

BLACK SLUICE

INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD



Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday, 16th September 2025 at 2pm

Station Road, Swineshead, Boston PE20 3PW



Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

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Our Ref: DW/JP/B10

Date: 9TH September 2025

To the Chairperson and Members of the Executive Committee

Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the Offices of the Board on Tuesday, 16th September 2025 at 2pm at which your attendance is requested.

Chief Executive

AGENDA

1. Recording the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Declarations of interest.
4. To receive and, if correct, sign the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 4th June 2025 **(pages 1-11)**
5. **CONFIDENTIAL** - To receive and, if correct, sign the Confidential Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on the 4th June 2025 **(pages 12-13)**
6. Matters Arising.
7. To receive a report on the Board's Brewin Dolphin portfolios from James Scott of Brewin Dolphin. (Not included)
8. Health & safety Investigation Summary. **(Page 14)**
9. To consider Period 04 Management Accounts & narrative **(pages 15-22)**
10. To review the Quarter 1 Forecast **(pages 23-28)**
11. To receive a report on future maintenance of the Cliff Beck EA Main River **(pages 32-33)**
12. Direction on 2026/27 Budgets and Ten-Year Estimates:
 - (a) Updated 2025/26 Capital Schemes Budgets **(page 34-36)**
 - (b) Updated 2025/26 Plant Budget **(page 37)**
 - (c) 2026/27 Budget and 10 Year Estimates **(page 38)**
 - (d) **CONFIDENTIAL** - Salary Reviews **(pages 40-48)**
 - (e) **CONFIDENTIAL** - Salary Reviews (Directors) **(pages 49-52)**
13. Enforcement Actions. **(pages 53-54)**
14. To review the draft timetable for 2026 meetings.
15. Any Other Business.
 - (i) Fens 2100+ Update & Fens 2100+ Summer Newsletter
 - (ii) Local Government Association, Special Interest Group Update (Verbal)

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

MINUTES

of the proceedings of a meeting of the Executive Committee

held at the offices of the Board on
4th June 2025 at 2pm

Members

Chairperson - * Mr P Holmes

* Cllr P Bedford
* Mr M Leggott
* Cllr D Middleton

Mr R Needham
* Mr M Rollinson
* Mr C Wray

* Member Present

In attendance: Mr D Withnall (Chief Executive)
Mr P Nicholson (Projects Director)
Mrs A Chamberlain (Finance & Admin Director)

2483 Recording the Meeting - Agenda Item 1

Committee members were informed that the meeting would be recorded.

2484 Apologies for absence - Agenda Item 2

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Needham.

2485 Declarations of Interest - Agenda Item 3

There were no declarations of interest.

2486 Minutes of the Meeting - Agenda Item 4

Minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2025, copies of which had been circulated, were considered and it was AGREED that they should be signed as a true record.

2487 Confidential Minutes of the meeting - Agenda Item 5

Confidential Minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2025, copies of which had been circulated, were considered and it was AGREED that they should be signed as a true record.

2488 Matters Arising - Agenda Item 6

(a) Pumping Station Structural Review (Swineshead Pumping Station) - Minute 2415(a)

The Chief Executive noted that no funding was achieved directly for Swineshead Pumping Station, but some re-allocation of funds (from Gosberton Pumping Station) are to be used to develop the specification of

the new pumping station at Swineshead (£500,000 in 2025/26 and £500,000 in 2026/27).

(b) Planning & Enforcement Officer Vacancy - Minute 2415(d)

The Chief Executive explained that the new recruit, Tessa Manning, is getting on well in her new role and is now starting to take main responsibility for the role, with Ian Warsap taking a step-back. The thanks of the committee, and Board, were noted for Ian helping with this work during the interim and all AGREED a letter of thanks to be sent to him expressing this.

(c) 2024/25 Plant Budget - new Bailey trailer - Minute 2415(e)

The Chief Executive noted that the Board are now in receipt of the new Bailey trailer and a weigher is to be retrospectively fitted to it.

(d) Felling of trees - Aswarby Estates - Minute 2415(f)

This matter is still currently with the Board's insurers, who requested evidence in support of their (Aswarby Estates) valuation in February 2025, with no response yet.

(e) Period 08 Management Accounts - Solar income - Minute 2416

The Chief Executive noted that all the work on the solar panels / invertors is completed. Discussion took place around the invertors, it being confirmed they either work or don't, they don't lose efficiency, but they can trip out of the exportation to the grid when faulty which needs to be monitored.

(f) Heavy Rainfall Event - January 2025 - Minute 2420

The Chief Executive noted that he has had a one-to-one meeting with Richard Tice MP.

In discussion around the Black Sluice Pumping Station (Boston), his response was *'if we get in county and the mayor, we will tell the Environment Agency (EA) to recommission the Black Sluice Pumping Station (Boston), and if they won't, we will'*.

The Chief Executive also discussed the Eel regulations with Richard Tice MP, who did do a media piece on the matter prior to the elections.

The Chief Executive also referred to the modelling being done by the EA around the decommissioning of the Black Sluice Pumping Station (Boston), noting that the EA have factored in that the Board stop pumping into the South Forty Foot Drain (SFFD) when levels reach 2.7m ODN. The Chief Executive continued that this is not accurate to what actually happens now; rather switch off entirely, the pumps are switched to an emergency pumping regime, meaning, although reduced pumping, they will continue to pump as required to keep to the level set. The Chief Executive suggested this needs to be considered within the EA modelling and that the modelling should perhaps not consider any reduction in pumping from the Board, noting this is something to be discussed further at their presentation meeting in June. It was also noted that the EA are aware of the ongoing court case around claiming for damage because the Board reduced pumping and have offered their support to the case.

