

BLACK SLUICE

INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD



Southern Works Committee Meeting

Tuesday 25th March 2025 at 2pm

Station Road, Swineshead, Lincolnshire PE20 3PW



Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

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Our Ref: DW/JL/B10

Your Ref:

Date: 18th March 2025

To all Southern Works Committee Members

Dear Member

Southern Works Inspection and Meeting on 25th March 2025

Please find enclosed the papers for the Southern Works Committee Meeting to be held after the Inspection Tour of the southern area on Tuesday 25th March 2025.

We shall depart at 8:30am from the Boards Offices and arrive back for the meeting around 2:00pm. 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 1st October 2024 (**pages 3 - 17**)
6. Matters arising.
7. To discuss the Operations Report and Inspection (**pages 18 - 32**)
(a) Capital Schemes Budget (**page 33 & 34**)
8. To receive the Engineer's report (**pages 35 - 39**)
9. Rainfall (**pages 40 & 41**)
10. Any Other Business.

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

JOINT WORKS COMMITTEE - 01 OCTOBER 2024

AGENDA ITEM 04

TERMS OF REFERENCE - SOUTHERN WORKS COMMITTEE

1. GENERAL

The Committee shall have **EIGHT SEVEN** 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 five** 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
1st October 2024 at 2pm

Northern Works Members

Chairperson - * Mr P Holmes

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| * Cllr P Bedford | * Mr D Casswell |
| * Cllr N Drayton | Cllr A Dorrian |
| Mr J Emerson | * Cllr A Hagues |
| * Cllr A Iazard | Mr J Fowler |
| * Mr M Leggott | * Cllr D Middleton |
| * Mr R Needham | Cllr B Pierpoint |
| * Mr J E Pocklington | Mr P Robinson |
| * Cllr C Rylott | * Cllr D Scoot |
| Cllr S Welberry | * 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 | * Cllr M Geaney |
| Cllr Z Lane | * Mr A Mair |
| * Mr M Mowbray | * Mr M Taylor |
| * Mr C Wray | |

(* Member Present)

In attendance: Mr D Withnall (Chief Executive)
Mr P Nicholson (Projects Director)
Mr S Harrison (Maintenance Director)
Mr K Methley (Pump Engineer)
Mr I Warsap (SLWP Consultant)

Mr P Holmes chaired the meeting.

2373 Recording the meeting – Agenda Item 1

Members were informed that the meeting would be recorded.

2374 Apologies for absence - Agenda Item 2

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Dorrington, Mr J Fowler, Cllr Z Lane, Cllr A Dorrian and Mr P Robinson and Cllr S Welberry.

2375 Declarations of interest - Agenda Item 3

Mr J Casswell declared an interest in Minute 2380(jj) - Donington Northings Pumping Station Alternative Access Track - £185,430.

Mr J Pocklington declared an interest in Minute 2381 - Update on the Lincs Reservoir.

2376 Minutes of the last meeting of the Southern Works Committee - Agenda Item 4

The Minutes of the last Meeting of the Southern Works Committee held on 9th April 2024, 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.

2377 Matters arising from the Southern Works Committee Meeting - Agenda Item 5

(a) Dunsby Fen Pumping Station - Minute 2298(j)

The Chief Executive explained to the committee that he has raised concerns through the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee regarding the Environment Agency's (EA) plans for bank repairs at Dunsby and Quadring. Their plan is to restore the bank to the level it was previously. However, this means that during the next rainfall event which reaches the same level, the overtopping and erosion will occur again in these same places. The EA do not want to repair the bank to any higher level as they believe it would just move the problem of overtopping to the next lowest point. The Chief Executive has suggested that if the level keeps getting built up in these different locations, then it will become more resilient.

There is also the suggestion that the level of response for national assets won't be replicated in the same way it has been previously in future events. Priority is focused on urban areas and the concern that this rules out the majority of Lincolnshire has been fed back to the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee. Mr K Casswell noted that if it isn't dealt with in rural areas, it won't be long before the water reaches urban areas.

Mr V Barker suggested the bank levels at Dunsby and Quadring could be increased by the Board, it was noted it isn't the Board's bank, it is EA.

Mr M Brookes noted that himself and a few others sit on the Flood and Water Management Scrutiny Committee and so can ensure it gets the required attention from the committee.

Mr M Leggott added that it is regrettable that the EA see the protection of properties as their only job, noting the amount of Grade One and Two crop production land in Lincolnshire that is holding no value in the eyes of the EA.

Mr C Wray questioned if protecting national infrastructure is within the protection of urban areas / property? Noting the new infrastructure at Bicker Fen. It was explained that anything built after 2012 (both domestic and commercial) is not classed as 'at risk' because it should have flood resilience measures within the build design.

Mr C Wray questioned if those companies with infrastructure would perhaps be willing to contribute to the raising of the bank? The Chief Executive noted that he didn't think the EA would allow it, although noting that a Quarry has been given the go ahead to complete repairs in Tumbly. Mr M Rollinson added that Bicker Fen, where the infrastructure is, is a known low spot.

Mr I Warsap suggested that bank levels are surveyed, and data provided to the EA and then be re-surveyed once the EA has completed the work. It was confirmed that the initial levels have already been surveyed.

2378 Minutes of the last meeting of the Northern Works Committee - Agenda Item 6

The Minutes of the last Meeting of the Northern Works Committee held on 2nd July 2024, 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, with the following amendment:

- Minute 2345 – References site visit to Dowsby Pumping Station, this should be Damford Pumping Station.

2379 Matters arising from the Northern Works Committee Meeting - Agenda Item 7

(a) 9 metre byelaw - Residential development works – Minute 2344(a)

The Chief Executive noted that this matter was discussed further with the Executive Committee, who's suggestion was to write to local conveyancers about the 9-metre byelaw in the hope that the message will become part of the discussion when purchasing the house.

2380 To receive a report on Engineering Works for 2024 - Agenda Item 8

Maintenance

The Maintenance Director gave the following updates.

(a) Annual Summer Flail Mowing / Cutting

Summer flailing commenced on 1st August, with early season flailing completed on major pump drains following Storm Henk and Babet on a four monthly basis.

From 1st September, the programme has changed as the JCB 145 LR has been removed from the cutting programme to complete major slip repairs funded through the IDB Recovery Fund. Further slips identified whilst carrying out maintenance will be repaired by the machine near site at the time. The oldest Twiga (2015) that was due to be sold has been kept to help keep up with the flailing programme. The new Hooby machine is also carrying out cutting work and a hired excavator and driver are also currently out on site (with the option for a second hired excavator if required).

Mr V Barker questioned the fuel type of the hired excavator and whether it would be beneficial to not exchange in the next one due for replacement and instead keep as a spare? It was confirmed that the hired excavators must use white diesel.

The order for the SKDC Hand Roding contract has been received only last week. The Board were hoping to set up a Public Sector Cooperation Agreement but it is currently still being reviewed by SKDC's legal team and so it will be carried out on a contract basis.

The Maintenance Director drew attention to the maps showing completed cutting and flailing works. It was asked if more differential colours could be used going forward.

(b) Prior Notice Given for Summer Cutting

It was noted that the programme has worked well in relation to crops this year. The Chairperson questioned whether, as landowners, the members are happy with how the process works? E.g. notification of coming through crops etc.

Mr R Needham noted a circumstance where he felt that his neighbour's wheat was ran on unnecessarily as it was harvested only a week later, and the adjacent field was left until a few weeks later. The adjacent side was also clear. The Maintenance Director confirmed that if the crop is wheat, the Board would usually wait until the wheat has been cleared and so will look into this.

Mr M Rollinson also referred to alternate bank cutting and that this hasn't been happening. Mr J Pocklington agreed. Mr M Leggott suggested that this may have led to some of the 9metre byelaw infringements if people think access is only required on the one side. Mr M Taylor added of a circumstance where he asked the workforce to cut the alternate side.

The Chief Executive noted that it is Board policy to alternate bank cutting where possible and so will discuss with the Operations Team about empowering the machine operators to make the decision about which side to cut.

It was also further noted from Mr J Pocklington, and others, that there had been no notification, phone calls or texts, to inform of the Board coming on land for cutting.

(c) Summer Crop Loss / Damage Compensation

This was referenced and discussed within the above.

(d) Proposed Desilting, Bushing and Cleansing Works

These works have been put on hold due to the additional slip repair programme because of the IDB Recovery Funding achieved. A small budget has remained at the end of the financial year for if all slips are completed or all the IDB Recovery Funding has been spent. If these works are carried out, it will be the continuation of the 2023/24 season works as only 8.2km of a proposed 37km were completed due to disruptions caused by Storm Henk and Storm Babet.

(e) Bank Slips

£705,000 was achieved through the IDB Recovery Fund for major slip repair work. Currently, 16 of the original 51 identified slips have been repaired. However, more have been identified since, whilst completing maintenance work. To date, £240,000 has been spent (on budget for the original 51 identified).

Mr V Barker noted that the Board has got to consider why we are experiencing so many slips, acknowledging the amount of rainfall, but questioning if the batter of the bank is at the correct angle for the type of soil?

