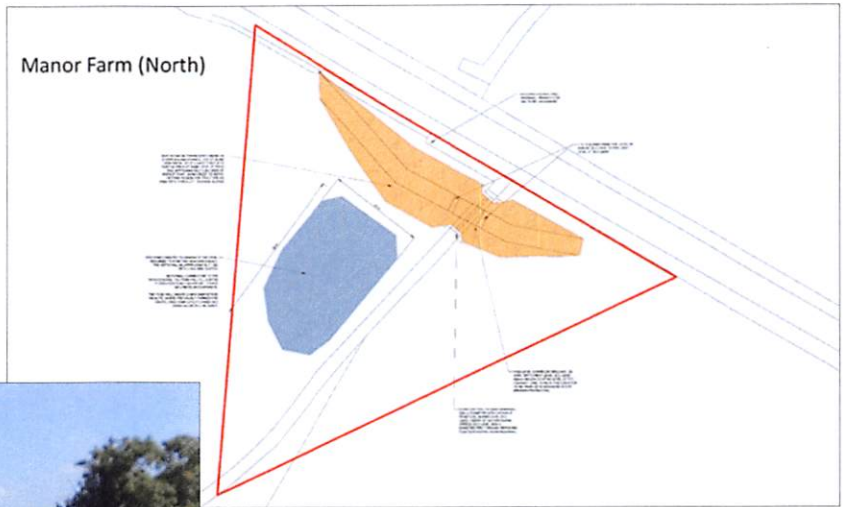
This scheme delivered on behalf of the Environment Agency through the Public Sector Co-operation Agreement across 3 sites, to create 5 attenuation ponds able to hold back 22,000 cubic meters of flood water, the equivalent to 9 Olympic sized swimming pools



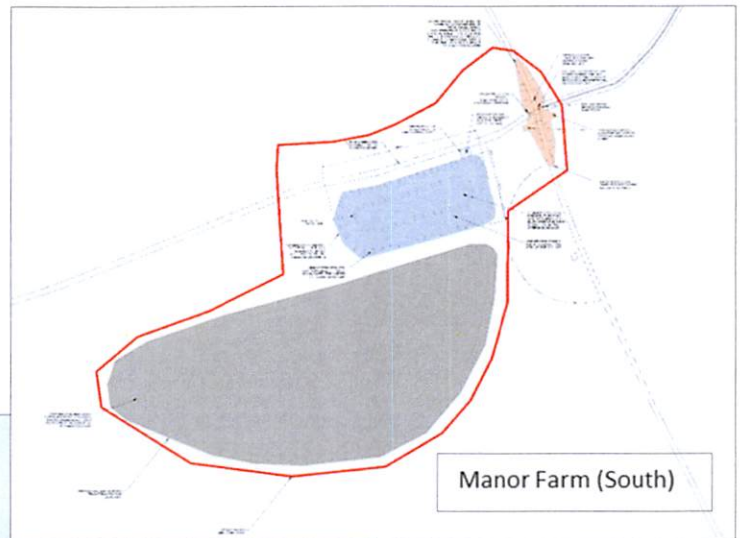
Holland Road Farm works to replace the spillway have now been completed.



4 - Swaton Catchment Natural Flood Management (NFM) Scheme - Update



Works are currently ongoing to complete works on the Manor Farm sites.





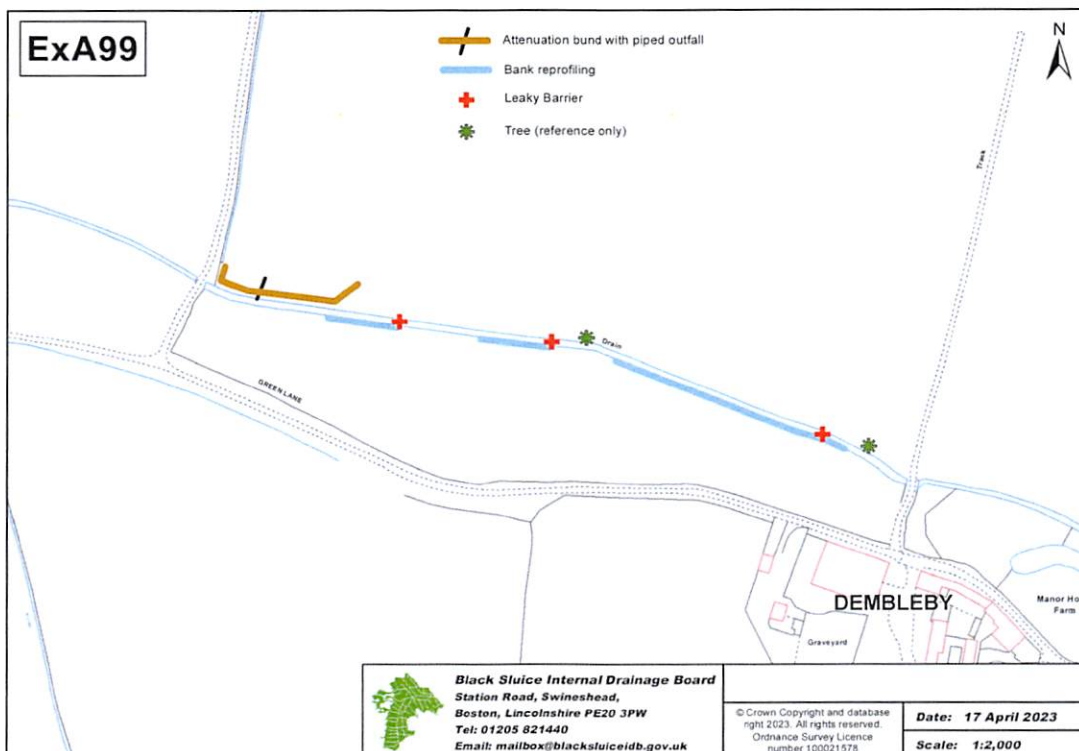
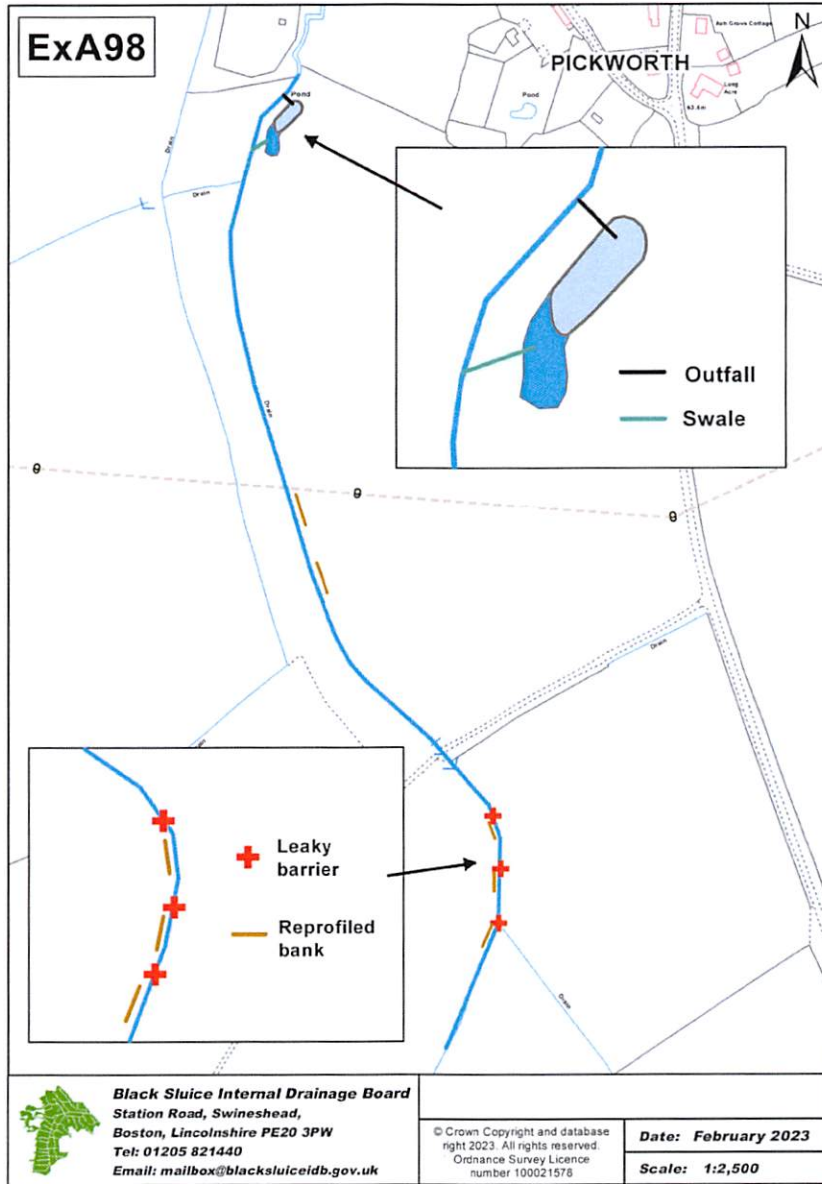
Grove Farm attenuation sites have recently been completed.