The Chairperson noted that because of the IDB Recovery Funding, the next couple of years accounts are going to be completely unique. Cllr D Middleton noted that any way the Board can build their reserves is positive to hopefully be able to negate the need for large annual increases.

(a) Period 12 Management Accounts

The committee noted the Period 12 Management Accounts.

(b) 2024/25 Schemes Report

The schemes report was noted, with the following highlighted:

- Allan House Pumping Station – this work is ongoing, estimated completion August / September 2025.
- Bank Slips (IDB Recovery Fund) – the £113,000 carried forward balance is to be spent on replacing the soil used (3,630 tonnes). Mr M Rollinson questioned if the spoil from dredging is ever used? It was noted that this would involve testing it and having a waste transfer licence.
- Pumping Stations (IDB Recovery Fund) – all the pumping station schemes are waiting for pump and / or MCC Control panel installations, which have got an extension until September 2025 to be completed. The first connection offer from National Grid has now been received so, hopefully, this work can commence shortly.
- Mobile Pumps (IDB Recovery Fund) – all pumps purchased, now received. Existing 8” Godwin pump to be modified by DXB to operate correctly.
- Donington Northings Access Track (IDB Recovery Fund) – completed.
- Donington Northorpe Culvert Repair (IDB Recovery Fund) – completed.
- Embankment repairs (Damford PS, South Kyme PS, Ewerby PS, Trinity College PS) – all specifications now complete and contracts awarded.

(c) Draft 2024/25 Unaudited Financial Statements

The committee noted the draft 2024/25 unaudited financial statements.

(d) Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31st March 2025

The committee noted the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for the year ended 31st March 2025.

2492 2023/24 Annual Internal Audit Report - Agenda Item 10

The committee congratulated the Board’s Officers on the achievement of ‘Substantial Assurance’ again.

2493 2025/26 Budgets - Agenda Item 11

(a) Updated 2025/26 10 Year Schemes Budget

It was noted that those highlighted in red is the funding brought forward (as per the schemes report at item minute 2491(b)).

It was noted that, unfortunately, James Scott of Brewin Dolphin could no longer attend this meeting, he is scheduled to attend the Executive Committee scheduled for September 2025.

The Chairperson noted that in only ten years' time, it will be 100 years since the Board was constituted.

2490 Review and approve accounts of Bourne Fen Farm Account - Agenda Item 8

It was noted that the accounts are very similar to what they were last year. It was noted that the value has increased over the past couple of months, but not substantially.

2491 Report on the 2024/25 Accounts - Agenda Item 9

The Chief Executive highlighted the following:

- Outstanding drainage rates at year end: £827.66 (0.05%) – thanks were passed to the Finance & Admin Director.
- Highland water contributions are lower due to a correction, funds received from the IDB recovery fund for electricity, from the previous year. Ensuring there is no double counting.
- Pumping Station Maintenance & Electricity combined – additional £162,000 going into General Reserves (without the IDB Recovery Fund money).
- Summer cutting – following representations from Board Members, investigation work into uncompleted summer cutting has been done, there will be enhanced monitoring going forward to ensure everything that should be completed, is.
- Admin % to Income is 8.8%.
- Wages Oncost Reserve – within the report there is a recommendation to reduce the recharge rate from 260% to 250% due to the substantial surplus. However, following discussion with the Chairperson, it is suggested that it would be beneficial to keep the recharge rate as it is until after salary reviews (including full workforce) in September 2025. Cllr D Middleton noted that just because there is a surplus he didn't believe it should be reduced. It was explained that this recharge is an internal process and so needs to be as close to 'zero' as possible, rather than generating a surplus. It was noted that this rate would be used to determine rates for external works such as Public Sector Cooperation Agreement (PSCA) works, however, a different rate could be set for that. It was noted that aside from any salary increases, there is also an increase in National Insurance and the Board are currently in a tri-ennial valuation for pensions which may absorb some of the current surplus.
- General Reserves – the breakdown of the amount going into the General Reserves was noted, aside of Grant in Aid and IDB Recovery Funding, there is £1,269,000 going into the General Reserve. Cllr P Bedford questioned if the Allan House PS Scheme is underway? It was noted that the work is underway, the work within the ASDA carpark is complete.

that the Board don't currently have (currently on or off). The Projects Director confirmed that this new variable speed ability should reduce electricity consumption and therefore reduce this expenditure, but without the IDB Recovery Fund the Board probably wouldn't be installing the variable speed motors.

- Bicker Fen PS and Kirton Marsh PS Control Cabinets - It was noted that originally both of these pumping stations had been identified to replace the control cabinets, however, this is now not financially viable. Kirton Marsh PS is therefore taking priority. It was noted that the Kirton Marsh PS supply is below ground level, however, if there is an issue with the supply it will be the responsibility of National Grid to resolve.