The Projects Director acknowledged Mr V Barker's point, noting that some slips have been known about for years but the land has been saturated and water levels high. As the land starts to dry out, it encourages the bank to slip. The Board have also recently reviewed water levels and increased where possible, which can also have an impact. The Projects Director also noted the amount of work that would be involved in doing a design profile for each one and that a bigger gradient would require more land take and therefore increase cost.

Mr M Rollinson questioned the process if the Board encounters a slip whilst completing Public Sector Cooperation Agreement (PSCA) work on EA banks? It was confirmed that it is reported to the EA and then they make a decision as to whether they want the Board to carry out the repair on their behalf or if they put it out to framework. The Board have completed works previously.

Projects

The Projects Director gave the following updates.

Capital Asset Improvements – 2024/25 Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant in Aid (FCERM GiA) Schemes

(f) North Forty Foot cleansing / revetment & Langrick Road pipeline, lining / replacement works

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(g) Sempringham Fen Pumping Station refurbishment

Most of this refurbishment is now complete. Further contingency funding can be claimed (£25,000) which will enable some of the gravity outfall works, which is currently being looked into.

(h) Allan House Pumping Station outfall repair

The contractors are currently on-site (ASDA carpark) installing inspection chambers to enable access into the pipe to complete a camera survey to establish the condition of the pipe.

The issue with the last 12m section which outfalls into the Haven (displacement in one of the joints in the pipes) is to be completed in conjunction with these works. The first, newer, section is plastic, the older is cast iron. It is also not known exactly where the pipe is.

There is also work to the existing Pumping Station building including raising the control panel and raising the height of the building to accommodate this (within existing footprint).

(i) Black Sluice Catchment Study

Data is still being gathered for this study, there is currently a survey team of 6 out on site, employed by the subcontractor, in order to do the next stage of modelling and looking at whether decreasing to 12 pump catchments from 34 is feasible.

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

The lead on these NFM works has been Lesley Sharpe, who has now retired, and because of this, this work has come to its natural fruition. The works that are already ongoing will be completed, but nothing further will be commenced.

(k) Bicker Fen Catchment Works

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(l) Dunsby Fen Catchment Works

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(m) Wyberton Marsh Pumping Station New Transformer

Funding for this work has been approved and received (£130,000 + £37,000 contingency if required). Discussion is currently ongoing with National Grid to remove the transformer and provide an LV connection to this site and get the work completed this financial year.

(n) Ewerby Fen Catchment Works

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(o) Embankment repairs at Trinity College, Damford, Ewerby and South Kyme

The committee were reminded about the issues experienced at the four Pumping Stations named above in relation to the water running around the stations, through or over the bank, during high water levels. This has been ongoing for five years, funding has tried to be achieved through Grant in Aid and IDB Recovery Funding, the outcome of the IDB Recovery Funding Tranche 2 is not yet known.

Discussion has commenced with a contractor, Balfour Beatty, to deliver this work and they have provided a 33-week programme of work, which they could commence in May 2025.

The initial estimation was £3.8million, which following further work and detail, has now increased to a revised estimation of £7.495million. Stantec have been asked to produce a tender pack to go out to be able to understand if the quote provided by Balfour Beatty is competitive. The project will then be in a better place to commence when funding is achieved.

Committee members noted the large increase from initial estimation to the revised cost? It was noted that the initial estimation did not include for any temporary work such as platforms, access roads, etc.

Mr R Needham questioned how much was applied for in the IDB Recovery Tranche 2 Funding? It was noted that the original estimated cost of £3.8million was bid for, however, the Board have been given an indication that it won't be successful due to it being unlikely the works could be completed prior to the end of the financial year.

2024/25 BSIDB Funded Capital Schemes

(p) **Major Slip Repairs**

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(q) **Jetting to Major Pipelines – Estimate £75,000**

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(r) **General Culvert replacement contributions - £5,000**

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

2024 DEFRA Funded Scheme

(s) **Peat Restoration Project – LAPSIP (Lowland Agricultural Peat Small Infrastructure Pilot) - £172,000**

The Board has secured funding (£172,000) to install tilting weirs at two sites in Bourne to hold water at a higher level. This is programmed to be completed in November. The tilting weirs will be solar powered and operated remotely.

Pumping Station Schemes

(t) **Great Hale Fen Pumping Station Pump Drive Couplings – Estimate £30,000**

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(u) **Kirton Marsh Pumping Station Under Pump Inspections – Estimate £11,000**

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(v) **Rippingale Fen Pumping Station Under Pump Inspections – Estimate £25,000**

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(w) Hacconby Fen Pumping Station Under Pump Inspections – Estimate £25,000

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(x) Donington Wykes Pumping Station MCC – Estimate £30,000

The control panel in this pumping station was installed in 1988 and there have been issues with the operation of this panel recently.

(y) Pumping Station various water level controllers – Estimate £30,000

This project is to eliminate the issue of existing water level readers being submerged under water during high water levels.

(z) Damford Grounds Pumping Station Refurbishment 2 x axial flow pumps and motors - £50,000

One of the pumps and motors has been refurbished with the other to be completed when those identified within Tranche 1 are completed which take priority.

(aa)Damford Grounds PS Replace MCC - £60,000

This is now completed, and a funding bid has been submitted within Tranche 2 of the IDB Recovery Fund to retrospectively fund this, if successful.

(bb)Donington Wykes PS Replace MCC - £30,000

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

2024/25 IDB Fund Tranche 1

The committee were reminded of the Tranche 1 IDB Recovery Fund (£75million available) of which everything the Board applied for was achieved. This funding must be spent by the end of the financial year – 31 March 2025. The electricity funds (£452,936) has all been received and the initial payment for the bank slip repair funding (£705,220). Although the funding for the pumping stations has been approved (as detailed in the below), the funding has not actually been received. It is now being queried about whether a 'refurbishment' meets current regulations. For example, the Board would normally remove the pump, have it serviced / replaced serviceable parts and put it back. However, it is now being questioned whether they should be replaced with fish and eel friendly pumps. The cost of fish and eel friendly pumps are a lot more expensive / unaffordable. The Board has placed orders and commenced this work as if it is not started, it will not be completed by the deadline. Ian Cappitt (Partnerships & Strategic Overview Senior Team Leader, Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire, Environment Agency) has taken the lead on talking to the Environment Agency national fish and eel team about this matter.

Cllr A Izard questioned if there would be a possibility of an extension of the 31 March 2025 deadline? It was noted that ADA are lobbying for an extension of the deadline, especially in relation to Tranche 2 of the funding as the decisions on the success of the bids have not even been made yet.

The notification of the outcome won't be shared with the Board until two weeks after the budget due to the funding still being with Treasury and it not being known if it will still be available after the budget. Mr K Casswell noted that he doesn't believe Tranche 2 of the funding will be available.

The committee expressed their gratitude for the work of the Board's Officers in achieving this funding.

(cc) Helpringham Fen Pumping Station Refurbishment - £219,709

The pump is being lifted out today at Helpringham Fen Pumping Station.

(dd) South Kyme Fen Pumping Station Refurbishment - £289,709

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(ee) Dunsby Fen Pumping Station Refurbishment - £144,709

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(ff) Ewerby Fen Pumping Station Refurbishment - £359,709

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(gg) Pinchbeck North Fen Pumping Station Refurbishment - £195,000

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(hh) Dyke Fen Pumping Station Automatic Weedscreen Cleaner Refurb - £30,000

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(ii) Donington Northorpe Culvert Repairs - £155,000

It was explained that a concerned property owner contacted the Board about their driveway collapsing where it is over a piped section of Board watercourse. The pipe has been CCTV surveyed and has found that the old steel Armco has started to deteriorate and collapse. This has been repaired and we are now considering lining the remaining length of pipe not repaired, using the remaining funding.

(jj) Donington Northings Pumping Station Alternative Access Track - £185,430

Mr J Casswell declared an interest.

The committee were reminded that the current access to Donington Northings Pumping Station is across a railway line, correspondence with National Rail has been ongoing for ten years about an alternative and due to the headwall of the culvert leading up to the crossing collapsing during the winter storms, it was decided to bid within the IDB Recovery Fund for funding for an alternative access track, which has been successful. The alternative route has been plotted and plan prepared to send out for approval.

It was noted that the culvert adjacent to the railway that is used for vehicular access has collapsed and so there is currently no vehicular access to the pumping station.

Mr C Wray suggested that if the Board keep using it and crossing the railway then National Rail would have to pay the Board to stop using it, noting the bigger nuisance the Board are by using it, the quicker it would be resolved with them. Board's Officer's noted this, but also acknowledged that funding has been achieved from elsewhere to complete the work for an alternative route.

2024/25 IDB Fund Tranche 2

(kk) Horbling Town Beck Penstock installation - £225,000

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(ll) Mobile Pumps - £235,000

The committee were informed that the Executive Committee have agreed to the purchase of an 8" mobile pump, ahead of knowing if the bid for funding for it has been successful. This is so that the work at both Helpringham and Pinchbeck Pumping Stations can be carried out simultaneously. Board's Officers are visiting the preferred supplier this week to view the proposed pump.

It was noted that the Board's current 8" mobile pump is well used and is currently on site at Helpringham.