East



West

A - Point of Interest - Upper Catchment NFM Works - Pickworth & Dembleby





Enlarged pond with swale & outfall pipe



Leaky Dam



Reprofiled bank

B - Point of Interest - Proposed revetment works, Drain 31/3, North Drove, Quadring Fen



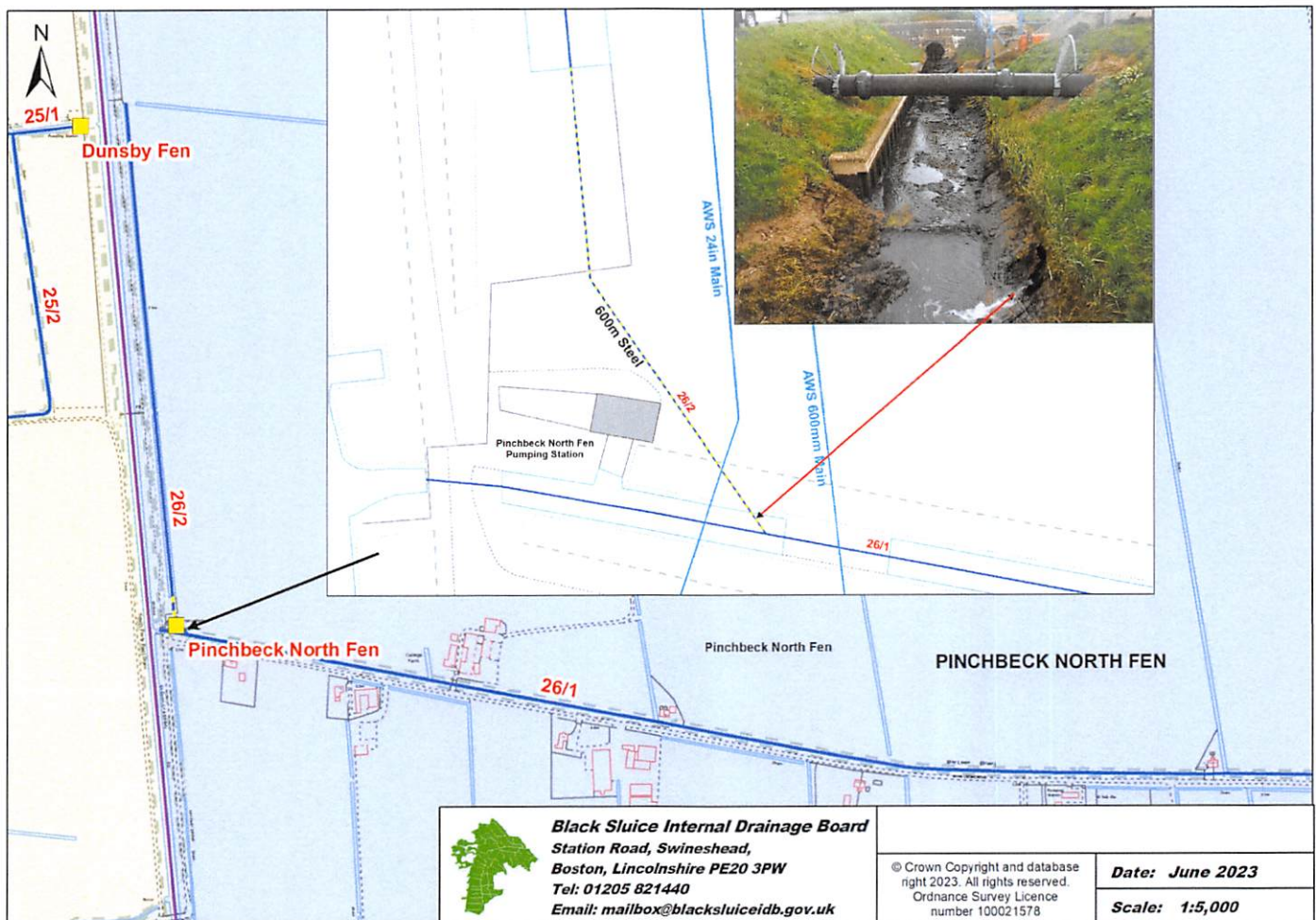
There is some bank slippage adjacent to where the road is cracked and so highways have been contacted to ensure they are aware that the works of the Board has not caused the road to crack, photos will be taken before and after. The road will require closing for the works and is estimated to cost £24,000.

C - Point of Interest - Gosberton & Dowsby Fen Pumping Station 750Kva Transformer



Installation of a new 800Kva transformer was completed in April 2023.

D - Point of Interest - Drainage issues, Pinchbeck North Fen



Drain 26/2 was part of the Southern Works Inspection in March 2020. As discussed at this meeting it was agreed further investigations into conveyance would be completed.

Following a review of the data held on file it is known that this drain has been desilted in 2004, 2006, 2014 and most recently 2021.

The 39m x 600mm piped section that connects the open drain to the pump drain has been surveyed and shows that the pipe is not blocked, with an u/s invert level of -0.47mODN and a d/s invert level of -0.52mODN

Pump drain water level presently at $+0.295\text{mODN}$

The gravity channel allows gravitation to $+0.2\text{mODN}$, when levels in the South Forty Foot Drain allow.

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

BOARD MEETING – 28th JUNE 2006

AGENDA ITEM No. 4b

Drain 26/2 Pinchbeck Fen

Drain 26/2, which is only 500 metres long, was mudded out in 2004. A more recent request for improvement was made by Mr J Atkinson and the drain was surveyed in March 2006. It was found to have a number of high spots and so after the completion of this year's mudding programme, this drain was put it in good order.

Under normal conditions water gravitates out into the South Forty Foot Drain at Pinchbeck Pumping Station and therefore the water levels in the fen are determined by the invert level of the gravity outfall.

To make further improvements would either mean lowering the gravity outfall pipe or running the pumps all the time. It is recommended that no further action is taken.

6 - Refurbishment Works - Sempringham Pump Station





2022/23 Dyke Fen Pumping Station Electric Pump Motor refurbishment - £3,000 Estimate

Part of ongoing preventative maintenance at this Pumping Station to refurbish the pump motor to one of the pumps.

2023/24 Dyke Fen Pumping Station Pump and Electric Pump Motor refurbishment - £25,000 Estimate

Part of ongoing preventative maintenance at this Pumping Station to refurbish the pump and pump motor to one of the pumps.

F - Point of Interest - Project with the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, Bourne North Fen

An estimate of c£150,000+ towards implementing these works onsite have been provided.