(b) Updated 2025/26 10 Year Plant Replacement Budget and report on replacement machines

(i) Flailing machine:

Energreen Alpha SPV - The Board currently have three Energreen SPV machines that are functionally brilliant at what they are designed to do (flail) but have had mechanical issues. Irelands Farm Machinery (local supplier of the machines) work on the machines for the Board, it is not always straight forward or quick, as there are often issues with supply of parts and some models have a Deutz engine which means Ireland's mechanics can't work on it. The Board's current three machines are different. The latest model, if the Board were to purchase (Energreen Alpha SPV) has the same hydraulics and electrics but has a John Deere engine (the Board's oldest Energreen SPV also has a John Deere engine and has proven most reliable of the three machines despite being the oldest). The lead time from purchase of this machine is 3-4 months at an estimated cost of £241,000.

Hooby - The Board currently has one Hooby machine which has proven reliable so far, with no major issues experienced, however, due to the IDB Recovery Fund works, it hasn't completed as much flailing as was expected. The mechanical support team of JCB and Hooby have been reliable. The lead time from purchase of this machine is 18 months at an estimated cost of £312,866.

Herder One - The Board do not currently have any of these machines, the Projects Director has seen one working and it looks like a good quality machine, however it is a lot more expensive than the other options, at an estimated cost of £399,000.

CIlr P Bedford referenced the JCB Hydradig that a neighbouring IDB have, it was confirmed that this machine would not be suitable as a flailing machine.

The Chairperson questioned if the operatives have been asked their preference? It was confirmed that they would prefer an Energreen because of the functionality (Energreen has an extra half a metre of reach

The Projects Director highlighted the following:

- Swineshead Pumping Station - No funding was achieved directly for Swineshead Pumping Station, but some re-allocation of funds (from Gosberton Pumping Station) are to be used to develop the specification of the new pumping station at Swineshead (£500,000 in 2025/26 and £500,000 in 2026/27). It may also be possible to achieve additional funding for Gosberton Pumping Station as well. Mr M Leggott felt that this was a lot of money just for a specification.

- South Kyme PS, Ewerby PS, Helpringham PS, Pinchbeck PS, Dunsby Fen PS Refurbishments & Ewerby Fen PS Embankment Repairs - Technical information issues required for the agreements with National Grid have delayed this work. The MCC and motor are received and stored but still to be installed. The first connection offer from National Grid has now been received, as soon as their invoice is paid, this will start their timeline for commencing work (their work should be complete by end of September 2025). However, the issue is going to be with Ewerby Pumping Station, which also has funding allocated for completing the embankment repairs, however, this work cannot be completed until National Grid have completed their works. Currently, the embankment repairs are scheduled to commence in August 2025, however, it is not looking likely that National Grid will have completed their works by then.

Mr M Leggott questioned who would be liable if the embankment works at Ewerby PS were not complete before another winter? The Projects Director noted that it isn't the fault of National Grid as they have been awaiting the technical information needed to complete the supply agreement. The technical information is related to the variable speed drives and has taken over six months to establish. However, now one agreement has been awarded, it should be a simple approach of duplicating it for the other sites. The only other option is if National Grid put in a temporary supply to enable the works. There will also be a cut off for starting the embankment repairs because of the potentially bad weather. The Chairperson questioned whether National Grid could assure the Board that they can complete their works over winter whilst the embankment works can't be completed, so that the embankment repairs can commence as soon as possible in the Spring 2026. The Projects Director noted that the temporary measure for Ewerby PS is to fill the void with concrete to prevent worsening. As soon as it is known that the embankment works won't be delivered, this temporary measure work will commence. The Projects Director noted he has no idea how much this would cost, as it is not known how big the hole to fill is. Mr M Rollinson noted that it is a big concern if there is a major rainfall event before the embankment works are complete. Cllr D Middleton questioned if variable speed drives are automatically used when replacing to allow for cost savings? The Projects Director explained that it is because the motors are being replaced that variable frequency drives are being installed which will enable an adaptability

compared to the Hooby). The Projects Director believed they may prefer the Energreen as opposed to the Hooby just because it is what they are used to operating.

It was further noted that the next flailing machine is due to be replaced in two years' time. Mr C Wray suggested the possibility of ordering both an Energreen and Hooby now because of the lead time of the Hooby.

The Projects Director noted that there are mixed reviews of the Energreen Alpha machines from those that have them currently, noting his concern about the mechanical issues experienced with the current Energreen machines and that the lifetime cost of the machine needs to be taken into consideration. Of the opinion that the Hooby will cost the Board very little over its life.

The Chairperson noted that there is an onus on Irelands Farm Machinery to prove that they can provide the mechanical support required efficiently for the Energreen machines. The Chairperson added that it seems the new Energreen Alpha machine has addressed some of the issues previously experienced e.g. having a John Deere engine which Irelands Farm Machinery can work on.

Mr M Rollison noted that the Hooby is the newest machine, and you would therefore expect to have the least problems with it anyway.

It was noted that the primary function requirement of this machine is to flail, based on reach and driveability, the Energreen SPV is the better machine for flailing. It was therefore suggested that the Board purchase an Energreen Alpha this time, and if it proves unreliable, then it will be Hooby going forward. The Projects Director noted that he felt the reduced reach of the Hooby is irrelevant because there is little work (majority EA work) that requires that length of reach.

The Chief Executive noted that if the committee wanted to purchase a Hooby for the replacement due in two years' time, they would need to place the order in January / February 2026 when the committee are reviewing the budgets, by which time the Energreen Alpha will have been received and working and a judgement on it can be formed.