(mm) Damford Grounds Pumping Station Refurbishment - £90,000

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(nn) Great Hale Pumping Station Refurbishment - £30,000

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(oo) Installation of Level Controllers at Various Pumping Stations - £30,000

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

2024/25 Defra / EA FCERM GiA Schemes

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

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(qq) Wyberton Marsh Pumping Station New Transformer - Estimate £50,000

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

2025/26 Board Funded Capital Schemes

(rr) **SFFD Desilting Guthrum to Black Hole Drove PS – Estimate £105,000**

The Projects Director noted that he would like to complete this work and will review how much silt there is to be removed and the most appropriate mechanism of doing so which will likely be a hired long reach excavator, placing material into a cradge with bucket and cradge.

(ss) **Jetting to Major Pipelines – Estimate £40,000**

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(tt) **Black Hole Drove PS Under Pump Inspections - £35,000**

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(uu) **North Forty Foot Desilting - £20,000**

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

(vv) **General culvert replacement contributions - £5,000**

There were no further comments or questions about this work.

2025/26 Pumping Station Schemes

(ww) **Dunsby Fen PS replace automatic weedscreen cleaner – Estimate £140,000**

This weedscreen cleaner was installed in 2000 and so is due for replacement.

(xx) **Gosberton Fen PS replace MCC – Estimate £80,000**

This Motor Control Centre(MCC) was installed in 1996 and is now due for replacement.

(yy) **Wyberton Marsh PS replace MCC – Estimate £80,000**

This Motor Control Centre(MCC) was installed in 2000 and is now due for replacement.

Pumping Station Maintenance, External Recoverable Works, Health & Safety and External Partnerships, Strategies & Agreements were noted as per the report within the agenda, with no further comments or questions.

2381 Update on the Lincolnshire Reservoir (SLR) - Agenda Item 9

The SLWP Consultant gave an update as follows:

Scheme overview – The Lincolnshire Reservoir is a project in conjunction with a second reservoir (Fens Reservoir), £30million has been spent on the two projects so far and is a £2.48billion scheme.

The Lincolnshire Reservoir has currently been delayed by two years, but it is hoped, from the learning of the Fens Reservoir, that the pre-construction phase can be condensed with commencement on site for the Lincolnshire Reservoir being 2031/32. It was noted that Anglian Water are paying for the Board's Officers time spent on developing this project. The Lincs Reservoir will have a volume of 50 million cubic metres, with a 10% additional margin if required and 500ha footprint.

Downstream Transfer - The downstream transfer will be from the Lincs Reservoir to Wilsthorpe to Chesterton.

Upstream Transfer - There will be an upstream transfer from the Trent into the Foss Dyke (hybrid transfer, both pipeline and open channel) with pumping station to pump into Foss Dyke. The water will then continue through Lincoln into the River Witham and from the River Witham to a point of abstraction into the South Forty Foot Drain (SFFD).

There are two options in relation to the transfer from the River Witham to the SFFD; an open water transfer from the Chapel Hill area or piped from the Antons Gowt area. The pipeline would have one pumping station and the open transfer could have one or two pumping stations. The SLWP Consultant noted that he believes the Anglian Water team are overcomplicating the transfer, adding the potential use of gravitation flows between the River Witham and SFFD, there being a 1.5metre fall between the River Witham (Langrick Bridge) and SFFD (Swineshead Pumping Station).

The abstraction at the River Witham into the SFFD will be a maximum of 400 mega litres per day, all of which will be transferred into the Lincs Reservoir. The transfer from the River Witham to the reservoir will take one hour.

There is a proposed new lock on the Kyme Eau (east side) to protect water into the River Witham.

For an open water transfer along the Kyme Eau into the Holland Dyke, the drains would be widened, and so additional land take would be required. Conversion of Holland Dyke to enable gravitation into the Skerth will require land take, level changes and replacement or relocation of the South Kyme Pumping Station.

The SLWP Consultant next explained the increase in water levels (normal flow) for the different options:

- Location at Northing Ings Railway Bridge:
 - Piped: 50mm increase
 - Open water transfer: 40mm increase
- Location at Hubberts Bridge:
 - Piped: 140mm increase
 - Open water transfer: 90mm increase

When the SFFD is in an event situation, water would be taken out for the reservoir (minimal velocity flows).

A short pipe would be required between the River Witham and Kyme Eau with a Pumping Station with open channel transfer along the Kyme Eau, with a pipe transfer between the Kyme Eau and Holland Dyke to reduce the transfer of Invasive Non-native Species (INNS) between catchments.

However, the SLWP Officer noted that there is already a connection point at the Black Sluice Complex and is also nothing to stop INNS travelling across catchments via land or air.

Emergency Drawdown – This will include the upgrading of existing assets including the SFFD and Helpringham South Beck (widening).

Mr K Casswell referenced the point that water will be taken in an event and the concern that the reservoir would be full and so couldn't take any more? The SLWP Consultant noted that there is 10% additional capacity (5million cubic metres). Holding water in the River Witham will be controlled by Grand Sluice Doors.

There is currently an integrated water management study ongoing, involving organisations including the Environment Agency, IDB, Anglian Water, Canal & River Trust, looking at how this network would be controlled. The SLWP Consultant highlighted the importance of having one organisation controlling it, and the potential benefit for if the Board controlled it and were funded to do so.

The SLWP Consultant noted that it is currently being argued that the reservoir doesn't offer any increased flood resilience, however the SLWP Consultant disagrees with this, noting the upgrade to main-river banks and ongoing maintenance.

Mr R Needham noted the insignificant drawdown, the SLWP Consultant noted that if the water is available from the SFFD it will come from their firstly, noting the cost involved in pumping between the River Witham and SFFD and between the River Trent and Foss Dyke, which would not be required if coming straight from the SFFD.

Mr V Barker noted the River Trent water being saline, with the SLWP Consultant noting that all the appropriate water testing has been done.

Mr R Welberry questioned if there would be a lock on the SFFD at the Skerth? The SLWP Consultant noted that it will be the renewed lock.

The SLWP Consultant further noted that Matt Pluke (Anglian Water), Adam Robinson (Anglian Water) and Darren Smith (EA SLWP Officer) would be willing to come and give a presentation about it at the November Board meeting if wanted. It was noted that it would have been helpful to have visuals on the screen to be able to visualise what the SLWP Consultant has explained.

The SLWP Consultant also noted the recent letter received from Anglian Water, detailing updates and programme schedule for the Lincs Reservoir, suggesting it be put on the Board's website. The Chief Executive noted that the letter was sent to the Board as a landowner, so suggested it shouldn't be posted on the website, but will circulate following the meeting.

The SLWP Consultant noted that feedback from the public is suggesting that the majority are in favour of the reservoir going ahead.

The next big decision to be made is whether it is an open or piped transfer from the River Witham to SFFD, the capital and maintenance cost of the open transfer are higher, but it also has more significant carbon benefits.

The SLWP Consultant also noted that by the time Lincs Reservoir is in operation (2039), four more will be required in the area.

Mr C Wray noted that he doesn't believe the homeowners are getting on well with Anglian Water due to them giving valuations for property that is below market value.

Mr V Barker questioned where the widening of the SFFD would begin and finish? The SLWP Consultant noted that it would likely be more a case of doing similar to the Boston to Peterborough Wetland Corridor and adding in bends etc. rather than being straight, for extra capacity.

The SLWP Consultant also noted that there has been some different interpretation of the Reservoirs Act and the criteria for discharging is now less than initially thought and so water levels will not require to be any higher than the current banks.

Mr M Rollinson questioned if anything further had developed in relation to the Black Sluice Pumping Station (Boston) through this project? It was noted that the Environment Agency aren't interested.

Mr J Pocklington questioned whether desilting of the SFFD would be carried out through this project? The SLWP Consultant noted that Anglian Water will need to maintain continual efficient flows to the reservoir through regular maintenance.

The committee thanked the SLWP Consultant for his update.

The SLWP Consultant questioned the Board's favour on whether the transfer from the River Witham to SFFD is open water transfer or piped? The Chief Executive noted that the Board supports the open water transfer for the additional benefits it brings, but ultimately it doesn't really matter to the Board how the water arrives at the SFFD. The most relevant aspect for the Board is the SFFD and potential changes to it.

It was noted that this viewpoint was outlined in the Board's response to the Phase 2 consultation, which was circulated to Board Members, and will be circulated to co-opted members following the meeting.

Mr J Pocklington, declaring an interest as an affected landowner, noted that both options would affect him but that he would prefer the piped option.

2382 Report on Rainfall - Agenda Item 10

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

2383 Any Other Business - Agenda Item 11

(a) Visit from Richard Tice MP - 12 October 2024

Cllr D Middleton noted that it has been organised for Richard Tice to sail on the Boston Belle to look at the Boston Barrier on Saturday 12th October 2024 at 11am, extending an invitation for a couple of representatives of the Board. Board's Officer's noted that they will discuss and correspond accordingly.

(b) Board Plant – Bulldozer

Mr V Barker suggested that the Board should have their own bulldozer, as opposed to hiring one, noting that he feels it is a huge waste of money and was not satisfied with what he witnessed in relation to how much and how it was used.

It was noted that it is hired in to spread after desilting, adding that the Board did consider purchasing a Drott but couldn't find one that was value for money and so it is hired in on a day rate to complete that job.