Extract from the Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust associated document :

Introduction to the Bourne North Fen, South Lincolnshire Proposed Project

Project Title	South Lincolnshire Fenland Storage & Transfer Reservoir: Pilot Project
Lead Partner	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Project Location	Bourne North Fen, South Lincolnshire Fens
Project Summary	<p>Developing new water management tools and a sustainable approach to integrated catchment water management: meeting the needs of multiple water users and delivering multiple benefits.</p> <p>The capture, storage and transfer reservoir pilot will develop, trial and evaluate water management regimes and partnership working at the catchment, and multiple catchment level.</p> <p>Outline targets: increasing South Lincolnshire’s fenland habitats by 30%; capture and storage capacity 2-400,000m³; transfer potential 1-4 million m³; water quality improvements 1-4 million m³; potentially providing some flood risk alleviation to Surfleet via whole catchment approach at times of event recognising relates to tidal surges too; testing & developing multiple partnership working and protocols.</p>
Project Funding	<p>Land purchase: £1 to 1.1 million</p> <p>Site development: £1 to 2 million dependent on the scale of capital works and evaluation / scale of outcome targets / demands</p>
SLWP Priority	High
Comments	<p>Initial assessment of the Project’s costs and benefits at the base-level outline targets and outcomes (see above) are largely ‘knowns,’ there are however, a number of ‘unknowns’ at the higher level. There are no other similar national equivalents or trials of this scale elsewhere. Although at a moderate scale, this project will be able to test, inform and develop sustainable water management tools and techniques for wider ‘whole catchment’ use, and therefore is potentially relevant to improved water management at a national level.</p>



Brief overview

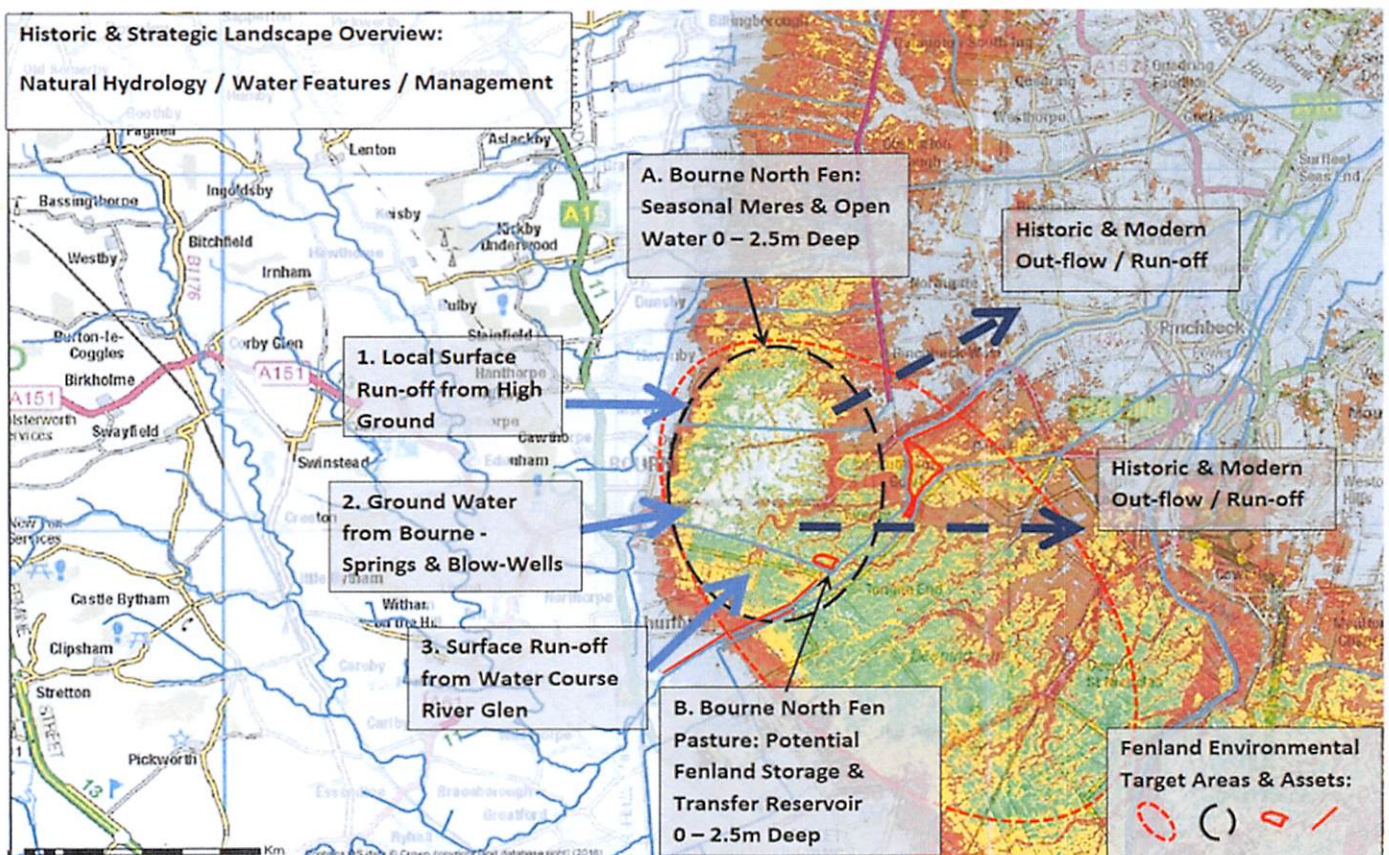
- Purchase of 50+ hectares at confluence of the Rivers Bourne Eau & Glen to create a water storage and transfer reservoir
- Purchase: £1-1.1 million
- Initial capital works: £1-2 million
- Lead organisation and proposed governance: LWT with the South Lincolnshire Water Partnership within the context of Water Resource East

Aims & outcomes

- Developing new water management tools and a sustainable approach to integrated catchment water management
- Meeting the needs of multiple water users and delivering multiple benefits
- Piloting a capture, storage and transfer reservoir which will develop, trial and evaluate water management regimes and partnership working at the catchment, and multiple catchment level