All AGREED to purchase the Energreen Alpha SPV now, with the specification as per what the Projects Director deems appropriate. A report to be produced for the January 2026 committee meeting detailing its performance and comparison to the Hooby to consider a decision for the replacement required in two years' time (2027/28).

The Chairperson questioned if the Projects Director is happy to trade in two machines and reduce back to three flailing machines, the Projects Director confirmed that the Board no longer require the additional flailing machine that was only kept due to extra EA work at the time.

Mr M Leggott questioned if it is possible to have a more detailed breakdown of the running costs of each machine so that it is easier to

compare and make a decision in the future? It was noted that this detail is broken down internally, but it would be difficult to present as a comparison for this as each machine is a different age.

The Chairperson added that it would be worth the Projects Director trying to get an extended warranty as a way of Irelands Farms Machinery showing their confidence in the machine.

(ii) Access Platform

The Projects Director explained that the Board's current nifty lift access platform isn't very manoeuvrable on uneven surfaces. It is therefore suggested to replace with a more versatile and manoeuvrable machine; the CMC S18F tracked access platform.

Mr C Wray noted that he has seen these working and that they are really good. Mr M Rollinson questioned whether the Board could get any contracting work / hire it out? The Chief Executive noted that he would have to discuss with the insurance because of liability.

All AGREED to purchase the CMC S18F tracked access platform.

(iii) 360 Excavator

Hitachi ZX210-7 - The original quote has been bettered to £196,850, with a trade-in value of £35,000 and lead time of November 2025. It was noted that the operator's preference would be Hitachi, with the reliability of it and residual value also noted.

JCB 220x Long Reach – Original quote (June 2024) £159,750 and trade in value of £30,000, still awaiting an updated quote.

The committee felt that, although the Hitachi is more expensive to purchase, the low running costs and residual value they hold make them as cheap over their lifetime. All AGREED to purchase a Hitachi ZX210-7.

(c) Updated 10-year estimates to reflect Scheme updates and 2024/25 year end position

The Chief Executive noted the figure of £1,828,128 (which is the figure based on the aim of being able to fund a minimum of two consecutive "wet" years of electricity from the General Reserve), which has been met with these 10-year estimates, primarily due to the IDB Recovery Funding received, allowing the Board to consider maintaining the rate at a lower increase.

2494 Review the Board's insurance cover in relation to business interruption and cyber - Agenda Item 12

It was noted that following a review of insurance cover by the Audit & Risk committee, they requested that the Executive Committee consider new cover for cyber security and enhanced business interruption.

Cyber – The Board currently has strong processes in place to try and prevent a cyber security attack but does not have anything in place to resolve it, should it

happen. The Chief Executive also noted the computer crime element, which covers impersonation fraud.

The recent cyber-attack at a neighbouring IDB was noted, it also being noted that the Internal Auditor has conveyed he feels it would be prudent to take. All AGREED to cyber security insurance with a value of cover of £1million.

Mr C Wray noted the remote control of the pumps at pumping stations and whether this could be the target of cyber-attack with somebody taking control of the pumps and having the ability to turn them on / off causing damage? The Chief Executive believed not as it is in a de-militarised zone with signal via radio or sim card. The Chief Executive noted that he believed this would be covered by this insurance.

Business Interruption - The Board currently has this insurance but is limited to a twelve-month recovery period. It was felt by the Audit & Risk Committee that this period perhaps wasn't long enough if, for example, the offices were destroyed in a fire and needed rebuilding. All AGREED to increase to 24 months.

2495 To review compliance with The Eels (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 Section 17 - Agenda Item 13

The Chief Executive noted that, previously, the Board has received exemptions (issued by the Environment Agency (EA)) for the Eels regulations, however, latest exemption received is for twelve months only and enforcement to be taken if no changes are made. The EA want the ten pumping stations categorised as 'high' (Black Hole Drove, Chain Bridge, Cooks Lock, Donington North Ings, Gosberton, Great Hale, Holland Fen, South Kyme, Swineshead, Wyberton) to have eel friendly pumps installed by 2030.

The Chief Executive has explained to them (EA) that this is not financially viable, given that the Board's pumping stations have syphons, which would not be compatible with eel friendly pumps, meaning the syphons would require removing which is civil engineering work which effectively means the Board would be building a new pumping station. For just the ten pumping stations alone, this could easily reach a cost of £200million. The Chief Executive added that if funding was provided to achieve this, then the Board would happily execute it.

The Chief Executive also noted the difficulty with liaising with the Area Fisheries Officer who is not very efficient at communicating, with the latest response displayed on screen, as follows;

'Sites that have received the latest time limited exemption need to work through the eel regulatory process to determine each sites "requisite" eel measure for IDB pumping station sites, it's likely to end up being "less damaging" pumps. As the point of contact for Lincs and Northamptonshire area I welcome discussing options site by site with engineers and consultants if needed.

Less damaging pumps – can be retro fitted to existing infrastructure, where this is proposed it needs to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis as site specific of angled bends, siphon breaker valves and outfall arrangements can under some circumstances cause damage to eel. Control Panel infrastructure and the ability to have variable drive control is something that is required.

The pump and impeller are usually the main element of the pumping station site that cause the most damage to eel so this is the priority and a number of different suppliers are available.

We are taking a mosaic of dates approach and working in partnership with the IDB we want to see the measures integrated into future programmes of work to gain cost benefit.

