

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Unaudited Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31st March 2026



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Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board - Members

Elected Members		Electoral District
Paul Holmes	Chairperson - Board	G
	Chairperson - Executive Committee	
Mark Rollinson	Chairperson - Northern Works	F
	Vice Chairperson - Board	
Mark Leggott	Chairperson - Audit & Risk Committee	A
Robert Needham	Chairperson - Environment Committee	B
Chris Wray	Chairperson - Southern Works	E
William Ash		D
Tom Ashton		G
George Atkinson		D
Victor Barker		C
Mark Mowbray		E
Peter Robinson		B

Members Appointed by District Councils

Boston Borough Council	
Richard Austin	
Peter Bedford	Chairperson - Structures
James Cantwell	
Neil Drayton	
Stuart Evans	
Ralph Pryke	
Claire Rylott	
David Scoot	
Suzanne Welberry	

South Holland District Council	
Margaret Geaney	

South Kesteven District Council	
Zoe Lane	

North Kesteven District Council	
Andrew Hagues	

Senior Officers	
Mr Daniel Withnall MCGI MloL FMAAT	Chief Executive Officer
Paul Nicholson	Projects Director
Amy Chamberlain MAAT	Finance & Admin Director
Simon Harrison	Maintenance Director

ANNUAL REPORT

Introduction

The Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board is an independent body created under land drainage statutes responsible for flood risk, land drainage and water level management works, other than on main rivers, in the Black Sluice IDB area. Board Members are either elected by and represent the occupiers of land in the area or are nominated by the District Councils in the Board's area. The Board consists of 11 elected members and 12 nominated members. Further details are on page 4.

The Board secures income mainly from drainage levies on farmers and other occupiers and from special levies on local authorities. The Board also pays levies to the Environment Agency to fund works on main rivers that protect the drainage district.

This document is the statement of accounts of Black Sluice IDB for the financial year ending 31st March 2026, set out on pages 6 to 14. The accounts consist of:

The Annual Governance Statement

The system of internal control is designed to manage the risk to a reasonable level, the IDB's statement details how this is achieved.

The Statement of Responsibilities

This statement identifies the officer who is responsible for the proper administration of the Board's financial affairs.

The Statement of Accounting Policies

This statement details the legislation and source of accounting principles on which the financial statements are prepared.

The Income and Expenditure Account

This statement summarises the resources that have been generated and consumed in providing services and managing the IDB during the last year.

The Balance Sheet

This statement is fundamental to the understanding of the Board's financial position at the year end. It shows the balances and reserves at the Board's disposal and the fixed and net current assets employed in its operation, together with summarised information on the fixed assets held. The statement also includes assets and liabilities of the Board.

Notes to the Accounts

The notes relating to the statements above are detailed after the core statements.

THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

We acknowledge as the Members of the Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the accounting statements for the year ended 31st March 2026, that:

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

This annual governance statement is approved by the body and recorded as minute reference ...2732... dated 23 June 2026.

Signed on behalf of Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board.



Paul Holmes
Chairman
23 June 2026



Daniel Withnall
Chief Executive
23 June 2026

THE STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Board is required:

- a) to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Board, that officer is the Chief Executive.
- b) to manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.

The Chief Executive's Responsibilities

The Chief Executive is responsible for the preparation of the Board's Statement of Accounts which is required to present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board at the accounting date and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2026.

In preparing this statement of accounts, the Chief Executive has:-

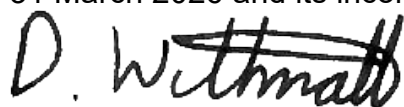
- a) selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently,
- b) made judgement and estimates that were reasonable and prudent,
- c) compiled the accounts in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practices,
- d) applied the accounting concept of a 'going concern' by assuming that the IDB will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

The Chief Executive has also:-

- a) kept proper accounting records which were up to date;
- b) taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Certificate of the Chief Executive

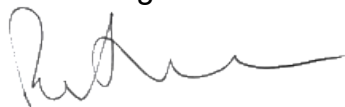
These Financial Statements present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board at 31 March 2026 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.