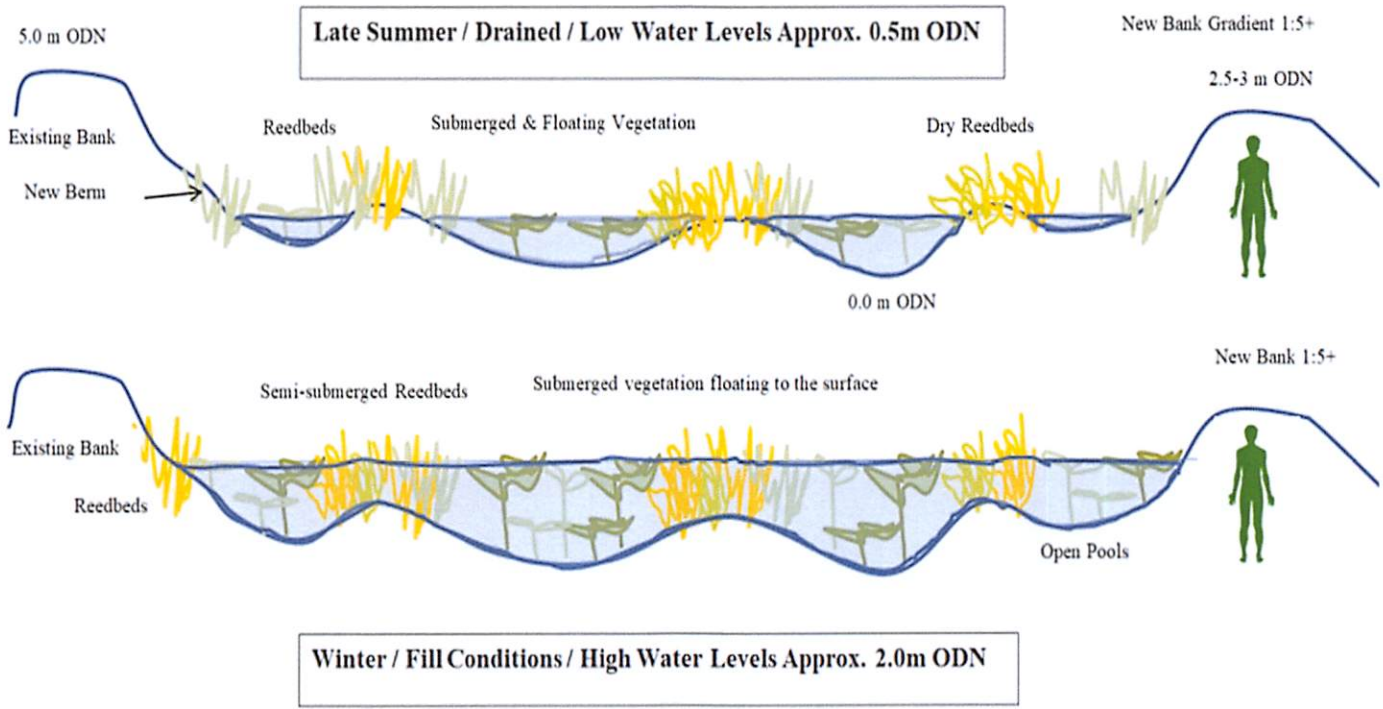
Outline targets

- Increasing South Lincolnshire's fenland habitats by 30%
- capture & storage capacity 2-400,000m³ (potential 1Mm³ @ 2.5m AOD)
- transfer potential 1-4 million m³
- water quality improvements 1-4 million m³
- potentially providing flood risk benefits in the area
- testing & developing multiple partnership working and protocols including funding and investment strategies

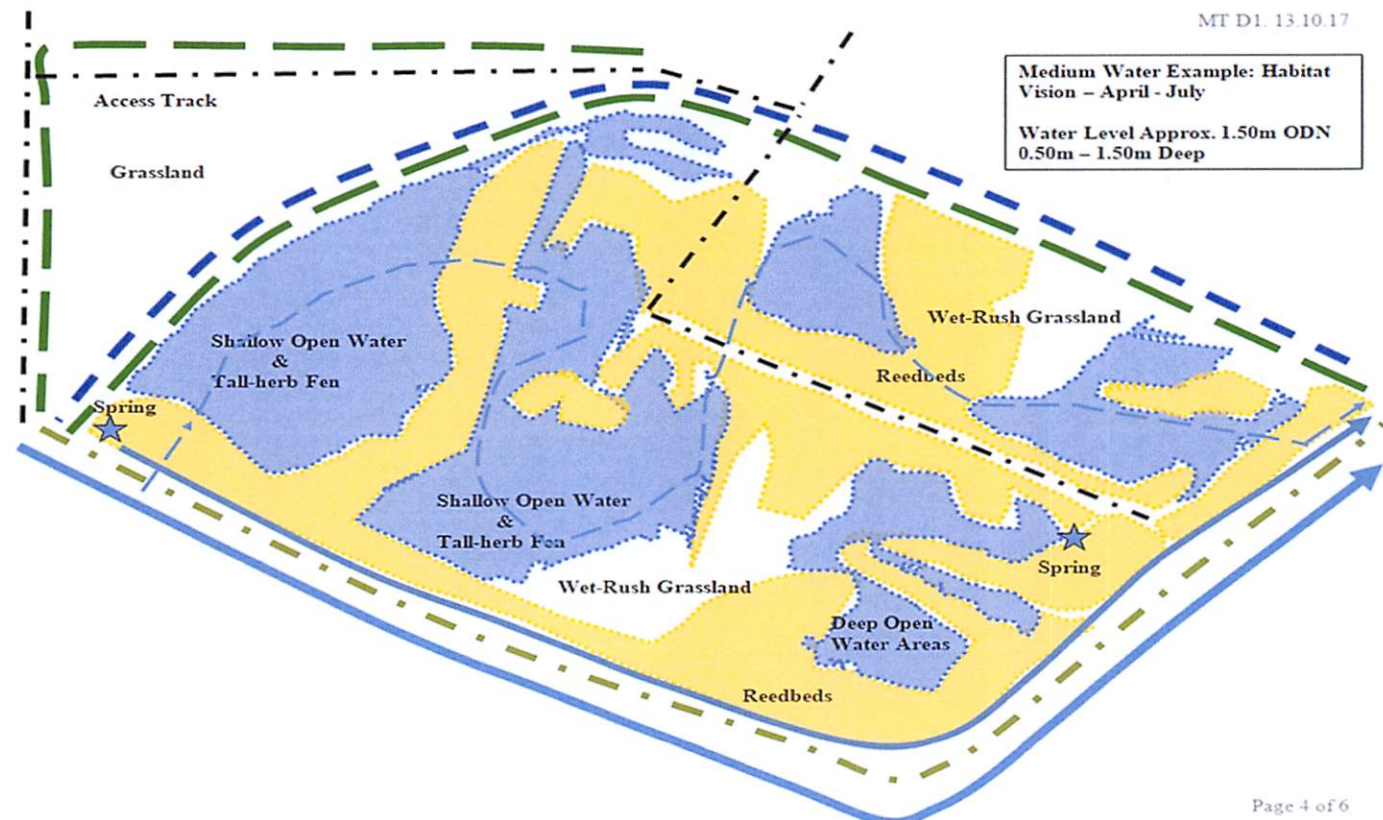


Bourne North Fenland Reservoir Cross Section Summer & Winter - Not to scale

Water Level & Aquatic Vegetation Management: Mimicking historical seasonal water levels and vegetation communities (existing & historical).
Open Water: Water Crowfoots sp. e.g. Thread-leaved *Ranunculus trichophyllus*, Water Dropwort's *Oenanthe* sp. Common Club-Rush *Schoenoplectus lacustris*, Water Violet *Hottonia palustris*, Stonewort's *Chara* sp.
Open Water - Water Margins: Inc. Extensive reedbed / tall-herb fen /swamp habitats - NVC S24 Common Reed *Phragmites australis* & Milk Parsley *Peucedanum palustre* – see below (& Greater Water-Parasnip *Sium latifolium*) S25 *P. australis* & *Angelica sylvestris* Hemp Agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*
Potential Reintroduction of County Extinct Sp.: Saw-sedge *Cladium mariscus* (1932 Tattershall Cox), Cowbane *Cicuta virosa* (1838 Bourne Dodsworth), Milk Parsley *Peucedanum palustre* (1949 Waddingham Gibbons).



The diagram above illustrates how the Bourne North Fen site will potentially work through the seasons, and the one below provides an idea of what the site design.