You asked about legal process and what that would look like - The punishment of any offence under the regulations is a fine, which has no statutory limit either on summary conviction or on indictment.

The punishment can be against a body corporate and can also be against an officer of the company if there has been consent, connivance of that person, or of their neglect.'

It was noted that other IDBs and the EA (one department of the EA is enforcing on another department) are in the same situation and it was planned to hold a meeting in June between all the IDBs, the EA and the Area Fisheries Officer, however, a date has not yet been set.

The Projects Director noted that the Board are starting the process at Chain Bridge PS and Donington Northings PS, with a feasibility study being conducted around what / if eel friendly pumps can be installed within the existing civils / structure, without having to re-build the station.

2496 Any Other Business - Agenda Item 14

(a) Mobile Phone Contract

The Chief Executive outlined to the committee the poor signal that Vodafone are providing and that from a health and safety perspective (lone working device installed on mobile phones), a more reliable signal is required. All AGREED to move the mobile phone contracts back to EE.

(b) Fens 2100+ Spring 2025 Newsletter

The Chief Executive noted that this is included for information only and that he continues to represent Lincolnshire ADA Branch on the Fens 2100+ group.

(c) **CONFIDENTIAL** – To receive a HR Update

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.

(d) Drone

The Projects Director noted that as part of the Environment Agency (EA) works, the operators have to complete ground nesting bird surveys for every section the Board maintain on their behalf. The Projects Director continued that unless there is a bird sat on the nest at the time, that could be seen from the top of the bank, or flew off on approach, the operator would not be able to spot the nests. A thermal imaging drone would be able to complete these surveys more efficiently and would also be able to complete some of the Board's own GPS work and LIDAR bank surveying work. A drone with thermal imaging capabilities is £6,719. The EA are investigating if they would be

willing to contribute towards it through the PSCA work. (the Chief Executive felt a 50/50 funded split would be reasonable).

Mr M Rollinson thought that thermal imaging would work best during the evening when it is cool? It was confirmed that the surveys would have to be completed early morning, as thermal imaging works on temperature differentiation and would be completed by the Environment Officer.

All AGREED to purchase the thermal imaging drone.

(e) Rookfield Farm

The Projects Director noted that a draft design has been produced by the Board's Site Engineer which entails a three-metre-wide reduced level spillway with a scour-protected outfall. Matting or concrete will be used to prevent erosion. It will still be flat enough to drive over with a vehicle. The Projects Director noted that it will provide some benefit, but he is not sure it will cure the issue completely.

The Chairperson questioned if something temporary could be put in place firstly to assess if it will work? The Projects Director noted the difficulty that if there is no erosion control (e.g. matting or concrete) it will simply erode.

This work will commence prior to the cutting season (01 August).

(f) Car Park

The Chief Executive explained to the committee that there have been some drainage issues with the office carpark and so a device has been used to lift the gravel, which has helped. However, the gravel is sharp and is causing car tyre punctures. It is therefore suggested to scrape off the current sharp gravel and replace with 20mm round gravel. Mr M Leggott suggested that grey granite be used as it doesn't have sharp edges but also doesn't migrate as much as 20mm round gravel will.

(g) Co-opted Members

Mr M Rollinson noted that all three of the guests (Mr Stephen Pugh, Mr Brian Hammond, Mr Joshua Casswell) invited on the Northern Works Committee inspection have expressed their thanks for a very informative day and all expressed an interest in joining the Board. It was noted that there are three vacancies for co-opted members on the Northern Works committee. The committee AGREED to write to them to invite them to be a co-opted member. Mr C Wray noted he would also be interested in gaining Mr Richard Start as co-opted member in the future.

(h) **CONFIDENTIAL** – Director's salaries

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.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 15:56.

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

AGENDA ITEM 8

Health & Safety Investigation Summary.

On 4 July 2025, a health and safety incident occurred at the Cooks Lock Pumping Station involving five employees of the Board. The operatives were undertaking scheduled maintenance work, specifically wire brushing corrosion and paint from sheet piling using a pneumatic grinder. This task was performed within a confined space under warm environmental conditions. All personnel were equipped with appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including respirators and protective coveralls, in accordance with our safe systems of work.

Following the activity, several employees developed rashes to the face and neck. One individual attended Accident & Emergency, where the symptoms were initially classified as chemical burns, triggering a RIDDOR report to the Health and Safety Executive due to the nature of the injury. However, subsequent medical evaluation at Nottingham Queens Medical Centre concluded that the rash was not consistent with chemical burns and had resolved by the time of the appointment. The remaining affected employees experienced similar symptoms, which subsided by the following day without further medical intervention.

A full investigation was launched immediately. Environmental samples taken from the site confirmed the absence of asbestos and no specific chemical exposure was identified. The most probable cause of the symptoms was determined to be heat rash, exacerbated by the confined working conditions and elevated temperatures. Occupational Health reviewed the PPE used and confirmed its suitability; no defects were found in the equipment.

In response to the incident, the task was suspended pending further review. A series of recommendations have been made to mitigate future risks. These include scheduling work during cooler periods, reducing the duration of work shifts, improving hygiene practices such as washing and drying the face between shifts, and introducing the use of barrier creams. Additional control measures proposed include revising relevant risk assessments, implementing environmental monitoring, and delivering refresher training on PPE use and environmental hazard awareness.