.....
Daniel Withnall
23 June 2026

Certificate of the Chairman of the Board

I confirm that these accounts have been approved by the Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board at a meeting held on the 23 June 2026.



.....
Paul Holmes
23 June 2026

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. General

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the following accounting concepts:- Accruals, Relevance, Consistency, Reliability, Comparability, Understandability, Materiality and Going Concern.

2. Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are recognised as expenditure on acquisition, creation or enhancements with a value in excess of £5,000 and a useful life in excess of one year.

Fixed assets are valued on the following basis:-

- a) Land is included at historic cost.
- b) Operational Buildings are included in the balance sheet at valuation. The Offices and Depot were valued on 31st March 2021 by Mr Robert J Hurst FRICS FAAV, Chartered Surveyor, at market value. It is the Boards intention to retain these values in the accounts as a nominal value and not depreciate in the intervening years.
- c) Pumping Stations were valued on 31st March 2009 by Mr JW Castley FRICS FAAV, Chartered Surveyor, at open market valuation. It is the Boards intention to retain these values in the accounts as a nominal value and not depreciate in the intervening years.
- d) Non - Operational Property is included in the balance sheet at market value. It was valued on 31st March 2021 by Mr Robert J Hurst FRICS FAAV, Chartered Surveyor, at market value. It is the Boards intention to retain these values in the accounts as a nominal value and not depreciate in the intervening years.
- e) Vehicles, Plant & Equipment are included at cost less depreciation.

Disposals are written off at cost less depreciation. Any surplus/deficit arising is charged/credited to the appropriate reserve.

Depreciation has been provided on a straight line basis, on motor vehicles and equipment, excavators and plant, computers, office equipment with a purchase cost in excess of £5,000.

Plant & Vehicles	7 Years
Equipment	4 Years

3. Income

Income includes drainage rates on local agricultural land and buildings, special levies on district/borough councils, recharged works, government grants, rental income and interest on investments. Where applicable, this is net of Value Added Tax and is recognised when the Board has a right to receive the income.

4. Expenditure

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

5. Stock & Work in Progress

Stocks and work in progress are stated at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

6. Government Grants and Contributions

Government grants and contributions have been credited to the income and expenditure account on an accruals basis. Government grants used for the acquisition of fixed assets have been deducted from the purchase price of the asset.

7. Provisions

The Board sets aside provisions where there is a definite liability, but the amount and timing of settlement is not known. Details are given as notes to the accounting statements.

8. Pensions

The Board paid an employers contribution of £276,035 on employees pensionable pay into the Lincolnshire County Council pension fund.

9. Discontinued Operations

The Board had no material operations which it acquired or which were discontinued in the year and therefore no separate disclosure is required in respect of the Income and Expenditure account and balance sheet accounts.

10. Internal Interest

Interest is allocated to the Income and Expenditure Account, Development Fund, Plant Fund and Wages Oncost Fund based on the average level of their balances.

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Income and Expenditure Account

For Year Ended 31st March 2026

	Note	2025/26	2024/25
Income		£	£
Grant Income (Including Local Levy)	1	4,704,346	4,660,148
Special Levies on Councils	2	1,780,120	1,657,742
Drainage Rates		1,617,954	1,558,607
Income from Rechargeable Works		435,617	270,537
Sundry Income	3	95,837	54,920
Interest		86,222	66,075
Investment Income		8,508	7,506
Rental Income		7,201	7,201
Development Reserve Contribution		5,000	5,000
		8,740,805	8,287,736
Expenditure			
Asset Refurbishments	4	3,186,878	3,602,710
Drain Maintenance		897,138	726,107
Pumping Stations		787,733	266,464
Administration Costs		586,105	551,674
Cost of Rechargeable Works		384,688	251,857
Environment Agency Precept		276,552	276,552
Establishment Charges		84,366	83,277
Depot Costs		60,209	60,963
Environmental Schemes		48,777	39,069
Miscellaneous Charges		41,224	37,477
		6,353,670	5,896,150
Surplus / (Deficit)		2,387,135	2,391,586