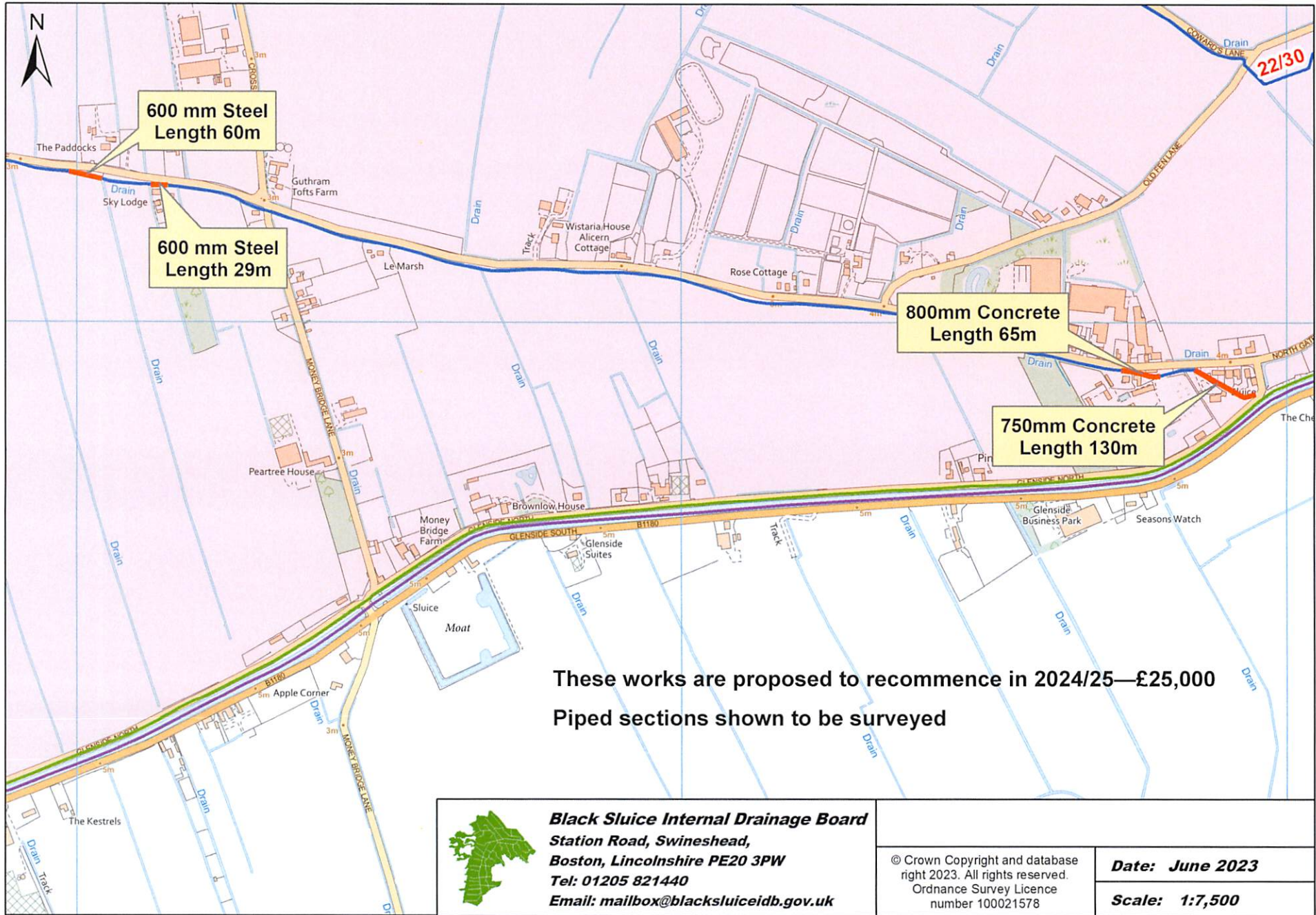


G - Point of Interest - Proposed desilting South Forty Foot Drain



POI 2024/25 proposed SFFD desilting Guthrum to Black Hole Drove - £65,000

Different Methods are proposed excavator bucket / cradge, cutter suction dredging, etc



**Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board
10 Year Capital Schemes Budget
2023/24 to 2032/33 (Updated after 2022/23 Yearend)**

Year	Type	Scheme	Total	Grant / Local Levy	Other Contributions	Possible Board Contribution	Drain	PS
2023/24	Drain	BSIDB NFM Works	£368,234	£368,234				
	Drain	BSIDB NFM Studies	£32,689	£32,689				
	Pump	Sempringham PS Refurbishment (B/F)	£138,980	£138,980				
	Drain	North Forty Foot Revetments	£130,901	£130,901				
	Drain	Black Sluice Catchment Studies	£209,162	£209,162				
	Pump	Great Hale Fen PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner	£75,000					£75,000
	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£75,000				£75,000	
	Pump	Dyke Fen PS, refurbish 1 pump and 1 motor	£25,000					£25,000
	Pump	Kirton Marsh PS electrical supply change	£10,000					£10,000
	Pump	Great Hale Fen PS under pump inspections	£10,000					£10,000
	Pump	Trinity College PS under pump inspections	£5,000					£5,000
	Drain	Quadring North Fen roadside revetment	£24,000				£24,000	
	Drain	Alternative Programme access works	£20,000				£20,000	
Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000		
			£1,128,966	£879,966			£124,000	£125,000
2024/25	Drain	SFFD Desilting Guthrum to Blackhole Drove PS	£65,000					£65,000
	Drain	Bicker Fen Catchment works	£10,000	£10,000				
	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£75,000				£75,000	
	Drain	Dunsby Fen Catchment Works	£10,000	£10,000				
	Drain	Ewerby Fen Catchment Works	£10,000	£10,000				
	Pump	Ewerby Fen PS Replace control panel	£60,000					£60,000
	Pump	Kirton Marsh PS refurbish 1 pump and 1 motor	£30,000					£30,000
	Pump	Kirton Marsh PS under pump inspections	£11,000					£11,000
	Pump	Wyberton Marsh PS new transformer	£50,000	£50,000				
	Drain	Graft Drain	£25,000				£25,000	
Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000		
			£351,000	£80,000			£170,000	£101,000
2025/26	Drain	SFFD Desilting Guthrum to Blackhole Drove PS	£70,000					£70,000
	Drain	Bicker Fen Catchment works	£430,000	£113,250	£266,750	£50,000		
	Drain	Dunsby Fen Catchment Works	£414,000	£45,508	£318,492	£50,000		
	Drain	Ewerby Fen Catchment Works	£750,000	£332,410	£367,590	£50,000		
	Drain	Horbling Town Beck Flood Alleviation scheme	£10,000	£10,000				
	Pump	Damford PS replace control panel	£65,000					£65,000
	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£40,000				£40,000	
	Drain	Graft Drain	£35,000				£35,000	
	Drain	NFF Desilting	£20,000				£20,000	
	Pump	Great Hale Fen PS new transformer	£55,000	£55,000				
	Pump	Swineshead PS new transformer	£70,000	£70,000				
	Pump	Haconby PS refurbish axial flow pump	£25,000					£25,000
	Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000	
			£1,989,000	£626,168	£952,832	£150,000	£170,000	£90,000
2026/27	Drain	Claydyke desilting	£130,000				£130,000	
	Drain	NFF Desilting	£60,000				£60,000	
	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£50,000				£50,000	
	Drain	Horbling Town Beck Flood Alleviation scheme	£758,000	£130,568	£577,432	£50,000		
	Drain	Dowsby Fen Catchment Works	£10,000	£10,000				
	Pump	Horbling Fen PS new roof	£12,000					£12,000
	Pump	Gosberton Fen PS Refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£75,000					£75,000
	Pump	Haconby Fen PS Replace control panel	£35,000					£35,000
	Pump	Donington North Ings PS new transformer	£55,000	£55,000				
	Pump	Cooks Lock PS new transformer	£55,000	£55,000				
	Pump	Holland Fen under pump inspections	£10,000					£10,000
Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000		
			£1,255,000	£250,568	£577,432	£50,000	£245,000	£132,000
2027/28	Drain	Graft Drain	£55,000				£55,000	
	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£65,000				£65,000	
	Pump	Cooks Lock p/s refurbish weedscreen cleaner	£80,000					£80,000
	Drain	New Hammond Beck Desilting	£50,000				£50,000	
	Drain	Dowsby Fen Catchment Works	£350,000	£162,686	£137,314	£50,000		
	Pump	Bicker Fen replacement control panel	£33,000					£33,000
	Pump	Bicker Fen refurb 1 x axial flow pump	£25,000					£25,000
	Pump	Great Hale Fen						
	Pump	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS new transformer	£60,000	£60,000				
	Pump	Holland Fen PS new transformer	£75,000	£75,000				
Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000		
			£788,000	£297,686	£137,314	£50,000	£175,000	£138,000
2028/29	Drain	Old Hammond Beck Desilting	£80,000				£80,000	
	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£60,000				£60,000	
	Pump	Donington NI refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£75,000					£75,000
	Pump	Kirton Marsh p/s replace control panel	£35,000					£35,000
	Drain	Bourne Fen 28/10 Revetment	£30,000				£30,000	
	Pump	Great Hale Fen refurb 1 x axial flow pump	£17,000					£17,000
	Pump	Helpringham p/s new roof	£13,000					£13,000
	Pump	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS under pump inspection	£12,000					£12,000
	Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000	
			£327,000				£175,000	£152,000
2029/30	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£60,000				£60,000	
	Pump	Chain Bridge p/s refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£80,000					£80,000
	Drain	Cooks lock PS pump drain desilting/under pump inspection	£36,000				£36,000	
	Drain	Dowsby Fen pump drain desilting/pump inspection	£36,000				£36,000	
	Pump	Quadring Fen p/s replace control panel	£40,000					£40,000
	Pump	Allen House p/s replace control panel	£32,000					£32,000
	Drain	Quadring Fen pump drain desilting/pump inspection	£25,000				£25,000	
	Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000	
			£314,000				£162,000	£152,000
2030/31	Drain	Damford PS pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£50,000				£50,000	
	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£60,000				£60,000	
	Pump	Horbling p/s control panel	£45,000					£45,000
	Pump	Mallard Hum control panel	£45,000					£45,000
	Pump	Mallard Hum PS under pump inspections	£10,000					£10,000
	Drain	Cooks Lock pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£42,000				£42,000	
	Pump	Trinity College refurb pumps	£35,000					£35,000
	Drain	Black Hole Drove p/s under pump inspections	£25,000				£25,000	
	Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000	
			£317,000				£162,000	£135,000
2031/32	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£70,000				£70,000	
	Drain	Heckington Fen pump drain desilting under pump inspections	£24,925				£24,925	
	Pump	Billingborough Fen p/s control panel	£50,000					£50,000
	Pump	Dowsby Lode p/s control panel	£50,000					£50,000
	Pump	Pinchbeck Fen p/s control panel	£50,000					£50,000
	Drain	Holland Fen pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£50,000				£50,000	
	Drain	Helpringham pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£30,000				£30,000	
			£324,925				£174,925	£150,000
2032/33	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£70,000				£70,000	
	Pump	Swineshead p/s 3 x pump refurb	£90,000					£90,000
	Pump	Swaton p/s refurb pump	£25,000					£25,000
	Pump	Rippingale p/s refurb	£25,000					£25,000
	Drain	Dowsby Fen pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£45,000				£45,000	
	Drain	Gosberton Fen pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£45,000				£45,000	
	Drain	Swineshead pump drain desilting under pump inspections	£55,000				£55,000	
Drain	Dunsby Fen pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£38,000				£38,000		
			£393,000				£253,000	£140,000