(c) Sub-committee Membership

The Chairperson noted that the new Board will sit for the first time in November and that, due to this election, sub-committee membership is currently being reviewed. The Chairperson therefore invited any appointed members to make it known if they would have an interest in joining any of the sub-committees (Audit & Risk, Environment, Structures).

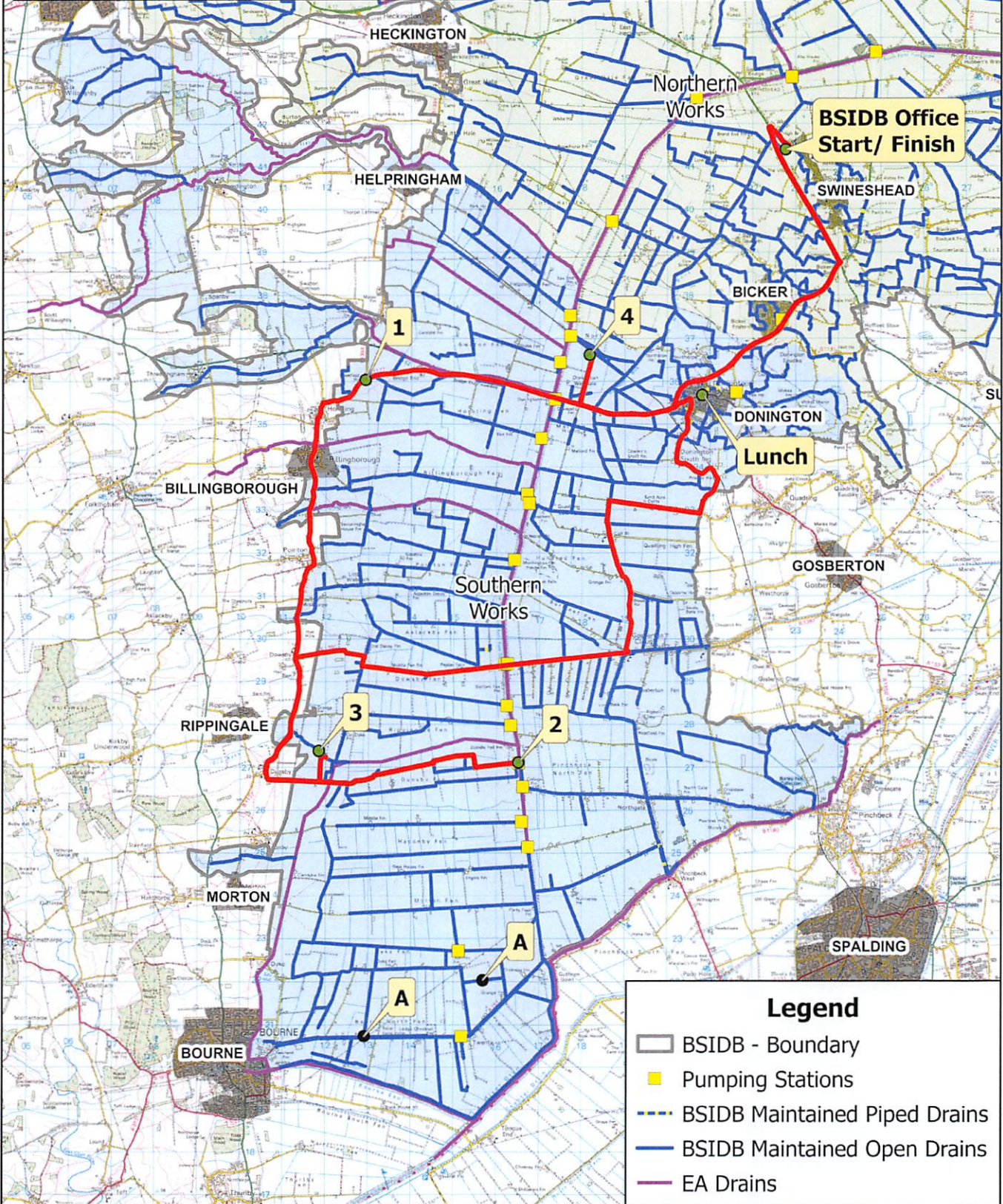
There being no other business the meeting closed at 16:10.

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD



**SOUTHERN WORKS
COMMITTEE INSPECTION
Tuesday 25th April 2025**

SOUTHERN WORKS INSPECTION ROUTE TUESDAY 25TH MARCH 2025



Legend

- BSIDB - Boundary
- Pumping Stations
- BSIDB Maintained Piped Drains
- BSIDB Maintained Open Drains
- EA Drains



Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board
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 Boston, Lincolnshire PE20 3PW
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Date: March 2025

Scale: 1:120,000

SOUTHERN WORKS COMMITTEE

INSPECTION ITINERARY 2025

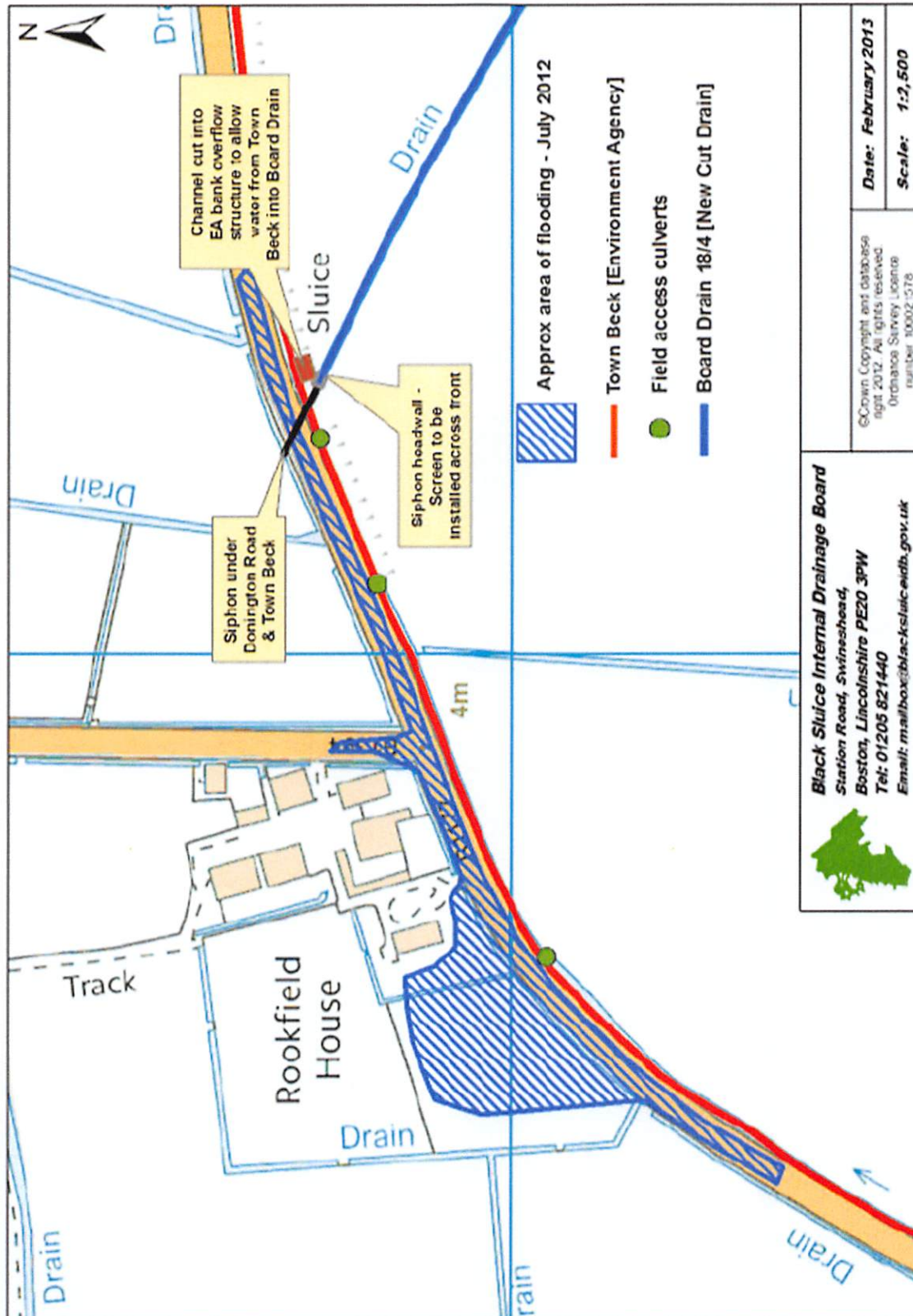
	BSIDB Offices	
1	Donington Road, Horbling Fen	View/discuss flooding Drain 18/4
2	SFFD - Dunsby Pumping Station	<u>Tea/Coffee</u> View/discuss SFFD Overtopping
3	Old Beck / Atkinsons Cut Rippingale	View/discuss slip repairs Drain 23/4
4	Donington North Ings Pumping Station	View/discuss roadway repair
-	The Black Bull Donington	Lunch
A	<i>Dyke Fen & Bourne Fen</i>	<u>Point of Interest</u> <i>Discuss LAPSIP peat protection sites</i>
	BSIDB Offices	Southern Works Committee Meeting

1. View/discuss recent flooding at Donington Road, Horbling Fen

Drain 18/4

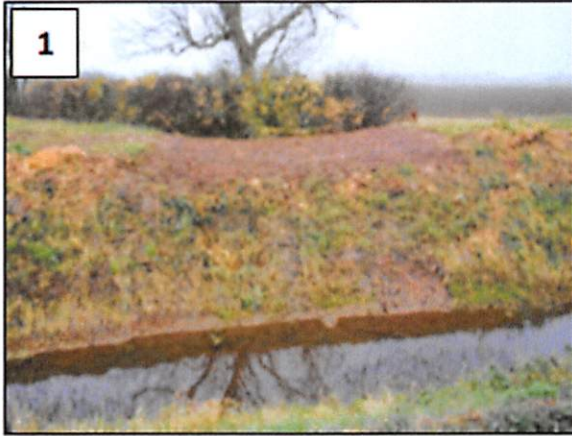
During the rainfall event of January 2025 Horbling again experienced flooding onto the road from the adjacent watercourse.