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2026

	Note	2024/25	2024/25
Fixed Assets			
Pumping Stations		3,861,354	3,861,354
Land & Buildings		1,009,350	1,009,350
Vehicles, Plant & Equipment		1,628,006	1,309,964
Non Operational Assets		165,000	165,000
	8	6,663,710	6,345,668
Current Assets			
Stock		102,424	87,477
Debtors & Prepayments	9	526,219	333,326
Investment Valuation		443,071	422,372
Cash at bank & in hand	10	7,634,756	5,140,702
		8,706,470	5,983,877
Current Liabilities			
Creditors	11	(1,502,846)	(1,073,704)
Net Current Assets		7,203,624	4,910,173
Liability related to defined pension scheme		1,881,000	1,471,000
Total Assets less Liabilities		15,748,334	12,726,841
Capital Reserve		6,663,708	6,345,666
Pension Reserve		1,881,000	1,471,000
Investment Revaluation Reserve		(56,929)	(77,628)
		8,487,779	7,739,038
Revenue Reserve		6,200,960	3,813,828
Development Reserve		683,929	665,584
Plant Reserve		(38,428)	189,573
Wages Oncost Reserve		414,094	318,818
		7,260,555	4,987,803
	12	15,748,334	12,726,841



Mr P Holmes
Chairman
23 June 2026



Mr DJ Withnall
Chief Executive
23 June 2026

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Notes to the Accounts

	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
1 Government Grants received from Defra		
Embankments	1,555,000	
Holland Fen Structural Repairs	496,000	
Great Hale Structural Repairs	435,000	
Chain Bridge Refurbishment	395,000	
Donington NI Refurbishment	395,000	
Cooks Lock Structural Repairs	328,000	
IDB Recovery Fund - South Kyme PS Refurbishment	182,000	249,709
Swineshead Structural Repairs	150,000	
IDB Recovery Fund - Ewerby PS Refurbishment	105,000	314,709
Gosberton Structural Repairs	100,000	
Horbling Fen Structural Repairs	100,000	
IDB Recovery Fund - Pinchbeck PS Refurbishment	68,000	195,000
IDB Recovery Fund - Helpringham PS Refurbishment	68,000	184,709
Wyberton Marsh Structural Repairs	65,000	
IDB Recovery Fund - Dunsby Fen PS Refurbishment	60,000	144,709
Black Hole Drove Structural Repairs	50,000	
Damford Embankment	42,138	
IDB Recovery Fund - Bank Slips	40,000	857,219
IDB Recovery Fund - Donington Northorpe Culvert Repair	40,000	125,000
IDB Recovery Fund - Damford PS Refurbishment	30,208	151,000
Allan House PS scheme		571,291
IDB Recovery Fund - Electricity		452,936
IDB Recovery Fund - Mobile Pumps		250,000
Black Sluice Catchment Modelling Study		235,000
IDB Recovery Fund - Donington North Ings Access Track		185,430
Peat Restoration Project- Bourne		136,132
Wyberton Marsh Transformer		130,000
IDB Recovery Fund - Level Controllers		80,000
Trinity College PS Bank Repair Specification		65,000
Black Sluice NFM Works		60,304
South Kyme PS Bank Repair Specification		60,000
Ewerby Fen PS Bank Repair Specification		60,000
Damford PS Bank Repair Specification		60,000
Sempringham PS Refurnishment		50,000
IDB Recovery Fund - Dyke Fen PS AWC Refurbishment		25,000
IDB Recovery Fund - Great Hale PS Refurbishment		17,000
	4,704,346	4,660,148
	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
2 Special Levies		
Boston Borough Council	1,293,006	1,232,588
South Holland District Council	243,670	232,006
North Kesteven District Council	148,316	104,824
South Kesteven District Council	95,128	88,324
	1,780,120	1,657,742