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD
SOUTHERN WORKS COMMITTEE - 04 JULY 2023

AGENDA ITEM 09
ENGINEER'S REPORT

1. Capital Asset improvements

(a) 2023/24 Defra/EA Funded Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Grant in Aid (GiA) Schemes

(i) Swaton Natural Flood Management (NFM) schemes

3 sites at Holland Road Farm, Grove Farm and Manor Farm were identified to attenuate flows in the Swaton catchment. The first site at Holland Road Farm having been completed.

Following agreement with the Environment Agency, these sites are being delivered by the Board through the Public Sector Cooperation agreement(PSCA). It is now estimated that the remaining 2 sites will be completed in 2023.

(ii) Sempringham Fen Pumping Station Refurbishment

The 20-year land lease agreement with The Crown Estate has now been signed, and the civils works to construct a new weed dump area and compound are now almost complete.

The new weedscreen cleaner has been ordered with an estimated installation date of November 2023

(iii) Upper catchment South Forty Foot Natural Flood Management (NFM) Studies & Works – Estimate £400,923

As reported previously, the latest study, now completed, showed the Morton, Aslackby, Billingborough, Rippingale and Helpringham catchments as those with the best opportunities for NFM implementation. A proposal for funding towards implementation of these schemes was put before the Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC) Local Choices, and funding successfully received to complete. The survey and landowner engagement work being completed on behalf of the Board by Lesley Sharpe a consultant Farmed Environment Adviser. Numerous sites across these locations have been identified, within excess of 150 if all are able to be agreed and completed, to include online storage ponds, bunds, scrapes, leaky barriers, wetland, online ponds and reconnected floodplains Some of the NFM interventions have been identified, agreed with landowners and visited with Board's officers, with some of these interventions having now been implemented.

(iv) Black Sluice Catchment Strategy

This scheme has been commissioned, Stantec's brief is to provide:

A high-level model to give a strategic overview of the whole system which will provide the Board with priority areas to focus future studies and investments. The study will need to consider assessing the following areas:

- Pump efficiency – current vs alternative rules, this will enable a ranking of the pumps by the scale of the opportunity.
- Pump running costs
- Catchment combination/pumping station decommissioning
- Flood risk & future flood risk
- High level assessment of benefits available within the catchment

The Inception Study is currently being completed.

The total FCERM GiA currently applied for to complete this scheme is £250,000.

Future indicative Board contributions to facilitate the FCERM GiA funding have all now been reprofiled into future years and will be dependent upon the outcome of the Black Sluice Catchment Strategy.

(b) 2023/24 Board funded capital schemes

(i) Quadrang North Fen roadside revetment – Estimate £24,000

There is some roadside bank slippage along this section of drain that requires repair, which will be subject to a road closure. At a previous site meeting LCC Highways Manager was made aware of the issue, another meeting with LCC will be requested prior to commencement of works on site.

(ii) Jetting/CCTV survey of Major Pipelines – Estimate £75,000

Works on the outstanding sections in the Donington catchment to be completed this year, along with a tender package for the commencement of works proposed in the Wyberton area.

(iii) Dyke Fen Pumping Station pump and pump motor refurbishment - Estimate £25,000

Part of ongoing preventative maintenance at this Pumping Station to refurbish the pump and pump motor to one of the pumps. It is expected that these works will be completed within the next 2 months, this is a two-pump station.

(iv) Alternative Programme Access works – Estimate £20,000

These works are to enable ongoing new maintenance methods providing access for alternate bank cuts, through flailing, bushing, and placement of side entry access culverts.

(v) General culvert replacement contributions. – Estimate £5,000

Culverts that would be considered for benefit contribution from the Board, should access for maintenance be required, as per the terms of the Structures Replacement Policy.

(c) 2024/25 Defra/EA FCERM GiA Schemes

(i) Dunsby Fen Catchment Works study – Estimate £10,000

Dunsby Fen Catchment Works studies are to be reprofiled into future years and will be dependent upon the outcome of the Black Sluice Catchment Strategy.

(d) 2024/25 Board funded capital schemes

(i) Graft Drain – Estimate £25,000

The Graft Drain project has been ongoing for a number of years and the intention for the remaining unspent budget was for the scheme to recommence over the year end period utilising the remaining 2021/22 budget of £33,922 and the £60,000 from the 2022/23 budget. This did not happen due to works being completed for the Environment Agency during this period, which also recovered some of the unbudgeted costs. This unspent budget was re-allocated to other higher priority schemes in 2022/23. It is now proposed to recommence works on site in 2024/25

(ii) SFFD Desilting Guthrum to Blackhole Drove PS – Estimate £65,000

This c1600m section of the South Forty Foot Drain from Guthrum Gowt to Blackhole Drove Pumping Station is maintained by the Board. It is proposed that this section is de-silted commencing in 2024/25.