To further inform our Task Specific Risk Assessments, Safe Systems of Work, and COSHH assessments, samples of the dust generated during the activity have been sent for chemical analysis. The results will guide the planning and safe resumption of the work.

This incident underscores the importance of continual review and adaptation of our health and safety protocols, particularly in response to environmental factors.

We have engaged with the Health and Safety Executive and provided them with all the information they have requested, and we are awaiting a final response.

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

AGENDA ITEM 9

PERIOD 04 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS

Income

- 83.89% of Drainage Rates have been collected up to the end of July (slightly behind the 85.95% from last year) which is now £44,297 less than budgeted for the year to date.
- Interest & Investment Income are £20,988 more than budgeted.
- Other income is now £755 less than the budget year to date at P04.
- Rechargeable Income is now £13,029 less than budgeted year to date.
 - This has recovered slightly as it is £19,386 more than budget for the period.
- Solar income is currently £1,885 more than the budget for the year to date.
- Overall, predominantly due to the previously explained Grant Income, total income is £613,890 more than budgeted year to date.

Schemes

- Drain Schemes:
 - There is £9,088 YTD spent on Alternate Programme Access Works which relates to the same new culvert from P03 on the Hammond Beck at Swineshead.
 - The total amount of £5,557 spent on the Peat Restoration Project in Bourne cannot be recovered so this will stay as an overspend for the year.
 - The spillway at Horbling has cost £30,053 to date at the end of Period 4, which is the works discussed and agreed at the Southern Works Tour and Meeting.
- Pumping Station Schemes:
 - Total spend to date is £159,015 compared to a budget to date of £1,433,508, therefore currently an underspend of £1,274,493 but most, if not all, of this will be a timing issue.
 - Total spend to date on the Sempringham PS refurbishment is £54,107, however this is now overspent as the total budget for the year is £32,562.
 - There has been a total spend to date of £68,980 on the Pumping Station Structural Repair Schemes, compared to a budget of £970,000, therefore these are showing as an underspend of £901,020 but this will also be a timing issue.
- IDB Fund Schemes:
 - Total spend to date £288,786 compared to a budget to date of £234,607, which is showing as a current overspend of £54,179. However, the total budget for these schemes is over £620,000 so these will all be timing issues.
- The timing issues noted should be partially rectified once the Q1 Forecast has been completed.
 - The meeting has already taken place, and work on this is now underway.

Expenditure

- PS Maintenance is £20,234 favourable at the end of Period 04 (year to date).
 - Electricity was also £10,853 less than budgeted for the period and is now £50,062 less than budgeted for the year to date.
- Drain Maintenance is currently £74,469 underspent YTD.
 - £70,068 underspent on Summer Cutting (3002) YTD
 - As explained previously, this is still due to the dry spring, so it hasn't grown as expected and therefore we didn't need to complete the number of cuts we budgeted for.
 - Summer cutting has now commenced.
 - £4,478 underspent on Drain Maintenance (3006) YTD
- Environmental schemes are now just £288 underspent.
- Admin and Establishment is now £5,166 underspent.
 - There are underspends on the Office, Admin and Depot but overspends on Admin Salary and Office Equipment.
- Overall, expenditure is £742,731 less than budgeted for the period and £1,375,862 less than budgeted year to date but most of this is due to the timing issues on the scheme work and the underspends on drain maintenance.

Balance Sheet

- Outstanding Sales Invoices.
 - Turnstone Property Management £3,698.52 21/03/2025.
 - They have been sent reminders each month and chased by email too.
- The value of both investments improved slightly again in July.

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Project Summary

2025/26

Period 04 - July 2025

Description	Period Current Year			Year To Date			Last Year			
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance	Forecast	Variance	Actual YTD	Variance to Current Year
Rates & Levies	184,215	242,209	(57,994)	2,247,830	2,292,127	(44,297)	0	2,247,830	2,169,016	78,813
Interest & Grants	21,313	10,062	11,251	1,195,773	534,785	660,988	0	1,195,773	1,090,074	105,700
Other Income	754	1,017	(263)	7,814	8,569	(755)	0	7,814	22,160	(14,346)
Rechargeable Income	41,777	22,391	19,386	132,438	145,467	(13,029)	0	132,438	101,639	30,800
Solar Panel Income	3,336	2,383	953	14,243	12,358	1,885	0	14,243	12,692	1,551
Total Income	260,494	278,062	(17,568)	3,607,196	2,993,306	613,890	0	3,607,196	3,395,580	211,616
Schemes	17,138	0	(17,138)	25,068	0	(25,068)	0	(25,068)	61,003	35,936
Pumping Station Schemes	60,924	839,908	778,984	159,015	1,433,508	1,274,493	0	(159,015)	255,033	96,018
IDB Fund Schemes	102,134	74,485	(27,649)	288,786	234,607	(54,179)	0	(288,786)	208,835	(79,951)
Pumping Station Maintenance	22,746	31,260	8,514	101,392	121,626	20,234	0	(182,825)	103,817	2,425
Electricity	14,434	25,287	10,853	81,433	131,495	50,062	0	(110,884)	108,319	26,886
Drain Maintenance	33,698	36,252	2,554	110,884	185,353	74,469	0	(20,363)	190,323	79,439
Environmental Schemes	7,977	16,150	8,173	20,363	20,651	288	0	(268,993)	6,725	(13,638)
Administration & Establishment	66,308	64,283	(2,025)	268,993	274,159	5,166	0	(138,276)	253,824	(15,170)
EA Precept	0	0	0	138,276	138,276	0	0	(138,276)	138,276	0
Rechargeable Expenditure	40,365	20,829	(19,536)	104,601	135,318	30,717	0	(104,601)	98,339	(6,262)
Solar Panel Expenses	0	0	0	319	0	(319)	0	(319)	417	98
Total Expenditure	365,723	1,108,454	742,731	1,299,131	2,674,993	1,375,862	0	(1,299,131)	1,424,911	125,780
Surplus / (Deficit)	(105,229)	(830,392)	725,163	2,308,065	318,313	1,989,752	0	2,308,065	1,970,669	337,396
Movement on reserves										
Plant Reserve	(20,090)	0	20,090	(88,086)	0	88,086	(88,230)	(144)	(80,293)	7,793
Pump Engineer Oncost	(264)	0	264	2,526	0	(2,526)	0	(2,526)	918	(1,608)
Wages oncost Reserve	(27,141)	0	27,141	(1,058)	0	1,058	0	1,058	(30,265)	(29,207)
Surplus / (Deficit)	(57,734)	(830,392)	677,667	2,394,683	318,313	1,989,752	318,313	2,309,677	2,080,309	360,418

**Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board
Drainage Rates & Special Levies
2025/26**

Period 04 - July 2025

Drainage Rates & Special Levies Due

Drainage Rates

Annual Drainage Rates - Land and/or buildings	1,618,558.15	
Land/Property - Value Decreased	(16,396.17)	
Land/Property - Value Increased	13,052.52	
New Assessment	3,330.13	
Write Offs & Irrecoverables	(36.70)	
Adjustments required for Special Levy		
Summons Collection Costs		

Balance	<u>1,618,507.93</u>	47.62%
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Special Levies

Boston Borough Council	1,293,006.22	
South Holland District Council	243,669.44	
North Kesteven District Council	148,316.10	
South Kesteven District Council	95,128.26	
	<u>1,780,120.02</u>	52.38%

Total Due	<u>3,398,627.95</u>	100.00%
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Drainage Rates & Special Levies Collected

B/F Arrears/(Allowances)	(827.66)	
Payments Posted	1,359,329.61	
Returned Amount		83.89%
Paid Refund	(732.18)	
Bourne North Fen Trust Contribution		
Special Levies Received	890,060.01	50.00%

Total Received	<u>2,247,829.78</u>	
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Drainage Rates & Special Levies Debtors

Special Levy Outstanding	890,060.01	50.00%
Drainage Rates Outstanding	260,738.16	16.11%
	<u>1,150,798.17</u>	

3,398,627.95

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Income & Expenditure Summary

2025/26

Period 04 - July 2025

	This Year	Last Year	Variance
Drainage Rates	1,357,770	1,340,146	17,624
Special Levies	890,060	828,871	61,189
Recoverable	132,438	101,639	30,800
Misc Income	1,213,325	1,112,660	100,665
Solar Panel Income	14,243	12,692	1,551
	3,607,836	3,396,007	211,829
Employment Costs	562,888	495,263	(67,625)
Property	107,163	136,808	29,646
General Expenses	116,386	95,505	(20,881)
Materials / Stock	33,676	64,632	30,956
Motor & Plant	124,742	84,724	(40,018)
Miscellaneous	268,298	438,766	170,468
Recharges	(194,192)	(216,651)	(22,459)
Plant	194,192	216,651	22,459
Total Expenditure	1,213,152	1,315,698	102,546
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	2,394,684	2,080,309	314,375

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Balance Sheet at Period End

2025/26

Period 04 - July 2025

	This Year		Last Year	
	£	£	£	£
Operational Land & Buildings Cost	1,009,350		1,009,350	
Pumping Stations Cost	3,861,354		3,861,354	
Non-operational Property Cost	165,000		165,000	
Vehicles, Plant & Machinery Cost	1,407,624		1,222,909	
Fixed Assets		6,443,328		6,258,613
Stock	92,078		57,733	
Debtors Control	66,229		116,575	
VAT	64,927		78,745	
Car Loans	4,247		3,434	
Prepayments	65,279		60,325	
Drawings Bank Account	(35,551)		(169,383)	
Call Bank Account	410,000		410,000	
Petty Cash	329		142	
Highland Water	(4,155)		8,782	
Work in Progress	(95,514)		(97,649)	
Brewin Dolphin Investment	437,033		428,139	
Natwest Reserve Account	2,638,716		2,187,984	
Natwest 35 Day Notice Account	4,000,000		1,250,000	
Total Current Assets		7,643,618		4,334,826
Trade Creditors	13,245		13,900	
PAYE & NI Control Account	(32,995)		(28,264)	
Superannuation Contrl Account	(29,055)		(27,348)	
Accruals	(403,238)		(116,960)	
Suspense	(0)		(0)	
Total Liabilities		(452,044)		(158,672)
Pension Liability		1,471,000		536,000
		15,105,902		10,970,767
Capital Reserve	6,315,666		6,211,235	
Pension Reserve	1,471,000		536,000	
Brewin Dolphin Revaluation	(62,967)		(71,861)	
Total Capital		7,753,699		6,705,374
Revenue Reserve	3,813,828		1,422,243	
Development Reserve	629,300		628,643	
Plant Reserve	195,573		(47,572)	
Wages Oncost Reserve	318,819		181,770	
General Reserve	2,394,684		2,080,309	
Total Reserves		7,352,203		4,265,393
		15,105,902 0		10,970,767
Cash & Bank Balances				
Drawings Account	(35,551)			
Call Account	10,000		410,000	
Natwest Reserve Account @ 1.41% wef 16/07/25	2,638,716			
Natwest 35 Day Notice Account @ 2.25% wef 16/07/25	4,000,000			
Petty Cash	329			
Chargecard	0			
Loughborough BS @ 4.00%	200,000		12 Month Fixed Term Deposit	
Vernon BS @ 4.00%	200,000		12 Month Fixed Term Deposit	
		7,013,494		