1- Environment Agency overflow structure - Donington Road, Horbling

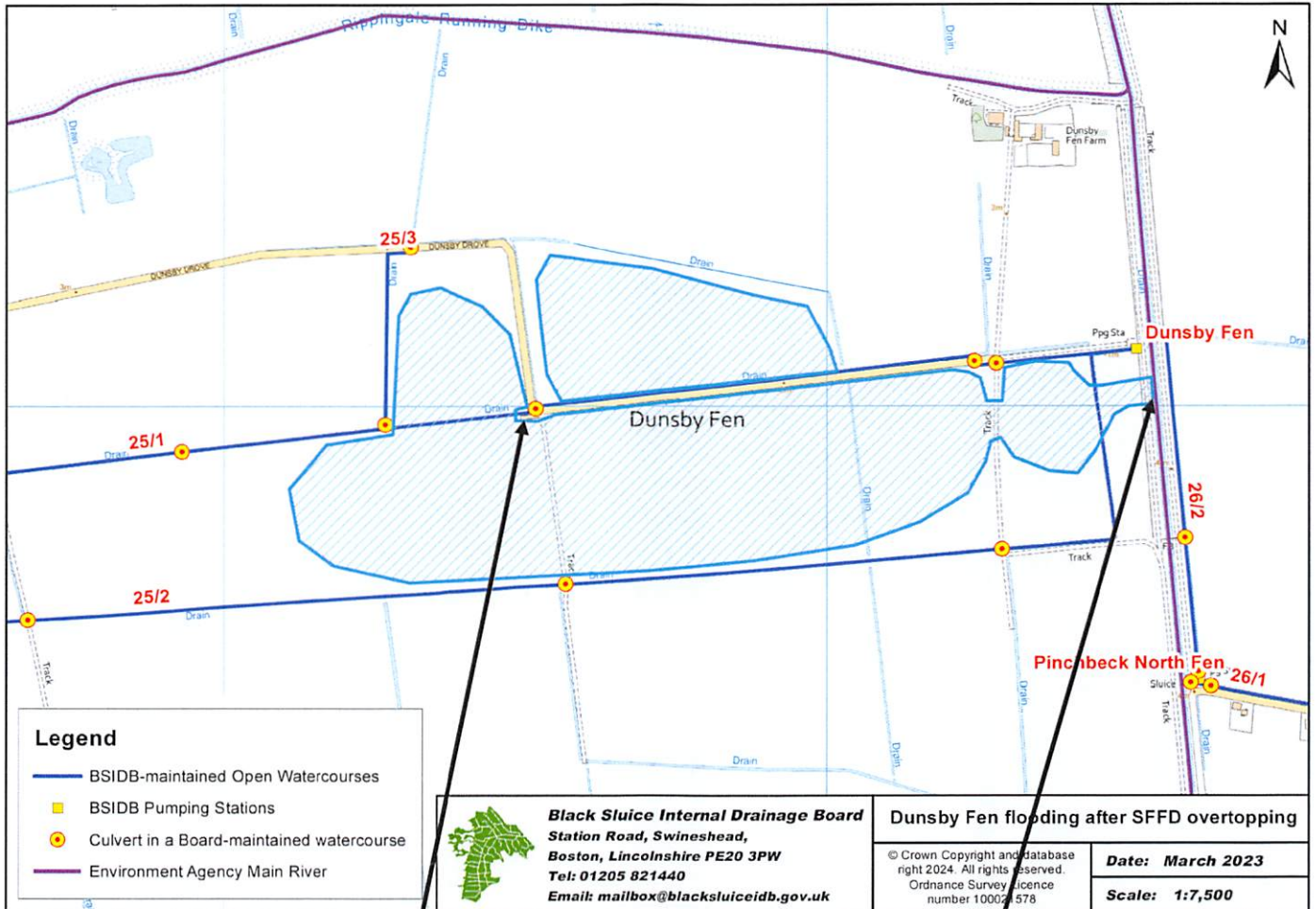


Flooding 2012 - Rookery Farm, Horbling

(Previously reported to the committee)



2. Visit / discuss SFFD overtopping - Dunsby Fen Pumping Station



Highest known levels in SFFD 06/01/2025 3.30mODN overtopping occurred at the same point as in January 2024 into Dunsby Fen the same areas as previously affected by flooding c250 acres.



3. View/discuss slips at Old Beck / Atkinsons Cut, Rippingale

Drain 23/4

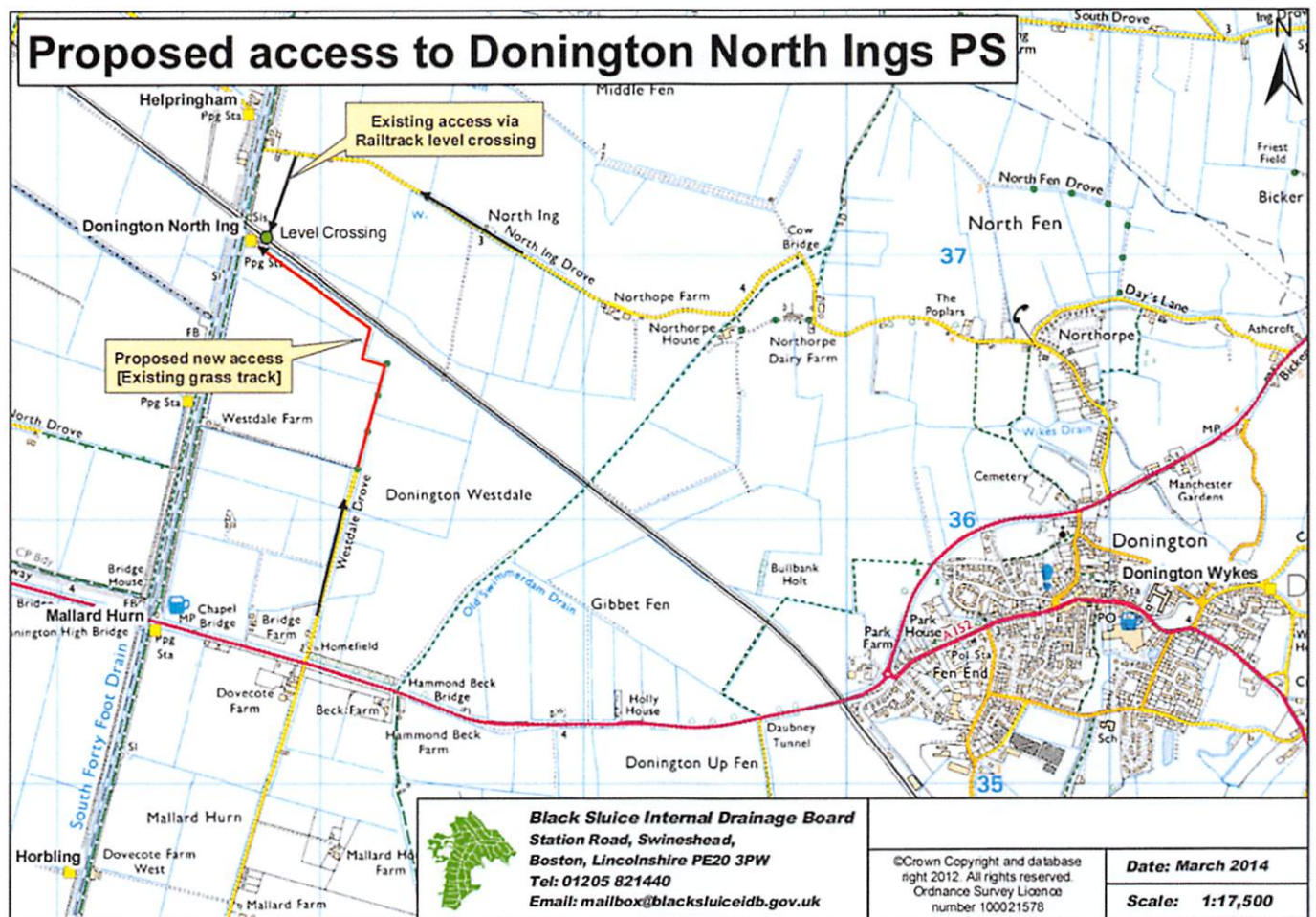
Three artificial kingfisher nests have been installed into a bank reprofile in Rippingale. Working with the farmer and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, we installed artificial nests made out of ICB containers and pipe, filled with sand and gravel. The watercourse is a popular feeding site for kingfishers and was therefore considered an excellent site to trial this project. The Environment Officer will continue to monitor this site over the next few years to determine whether the nests become inhabited by kingfishers or not. This drain wasn't on the original list of slips but was one that over the year has become harder to maintain due to bank erosion that was encroaching in the landowners field. So we took the opportunity to repair a 740m stretch with the use of stone and gabion baskets.