2. Emergency Response Plan

A reminder regarding the Emergency Response Plan and a fluvial event; The South Forty Foot banks are seen to be at risk of breaching when the water levels rise above 2.70m ODN at Black Hole Drove pumping station. If this occurs the pumps at the Boards pumping stations shall start to be switched off by remote telemetry control as agreed by the Emergency Response Team at the same time switching all pumps to their Emergency Profile Level as identified within the Emergency Response Plan. The pumps shall remain switched off until the level of the water in the South Forty Foot Drain at Black Hole Drove reduces to 2.30m ODN.

Should the event become more extreme then a decision will need to be made by the Emergency Response Team in conjunction with the Chairperson of the Board on whether water levels in the Fens should be allowed to rise higher than the figures shown within the Emergency Response Plan, live CCTV footage showing the pumping station suction bays will be assessed when making these decisions.

3. Crop Loss

A reminder regarding grass, hay, silage fields as stated within the Boards Crop Loss Compensation Policy (No.46). During Summer Cutting, compensation will not be paid for access by machinery through grassland, hay or silage fields. Other maintenance works, i.e. de-silting and bushing works compensation will be paid for damage to grass, hay or silage fields at £1,310.00/hectare, all as per policy 46 (pages 58 - 63), details of which can be found on the Board's website.

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Policy No: 46

Crop Loss Compensation

Review	Southern Works 05 July 2022 Northern Works 19 July 2022
Board Approved	22 November 2022

1. PURPOSE

This document sets out the policy of the Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board concerning crop loss compensation for summer drain maintenance, any other maintenance works and permanent loss of land.

2. WHEN DOES CROP LOSS COMPENSATION APPLY?

The Board will only pay crop loss compensation to the ratepayer if a field is cropped at the time the work is carried out and the work causes damage to the crop or coverage of the crop with arising's from the works. There is a twelve-month cut-off date for claiming compensation following any such crop damage. Following any crop damage, the Boards Officers seek to agree any crop loss payments with the relevant party involved.

3. SUMMER DRAIN MAINTENANCE (WEED CUTTING)

Where the Board travels through standing crops to undertake weed cutting operations, compensation will be paid for crop loss at the rate of 25p per linear metre for all cereal crops and 44p per linear metre for oil seed rape. Root crops will be subject to private negotiation. Compensation will not be payable for access through grassland.

The Board has authorised the Operations Department to go through standing crops where deemed necessary in the interest of economy, efficiency and to minimise soil structure damage.

Cereals: 1000m x 25p per metre = £250.00
Oil Seed Rape: 1000m x 44p per metre = £440.00

4. OTHER MAINTENANCE WORKS (DE-SILTING/BUSHING)

Where **notice of entry (August/September notice) has been served** before a field has been cultivated, drilled, or planted, compensation will be calculated at the rate of **£1,310 per hectare whatever crop** is in the field.

Where **notice of entry has not been served** and a field has been cultivated, drilled, planted or sprayed, compensation will be calculated at the rate of **£1,495 per hectare for cereals** and harvested grass, and **£1,720 per hectare for oil seed rape**.

5. PERMANENT LOSS OF LAND

The Board will only pay land loss compensation to the landowner for widths lost greater than 500mm, the Board has limited records on landowners, if the compensation forms are posted to the ratepayer and they are not the landowner the ratepayer must immediately inform the Board and pass on the papers to the landowner. There is a twelve-month cut-off date for claiming compensation following any such land loss.

Land Loss Calculator			
Multiplier	Annual rateable value £/acre	Comp £/acre	Comp £/ha
125	85	10,625	26,254
125	80	10,000	24,710
125	75	9,375	23,165
125	70	8,750	21,621
125	65	8,125	20,077
125	60	7,500	18,532
125	55	6,875	16,988
125	50	6,250	15,444
125	45	5,625	13,899

6. HOW THIS POLICY WILL BE APPLIED

Summer Cutting

1. Notice is included with the drainage rate brochure and plan kept up to date on the website.
2. The Works Supervisor will endeavour to contact the occupier.
3. If the crop is due to be harvested imminently the programme will be adjusted to accommodate this where practicable.
4. If the crop is not due to be harvested imminently then the standard compensation rates will be agreed with the occupier.
5. The occupier is to be handed a leaflet explaining the process and policy or emailed it as a PDF attachment.
6. The GIS Technician raises claim forms and posts to the occupier as per the drainage rate records.
7. The occupier signs and returns the claim form including their bank details, within twelve months of the form being sent.
8. The GIS Technician records the receipt of the claim form and if correct passes to finance for payment.
9. Payment is authorised by the Chief Executive Officer or Finance Manager.
10. Claim is paid by the end of the following month it is claimed subject to the occupier matching the records on the drainage rate records.

Winter cleansing

1. Notice is sent in a letter in September/October prior to the works commencing in December of the same year.
2. The GIS Technician collates the crop loss from the drivers weekly report sheets.
3. The GIS Technician raises claim forms and posts to the occupier as per the drainage rate records.
4. The occupier signs and returns the claim form including their bank details, within twelve months of the form being sent.
5. The GIS Technician records the receipt of the claim form and if correct passes to finance for payment.
6. Payment is authorised by the Chief Executive Officer or Finance Manager
7. Claim is paid by the end of the following month it is claimed.

Land Loss

1. Notice is sent in a letter in September/October prior to the works commencing in December of the same year.
2. The GIS Technician collates the land loss from the drivers weekly report sheets.
3. The GIS Technician raises claim forms and posts to the occupier as per the drainage rate records requesting the details of the owner of the land, if not known.
4. The GIS Technician sends the claim forms to the owner if different to the occupier.
5. The owner signs and returns the claim form including their bank details, within twelve months of the form being sent.
6. The GIS Technician records the receipt of the claim form and if correct passes to finance for payment.
7. Payment is authorised by the Chief Executive Officer or Finance Manager.
8. Claim is paid by the end of the following month it is claimed.

Appendixes

Please see attached the following documents:

1. Compensation for Loss of Cropping
2. Claim Form for Crop Loss (Occupiers)
3. Claim Form for Land Loss (Owners)

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Station Road
Swineshead
Boston
Lincolnshire
PE20 3PW

01205 821440

www.blacksluiceidb.gov.uk

mailbox@blacksluiceidb.gov.uk

COMPENSATION FOR LOSS OF CROPPING

The Board wish to gain access onto cropped fields and are willing to pay compensation to the Occupier:

Current Rate of compensation £ per metre Date / /

NAME OF OCCUPIER

ADDRESS OF OCCUPIER

.....
.....
.....
.....

TELEPHONE NUMBER

FIELD No:

DRAIN No:

LENGTH OF DRAIN CONCERNED

METRES

COMPENSATION PAYABLE

METRES X £

METRE

= £

Agreed on behalf of Occupier.....

Agreed on behalf of Board.....

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

CLAIM FORM FOR CROP LOSS (OCCUPIERS)

26/10/2020

RPA Sheet ID	RPA Parcel ID	Length (m)	Width (m)	Area of Crop Loss (Hectares)	Rate of Compensation	Amount of Compensation
Drain 22 / 28 Gosberton						
TF1927	5141	398	0.00	0.0000	£1,310	£1.00

I/we the undersigned and being the occupier of the above mentioned fields am/are prepared to accept in full and final settlement of my/our claim for compensation the sum of:-

£1.00

Signature

Date

Occupier: BLACK SLUICE I D B
STATION ROAD
SWINESHEAD
BOSTON
LINCS
PE20 3PW

Please sign and return GREEN copy to BSIDB.

The white copy is for your own records.

Payment of Crop Loss Compensation

It is the Board's policy to make all payments wherever possible by direct transfer.