	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
3 Sundry Income		
Sundry Income	70,676	35,265
Solar Income	25,161	19,655
	<u>95,837</u>	<u>54,920</u>

	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
4 Asset Refurbishments		
IDB Recovery Fund Schemes	1,895,387	2,924,654
Pumping Station Refurbishments	1,234,804	451,587
Drain Asset Improvements	56,687	3,151,123
	<u>3,186,878</u>	<u>6,527,364</u>

5 Remuneration

The table below shows the number of employees whose remuneration was greater than £50,000:

Band £	2025/26	2024/25
50,000 to 59,999	4	3
60,000 to 69,999	1	1
70,000 to 79,999	1	1
80,000 to 89,999	1	0
100,000 to 109,999	0	1
110,000 to 119,999	1	0
	<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>

6 Audit Fees

	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
Fees paid to the Board's External Auditor	<u>3,780</u>	<u>3,360</u>

7 Related Party Transactions

Some members of the Board pay Drainage Rates at the prevailing rate.

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Notes to the Accounts

8 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Land & Operational Buildings £	Pumping Stations £	Non Operational Property £	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £	Total £
Cost					
Opening Balance	1,009,350	3,861,354	165,000	2,595,755	7,631,459
Additions	0	0	0	612,217	612,217
Disposals	0	0	0	(548,788)	(548,788)
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0
As at 31st March 2026	1,009,350	3,861,354	165,000	2,659,184	7,694,888
Depreciation					
Opening Balance	0	0	0	(1,285,791)	(1,285,791)
Disposals	0	0	0	483,142	483,142
Charge for year	0	0	0	(228,529)	(228,529)
As at 31st March 2026	0	0	0	(1,031,178)	(1,031,178)
Net Book Value					
As at 31st March 2025	1,009,350	3,861,354	165,000	1,309,964	6,345,668
As at 31st March 2026	1,009,350	3,861,354	165,000	1,628,006	6,663,710

	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
9 Debtors & Payment in Advance		
Prepayments	114,946	125,395
HM Revenue & Customs (VAT)	132,933	119,606
Trade Debtors	257,878	60,577
Rechargeable Work in Progress	6,550	21,584
Officers Car Loans	2,583	5,336
Drainage Rate Debtors	11,329	828
	526,219	333,326

	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
10 Cash at Bank & in hand		
Bank Deposits	7,634,636	5,140,636
Petty Cash	120	66
	7,634,756	5,140,702

	2025/26	2024/25
	£	£
11 Creditors		
Trade Creditors	1,324,913	907,544
Accruals	177,933	166,160
	1,502,846	1,073,704

12 Reserves

	Balance 31/03/2025	Additions in Year	Withdrawals in year	Balance 31/03/2026
Capital Reserve	6,345,666	546,571	(228,529)	6,663,708
Pension Reserve	1,471,000	410,000		1,881,000
Investment Revaluation Reserve	(77,628)	20,699		(56,929)
Revenue Reserve	3,813,828	2,387,132		6,200,960
Development Reserve	665,584	105,926	(87,581)	683,929
Plant Reserve	189,573	384,217	(612,218)	(38,428)
Wages Oncost Reserve	318,818	267,097	(171,821)	414,094
	12,726,841	4,121,642	(1,100,149)	15,748,334

Development Reserve- The Board makes a one off charge to developers to allow an increase in flow into the Board's drainage system. These charges are kept in the Development Fund and used to fund future improvements to the Board's drainage system to accommodate these additional flows.

Plant Reserve - The Plant Fund generates income internally throughout the year from all works carried out using the Board's plant. Offset against this income are all the expenses related to the plant and the fund is built up to replace the plant items when required. The depreciation is also charged to this account.

Wages Oncost Reserve - The Wages Oncost Fund generates income internally throughout the year from all work using the Board's Labour. Offset against this income are all the expenses related to employing the workforce.