Intentionally Blank

4. View/discuss Donington North Ings Pumping Station Roadway



Donington Northings PS access - £185,00

As previously reported to this committee, the issues regarding the safe use of level crossings has been well documented in the press over the last few years. Network Rail is currently implementing a policy of the closure of remote and rural level crossings which are not used as highway crossings.

The Board uses two remote level crossings for access to its Donington North Ings and Great Hale pumping stations. Whilst neither has been ear-marked for closure, the Board's officers are of the opinion that the potential for future closure is likely, and that now would be an opportunity to locate suitable alternative access routes. Donington North Ings is currently accessed via Ings Road, Northorpe, and a short section of farm track to the level crossing adjacent to the station. This crossing was the site of an accident which resulted in the death of two contractors some 20 years ago. As a result of this, Board policy has been that vehicular access is restricted unless absolutely necessary. This results in a lack of efficiency in the carrying out of the Boards duties, either to the pumping station or the adjacent pump drain. The new access would bypass the need to cross the railway line, therefore nullifying the risk to the Boards workforce.

The Board's officers have had many site meetings since 2015 with Network Rail (NR) following NR request to close level crossings where possible. NR originally proposed that they would be able to fund the alternative route.

However this has not been possible and an application for funding from the IDB Fund was successful.



Point of Interest A - LAPSIP

(Lowland Agricultural Peat Sites Infrastructure Project)

DEFRA funding achieved to promote peat protection by control of water levels.





**Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board
10 Year Schemes Budget 2025/26 - 2034/35**

Year	Type	Scheme	Total	Grant / Local Levy	Other Contributions	Possible Board Contribution	Drain	PS	
2025/26	Drain	SFFD Desilting Guthrum to Blackhole Drove PS	£105,000				£105,000		
	Drain	Black Hole Drove p/s under pump inspections	£35,000				£35,000		
	Pump	Bicker Fen PS replace MCC	£50,000					£50,000	
	Pump	Kirton Marsh PS replace MCC	£50,000					£50,000	
	Pump	Kirton Marsh PS replace syphon valve	£5,000					£5,000	
	Pump	Horbling Fen PS 1 x pump motor refurbishment	£4,000					£4,000	
	Pump	Holland Fen PS 1 x Motor refurbishment	£6,000					£6,000	
	Pump	Great Hale Fen PS 1 x Motor Refurbishment	£5,000					£5,000	
	Pump	Cooks Lock PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£95,000					£95,000	
	Pump	Great Hale PS Fen replace MCC	£85,000					£85,000	
	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£40,000				£40,000		
	Drain	NFF Desilting	£20,000				£20,000		
	Pump	Great Hale Fen PS new transformer							
	Pump	Head Dyke bank repairs(South Kyme PS) works	£1,808,228	£1,808,228					
	Pump	Hodge Dyke bank repairs(Ewerby Fen PS) works	£2,034,251	£2,034,251					
	Pump	Trinity College Bank Repair Works	£3,089,048	£3,089,048					
	Pump	Damford PS Bank Repair Works	£602,740	£602,740					
	Pump	Black Hole Drove PS - Structural Repairs	£50,000	£50,000					
	Pump	Chain Bridge PS - Structural Repairs	£1,500,000	£1,500,000					
	Pump	Cooks Lock PS - Structural Repairs	£50,000	£50,000					
	Pump	Donington NI PS - Structural Repairs	£450,000	£450,000					
	Pump	Gosberton PS - Structural Repairs	£970,000	£970,000					
	Pump	Great Hale PS - Structural Repairs	£1,290,000	£1,290,000					
	Pump	Holland Fen PS - Structural Repairs	£970,000	£970,000					
	Pump	Horbling Fen PS - Structural Repairs	£50,000	£50,000					
	Pump	Wyberton Marsh PS - Structural Repairs	£970,000	£970,000					
	Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000		
				£14,339,267	£13,834,267			£205,000	£300,000
	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	
		Pump	Helpringham Fen PS new roof	£18,500					£18,500
		Pump	Gosberton Fen PS Refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£78,750					£78,750
Pump		Dowsby Fen PS replace MCC	£60,000					£60,000	
Pump		South Kyme Fen PS refurbish w/s cleaner & controls	£90,000					£90,000	
Pump		Swaton Fen PS replace MCC	£48,000					£48,000	
Pump		Rippingdale Fen PS replace MCC	£48,000					£48,000	
Pump		Donington North Ings PS new transformer	£55,000	£55,000					
Pump		Cooks Lock PS new transformer	£55,000	£55,000					
Pump		Holland Fen PS under pump inspections	£28,000					£28,000	
Pump		Donington NI PS - Structural Repairs	£450,000	£450,000					
Drain		Graft Drain	£45,000				£45,000		
Drain		General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000		
				£1,221,250	£560,000			£290,000	£371,250
2027/28	Drain	Graft Drain	£95,000				£95,000		
	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£75,000				£75,000		
	Pump	Holland Fen PS replace MCC	£90,000					£90,000	
	Drain	New Hammond Beck Desilting	£75,000				£75,000		
	Drain	Dowsby Fen Catchment Works	£350,000	£162,686	£137,314	£50,000			
	Pump	Kiron Marsh PS new roof	£23,000					£23,000	
	Pump	Bicker Fen refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£33,000					£33,000	
	Pump	Bicker Fen PS replace weedscreen cleaner	£155,000					£155,000	
	Pump	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS new transformer	£60,000	£60,000					
	Pump	Holland Fen PS new transformer	£75,000	£75,000					
	Pump	Donington Northings PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£85,000					£85,000	
	Pump	Ewerby Fen PS refurbish 2 x axial flow pumps	£58,000					£58,000	
	Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000		
			£1,179,000	£297,686	£137,314	£50,000	£250,000	£444,000	
2028/29	Drain	Old Hammond Beck Desilting	£80,000				£80,000		
	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£80,000				£80,000		
	Pump	Twenty PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£35,000					£35,000	
	Drain	Bourne Fen 28/10 Revetment	£30,000				£30,000		
	Pump	Helpringham PS new roof	£20,000					£20,000	
	Pump	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS under pump inspection	£25,000					£25,000	
	Pump	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£90,000					£90,000	
	Pump	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS replace MCC	£72,000					£72,000	
	Pump	Dowsby Fen PS refurbish 2 x axial flow pumps	£58,000					£58,000	
	Pump	Swaton Fen PS replace weedscreen cleaner	£160,000					£160,000	
	Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000		
			£655,000				£195,000	£460,000	
2029/30	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£80,000				£80,000		
	Pump	Great Hale Fen PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£95,000					£95,000	
	Drain	Cooks lock PS pump drain desilting under pump inspection	£56,000				£56,000		
	Pump	Quadring Fen PS replace MCC	£40,000					£40,000	
	Pump	Mallard HumPS under pump inspections	£32,000					£32,000	
	Pump	Damford Grounds PS under pump inspections	£32,000					£32,000	
	Pump	Helpringham Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000					£32,000	
	Pump	Swaton Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000					£32,000	
	Pump	Billingham Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000					£32,000	
	Pump	Pinchbeck Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000					£32,000	
	Pump	Haconby Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£30,000					£30,000	
	Pump	Gosberton Fen PS replace MCC	£80,000					£80,000	
	Drain	Quadring Fen pump drain desilting/under pump inspection	£48,000				£48,000		
Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000			
			£626,000				£189,000	£437,000	