Please provide account details below:-

Account in name of

Sort Code

Account Number

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

CLAIM FORM FOR LAND LOSS (OWNERS)

LAND LOSS

Drain: /

26/10/2020

RPA Sheet ID	RPA Parcel ID	Length (m)	Width (m)	Area of Land Loss (Hectares)	Rate of Compensation	Amount of Compensation
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I/we the undersigned and being the owner of the above mentioned fields am/are prepared to accept in full and final settlement of my/our claim for compensation the sum of:-

£0.00

Signature

Date

Occupier:

Owner:

.....
.....
.....
.....

Please sign and return GREEN copy to BSIDB.

The white copy is for your own records.

Payment of Land Loss Compensation

It is the Board's policy to make all payments wherever possible by direct transfer.

Please provide account details below:-

Account in name of

Sort Code

Account Number

Joint letter to Chairs and Chief Executives of
Internal Drainage Boards in Eastern England

16 March 2023

Dear Chairs and Chief Executives

RE: Update from Water Resources East ahead of the new financial year

We are writing on behalf of Water Resources East and the Association of Drainage Authorities to provide you with an update on WRE and our plans for the year ahead. WRE's annual membership fees are due to be invoiced in April, so we thought it would be useful to set out in advance why it continues to be fundamentally important that the interests of Internal Drainage Boards are represented on WRE's Board and funding is provided to support WRE's multi-sector activity.

As you will be aware, WRE is the independent, not-for-profit membership organisation set up to champion collaborative approaches to integrated water management across Eastern England. We have been given a specific task by government to create a long-term water resources plan for the region that benefits all sectors and the environment. But WRE's vision is wider than this, given the interactions and synergies between action to improve water resources, flooding and water level management, and water quality, biodiversity and carbon sequestration. Both our regional-wide and catchment-scale activity reflects this vision, but only our work that directly benefits water companies and their customers can be funded by them. We have very limited other sources of funding, and membership fees paid by IDBs are a key means by which we can justify and support our wider work. Fees for 2023/24 will be held at the same level as last year.

The last twelve months has been a very busy and successful year for the organisation, perhaps the most significant year since WRE's inception in 2014 and becoming an independent, not-for-profit company in 2019. Our [Directors' Report prepared for our AGM](#) describes a year of progress in more detail but in short:

- In November we [launched a consultation](#) on our first ever long-term *Regional Water Resources Plan for Eastern England*. This incorporated the needs of all the major water-using sectors in the east, and proposed a £6 billion portfolio of new water infrastructure that has been selected to maximise the benefits for all sectors. The report made a series of recommendations to help improve water resource management and planning by farmers and growers, including to propose IDBs take on a wider remit that includes local water resources management and carbon sequestration in the landscape, and to ensure they can deliver this, their powers, funding and defined areas of responsibility be reviewed.
- WRE chairs the *South Lincs Water Partnership* and *Fens Water Partnership* in order to help champion the potential to deliver significant additional public benefits from the two major new reservoirs proposed in our plan. The potential for these [reservoir 'system' benefits](#) formed an important part of submissions to regulators in November. The focus is now on securing the case to exploit open channel transfers rather than underground pipelines to move water to each of the reservoir sites. This will be a key enabler of wider benefits for flood risk and water level management, for biodiversity improvement and potentially for navigation. We are working closely with a number of IDBs on this including Black Sluice, the Middle level Commissioners and the Ely Group.
- Our *Water for Tomorrow* project is a partnership between WRE, the Environment Agency and the Rivers Trust, and is now nearing completion. WRE's role has been to create the

methods, tools and datasets to support local water resource management planning by all sector abstractors. The funding to date has focused on the Broadland River catchments in Norfolk but the lessons are much more widely applicable. A closing conference is taking place on 22 March as a hybrid event in London and online. You can [register for free here](#).

- Our *Norfolk Water Strategy Programme* with partners The Nature Conservancy, Norfolk Council and Anglian Water has successfully secured a number of grants that will allow us to move into the delivery phase. We will be working with partners and local landowners to pilot and evaluate nature-based approaches to resolving both the water scarcity and nutrient neutrality challenges affecting Norfolk catchments. We are also working with the Water Management Alliance and Net Zero East to review the potential to recycle IDB-managed water for the benefit of local abstractors and industry.
- WRE has been working to establish the flood risk and water resources benefits of the proposed *Bedford to Milton Keynes Waterway* connecting the Grand Union Canal and the River Great Ouse. We hosted a webinar to discuss the findings last autumn and the final reports will be available soon. The results show there is the potential for the waterway to unlock new water resources and to help manage both surface water and fluvial flood risk through the way the waterway is designed and connects local lakes and waterbodies.
- WRE has also been influencing government policy on a range of fronts through membership of the *Lowland Agricultural Peat Task Force*, chairing the *UK Water Efficiency Strategy Steering Group*, and the *Senior Steering Group for the National Framework for Water Resources*. We also responded to a number of policy consultations including the proposed new national targets for water set under the *Environment Act 2021*.

Since publishing the draft Regional Plan in November, WRE has been actively engaging with its membership across sectors, focusing in particular on agriculture and Internal Drainage Boards. This has helped us disseminate and discuss the implications of the regional plan, and also to gauge stakeholders' priorities for the year ahead. For example, we recently presented a joint update on WRE's work to the Bedford Group of IDBs, and in a workshop format gathered feedback from the Great Ouse ADA Branch ahead of their AGM. Forthcoming events include the *Keep the Rivers Flowing 2023* summit on 29th March, and *Flood and Water Live 2023* in July.

Looking forward to the year ahead, WRE's priorities are to:

- **Finalise the Regional Water Resources Plan** for publication this autumn. Before this we will publish a Statement of Response to summarise the feedback we have received and the improvements we intend to make to the final plan.
- **Sponsor new integrated water management studies for both reservoir projects**, showing in detail the opportunities for improved local flood risk and water management, biodiversity improvement and benefits for the natural and historic environments. This will be taken forward under the umbrella of *Future Fens: Integrated Adaptation* that we co-sponsor, and working closely with the Environment Agency team developing their *Fens 2100+* strategy.
- **Shape the next National Framework for Water Resources** due to be published in 2025. The government has already confirmed that the regional groups will undertake a [second round of regional planning](#) through to 2029 once this first round is complete. The government priorities for the next round include increasing the multi-sector benefits of our plans and helping to resolve the deficits that farm and other direct abstractors face at a local scale.
- **Increase engagement with all our members as we develop a revised business plan** to be launched this year. We have already started a new [quarterly newsletter](#), and will be hosting a series of Strategic Advisory Group webinars through the year where we give our members early insight into our future plans and gather feedback.

Lastly, David will soon be stepping down as the ADA representative on WRE's Board as he retires from his role at the Middle Level Commissioners. If you would be interested in replacing David as one of WRE's non-executive directors, please get in touch with Innes Thomson (Innes.thomson@ada.org.uk).

We look forward to another productive year ahead working in partnership with you and your members.

Yours faithfully,



Daniel Johns FCWEM
Managing Director
Water Resources East



David Thomas
Outgoing Chief Executive
Middle Level Commissioners
and ADA representative on WRE's Board

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD Rainfall at Black Hole Drove Pumping Station

MONTH	Rainfall		Actual / Average
	Actual	25 Year Average	
	mm	mm	%
Jun-22	44.6	62.1	71.82%
Jul-22	6.6	58.8	11.22%
Aug-22	38.6	61.9	62.36%
Sep-22	32.2	40.6	79.31%
Oct-22	57.4	58.5	98.12%
Nov-22	62.8	50.0	125.60%
Dec-22	36.8	49.0	75.10%
Jan-23	20.6	44.3	46.50%
Feb-23	7.8	32.0	24.38%
Mar-23	45.8	34.7	131.99%
Apr-23	39.6	38.7	102.33%
May-23	19.2	51.2	37.50%
Totals	412.0	581.8	70.81%