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 Fen PS replace MCC	£45,000				£45,000
	Pump	Mallard Hum PS replace MCC	£45,000				£45,000
	Pump	Mallard Hum PS under pump inspections	£10,000				£10,000
	Pump	Trinity College PS refurbish 2 x axial flow pumps	£63,000				£63,000
	Pump	Ewerby Fen PS under pump inspections	£34,000				£34,000
	Pump	South Kyme Fen PS under pump inspections	£34,000				£34,000
	Pump	Sempringham Fen PS under pump inspections	£34,000				£34,000
	Pump	Black Hole Drove PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£100,000				£100,000
	Pump	Great Hale Fen PS replace MCC	£90,000				£90,000
	Pump	Kirton Marsh PS replace MCC	£50,000				£50,000
	Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000			£5,000	
			£620,000			£115,000	£505,000
2031/32	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£90,000			£90,000	
	Drain	Heckington Fen pump drain desilting under pump inspections	£50,000			£50,000	
	Pump	Billingborough Fen p/s replace MCC	£50,000				£50,000
	Pump	Dowsby Lode PS replace MCC	£50,000				£50,000
	Pump	Pinchbeck Fen PS replace MCC	£50,000				£50,000
	Pump	Cooks Lock PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£105,000				£105,000
	Pump	Swaton Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£35,000				£35,000
	Pump	Twenty PS replace MCC	£55,000				£55,000
	Drain	Dowsby Fen PS drain desilting under pump inspections	£49,000			£49,000	
	Drain	Dowsby Lode PS under pump inspections	£36,000			£36,000	
	Drain	Dunsby Fen PS under pump inspections	£36,000			£36,000	
	Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£6,000			£6,000	
			£612,000			£267,000	£345,000
2032/33	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£70,000			£70,000	
	Pump	Rippingale p/s refurb 1 x axial flow pump	£37,000				£37,000
	Drain	Gosberton Fen pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£56,000			£56,000	
	Drain	Donington Northings PS desilting under pump inspections	£56,000			£56,000	
	Drain	Great Hale Fen PS desilting under pump inspections	£56,000			£56,000	
	Drain	Trinity College PS desilting under pump inspections	£56,000			£56,000	
	Pump	Holland Fen PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps & motors	£118,000				£118,000
	Pump	Helpringham Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£38,000				£38,000
Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£7,000			£7,000		
			£494,000			£301,000	£193,000
2033/34	Drain	Great Hale Fen PS desilting/under pump inspections	£55,000			£55,000	
	Drain	Trinity College PS desilting/under pump inspections	£40,000			£40,000	
	Drain	Horbling Fen PS desilting/under pump inspections	£35,000			£35,000	
	Drain	Bicker Fen PS desilting/under pump inspections	£40,000			£40,000	
	Drain	Jetting to major pipelines	£70,000			£70,000	
	Pump	Kirton Marsh PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£110,000				£110,000
	Pump	Swaton Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£45,000				£45,000
	Pump	Sempringham Fen PS refurb pump & motor	£45,000				£45,000
	Pump	Horbling Fen PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£90,000				£90,000
	Drain	NFF desilting	£60,000				£60,000
Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£7,000			£7,000		
			£597,000			£247,000	£350,000
2034/35	Pump	Kirton Marsh PS desilting & under pump inspections	£90,000			£90,000	
	Pump	Rippingale Fen PS desilting & under pump inspections	£90,000			£90,000	
	Pump	Haconby Fen PS desilting & under pump inspections	£90,000			£90,000	
	Drain	NFF desilting	£100,000			£100,000	
	Pump	Dowsby Lode PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£75,000				£75,000
	Pump	Blackhole Drove PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£110,000				£110,000
	Pump	Horbling Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£75,000				£75,000
Drain	General culvert replacement contributions	£7,000				£7,000	
			£637,000			£370,000	£267,000

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD
SOUTHERN WORKS COMMITTEE - 25 MARCH 2025

AGENDA ITEM 08

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Capital Asset improvements

1. 2025/26 Defra/EA Funded Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Grant in Aid (GiA) Schemes

(i) **Blackhole Drove PS Structural repairs – Estimate £50,000**

Following visual inspections previously completed by Board's officers, which identified evident oxidation to the structural steel, Stantec have been commissioned to complete structural inspections to the wet dry zone on the intake channel and also to the lower pump room, suction/gravity channels. This scheme will be combined with the Board's under pump inspections utilising the reduced water levels.

(ii) **Donington Northings PS Refurbishment – Estimate £450,000**

This is currently the first part of an indicative allocation for funding towards developing a specification for refurbishment. Previous site inspections having been completed by consultant engineers Stantec, they have been commissioned to develop a specification for 2 tender packages. The first to include all of the M&E elements, which will include the most significant change of pumps, required under current fish and eel regulations, feasibility will be completed to determine pump/motor replacement specification. The second will be the structural tender specification which will include recommendations from structural inspections.

(iii) **Horbling Fen PS Structural repairs – Estimate £50,000**

Following visual inspections previously completed by Board's officers, which identified evident oxidation to the structural steel, Stantec have been commissioned to complete structural inspections to the wet dry zone on the intake channel and also to the lower pump room, and suction channel.

Gosberton Fen PS Structural repairs - Estimate £970,000

(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.

Currently the existing catchment is being modelled based upon a division into 12 catchments.

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 removed from the schemes budget and potentially will be reprofiled into future years dependent upon the outcome of the Black Sluice Catchment Strategy.

(v) Swaton Natural Flood Management (NFM) schemes

As previously reported to this committee. 3 sites at Holland Road Farm, Grove Farm and Manor Farm were identified to attenuate flows in the Swaton catchment. All sites having now been completed.

As part of a national pilot study these 3 sites are being monitored. 22 water level gauges have been set up with the data being collated to establish the resultant benefits of the offline storage sites.

Following a recent site visit with the Environment Agency, a request has been made that scour revetment works are completed to the level control culvert at Grove Farm. Estimate - £25,000

(vi) Sempringham Fen Pumping Station Refurbishment

Additional funding has now been achieved for purchase and installation of pre cast concrete unit with a tilting weir and weedscreen, to replace the failed headwall on the gravity channel, and to control water level in the catchment. Delivery to site 31st March. Programmed for installation June/July.

2. 2025/26 Board funded capital schemes

(i) Jetting/CCTV survey of Major Pipelines – Estimate £40,000

A programme of works for the camera inspection and condition survey of pipelines within the Dowsby and Donington catchments are to be completed in the Southern Works area.

(ii) Horbling Fen PS 1 x pump motor refurb – Estimate £4,000

The electric pump motor at this single pump station now requires refurbishing.

(iii) SFFD Desilting Guthrum to Blackhole Drove PS – Estimate £105,000

This c1600m section of the South Forty Foot Drain from Guthrum Gowt to Blackhole Drove Pumping Station is maintained by the Board. This section is to be de-silted, requiring specialist contractors for dam placement to enable water levels to be safely reduced. These works will be combined with the under pump inspections.

(iv) Blackhole Drove PS under pump inspections – Estimate £35,000

This is work to complete the replacement of under-pumping pump section nuts & bolts and visual inspections of wet well and intake channel and removal of silt. Specialist contractors will be required to place a dam to enable water levels to be safely reduced prior to access.

(vii) 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.

3. 2026/27 Defra/EA FCERM GiA Schemes

(i) Donington Northings PS Refurbishment- £450,000

The next stage of a potential 3 year scheme to complete inspection specification and refurbishment works to this site.

4. 2026/27 Board funded capital schemes

(i) Graft Drain – Estimate £45,000

The Graft Drain project has been ongoing for a number of years and the intention was for the scheme to recommence in 2024/25, but due to being reprofiled. It is now proposed to recommence works on site in 2026/27.

(ii) Gosberton Fen PS 3 x axial flow pump refurbs - £78,750

It is proposed that the 3 pumps are independently removed inspected and refurbished as required at this station.

(iii) Dowsby Fen PS replace MCC - £60,000

It is proposed that the Motor Control Centre(MCC) at this station installed in 1999 is replaced.

(iv) Swaton Fen PS replace MCC - £48,000

It is proposed that the Motor Control Centre(MCC) at this station installed in 2002 is replaced.

(v) Rippingale Fen PS replace MCC - £48,000

It is proposed that the Motor Control Centre(MCC) at this station installed in 2002 is replaced

(vi) Donington North Ings PS new transformer - £55,000

It was originally proposed that the transformer at this site would be replaced in 2026/27 as part of a programme of replacement. This should not now be required as it is expected that the electrical supply to this site will be changed with the refurbishment scheme which will commence in 2025/26.

(vii) Jetting to Major Pipelines – Estimate £50,000

It is proposed to continue with the jetting and condition surveying of these pipelines.

(viii) 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.

5. IDB Recovery Fund Works

Below is a summary of where the Board are expected to be with the IDB Recovery Fund works at 31 March 2025.

Tranche 1	Application	Awarded	Reserve	Claimed	C/F to 2025/26
Helpringham Fen Pumping Station Pump Refurbishment	£ 219,709	£ 219,709		£ 184,709	£ 35,000
South Kyme Fen Pumping Station Pump Refurbishment	£ 289,709	£ 289,709		£ 249,709	£ 40,000
Ewerby Fen Pumping Station Pump Refurbishment	£ 419,709	£ 419,709		£ 314,709	£ 105,000
Dunsby Fen Pumping Station Pump Refurbishment	£ 204,709	£ 204,709		£ 144,709	£ 60,000
Dyke Fen Pumping Station AWC Refurbishment	£ 25,000	£ 25,000		£ 25,000	
Pinchbeck North Fen Pumping Station Pump Refurbishment	£ 164,000	£ 164,000		£ 160,000	£ 4,000
Donington Northorpe Culvert Repair	£ 155,000	£ 155,000		£ 125,000	£ 30,000
Electricity Costs	£ 452,936	£ 452,936		£ 452,936	
Catchment Wide Bank Slips	£ 1,060,830	£ 855,220		£ 855,220	
Donington North Ings Access track	£ 185,430	£ 185,430		£ 185,430	
	£ 3,177,032	£ 2,971,422	£ -	£ 2,697,422	£ 274,000

Tranche 2	Application	Awarded	Reserve	Claimed	C/F to 2025/26
Great Hale Pumping Station Refurbishment	£ 30,000	£ 30,000		£ 17,000	
Installation Level Controllers Pumping Station	£ 80,000	£ 80,000		£ 80,000	
Mobile Pumps	£ 250,000	£ 265,000		£ 265,000	
Damford Grounds Pumping Station Refurbishment	£ 155,000	£ 155,000		£ 151,000	
	£ 515,000	£ 530,000	£ -	£ 513,000	£ -

Tranche 2b	Application	Awarded	Reserve 30/04/2025	Claimed	C/F to 2025/26
Dunsby AWC	£ 247,000	£ -			
Embankments Projects	£ 3,356,219	£ -	£ 3,000,000		£ 3,000,000
Kyme Eau Embankment AT Damford	£ 105,346	£ 105,346			£ 105,346
Gosberton PS Improvements	£ 1,168,700	£ -			
	£ 4,877,265	£ 105,346	£ 3,000,000	£ -	£ 3,105,346
	£ 8,569,297	£ 3,606,768	£ 3,000,000	£ 3,210,422	£ 3,379,346

6. 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.

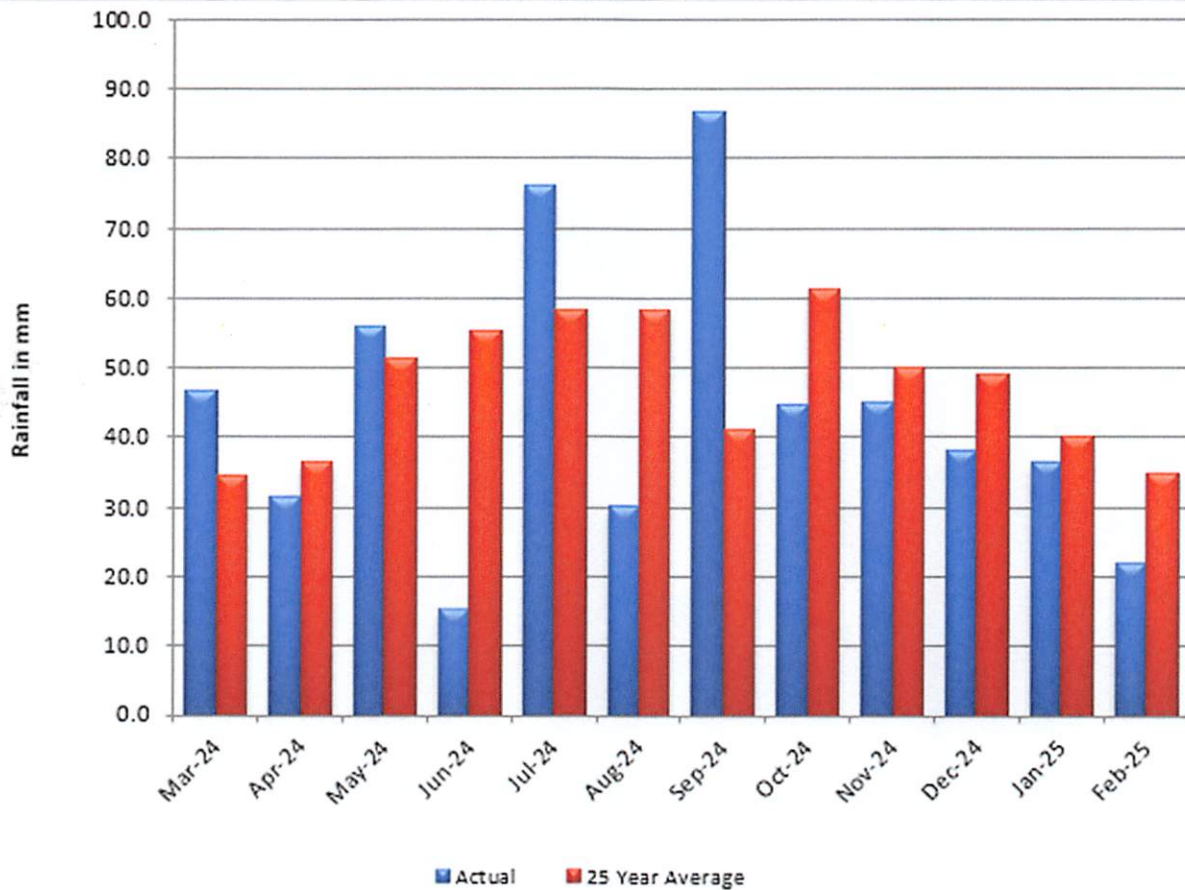
7. Crop Loss

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, details of which can be found on the Board's website.

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

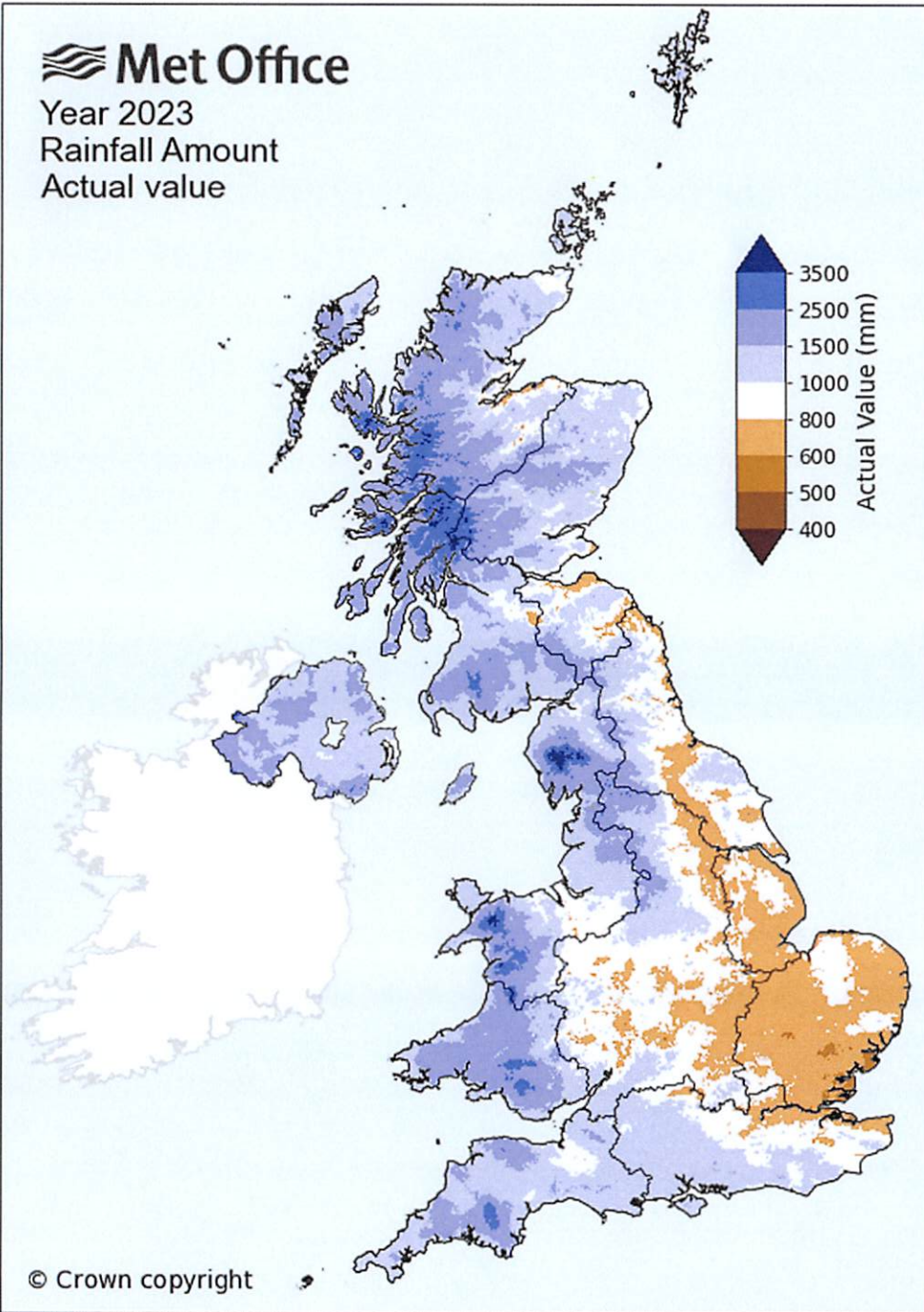
Rainfall at Black Hole Drove

MONTH	Rainfall		Actual / Average
	Actual	25 Year Average	
	mm	mm	%
Mar-24	46.6	34.5	135.07%
Apr-24	31.6	36.4	86.81%
May-24	56.0	51.4	108.95%
Jun-24	15.2	55.2	27.54%
Jul-24	76.2	58.2	130.93%
Aug-24	30.2	58.4	51.71%
Sep-24	86.6	41.0	211.22%
Oct-24	44.6	61.4	72.64%
Nov-24	45.2	50.1	90.22%
Dec-24	38.0	49.1	77.39%
Jan-25	36.4	40.1	90.77%
Feb-25	22.0	35.0	62.86%
Totals	528.6	570.8	92.61%



 **Met Office**

Year 2023
Rainfall Amount
Actual value



 **Met Office**

Year 2024
Rainfall Amount
% of 1991-2020 Average