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

Investment Summary

2025/26

Period 04 - July 2025

PORTFOLIO P1684056 VALUATION DATE 12 Aug 2025 E

3 Aug 2024 - 3 Aug 2025

PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

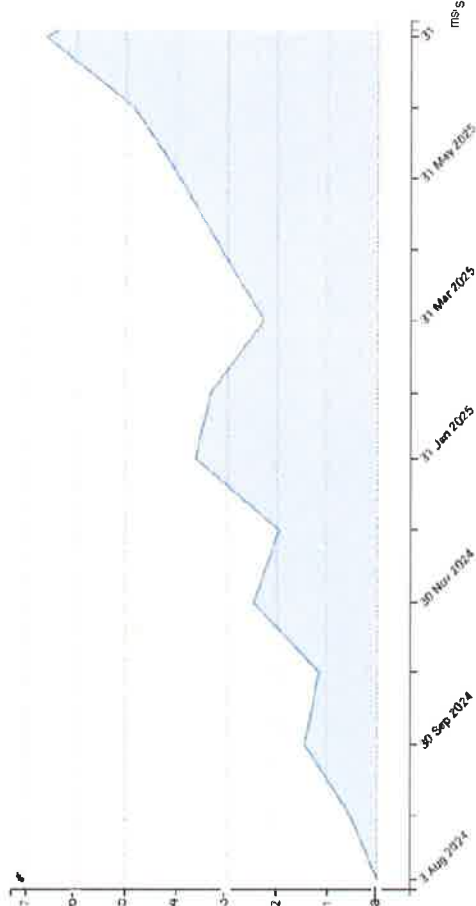
LAST 12 MONTHS PERFORMANCE
6.32%

TOTAL VALUE
437,033.16 GBP

ESTIMATED ANNUAL INCOME
13,566.63 GBP

PERFORMANCE

PERIOD



• CUMULATIVE PERFORMANCE

PORTFOLIO SUMMARY

BOOK COST
415,203.95 GBP

OVERALL GAIN OR LOSS
5.26%¹

ESTIMATED ANNUAL INCOME
13,566.63 GBP

ESTIMATED YIELD %
3.11%¹

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

2025/26 Forecast

Quarter 1 - Period 3 - June 2025

Description	2025/26 Budget	2025/26 Forecast	Difference	Q1		Q2 Forecast	Q3 Forecast	Q4 Forecast
				Actual	Forecast			
Rates & Levies	3,398,675	3,398,675	(0)	2,063,615	386,332	929,018	19,710	
Interest	60,000	76,908	16,908	27,322	24,793	25,670	(877)	
Grants	8,242,637	8,310,346	67,709	1,147,138	0	0	7,163,208	
Development Fund	5,000	5,000	0	0	0	0	5,000	
Other Income	24,405	23,912	(493)	7,059	9,351	2,951	4,551	
Rechargeable Income	400,001	367,586	(32,415)	90,661	97,250	83,056	96,619	
Solar Income	24,418	25,350	932	10,907	7,968	2,661	3,814	
Total Income	12,155,136	12,207,778	52,642	3,346,703	525,694	1,043,356	7,292,025	
Board Funded Schemes	505,000	510,882	(5,882)	10,946	106,750	230,686	162,500	
FDGiA/Local Levy Schemes	8,771,374	7,140,052	1,631,322	80,760	1,768,531	1,999,422	3,291,339	
IDB Recovery Fund Schemes	625,028	2,199,788	(1,574,760)	186,652	433,788	1,259,652	319,696	
Pumping Station Maintenance	878,169	876,740	1,429	145,645	187,115	238,876	305,104	
Drain Maintenance	1,043,541	1,002,486	41,055	77,186	301,482	367,333	256,485	
Environmental Schemes	49,067	49,067	0	12,387	26,516	4,765	5,399	
Administration & Establishment	807,241	807,403	(162)	202,418	198,742	204,070	202,173	
EA Precept	276,552	276,552	0	138,276	0	138,276	0	
Solar Expenses	3,403	3,403	0	319	0	0	3,084	
Rechargeable Expenditure	372,093	313,468	58,625	64,236	87,525	74,750	86,957	
Total Expenditure	13,331,468	13,179,842	151,626	918,826	3,110,449	4,517,830	4,632,737	
Surplus / Deficit	(1,176,332)	(972,064)	204,268	2,427,877	(2,584,755)	(3,474,474)	2,659,288	

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

AGENDA ITEM 10

Forecast Narrative

Following our recent meeting, I summarise the decisions taken to formulate the Forecast for the rest of this financial year.

Income

- Drainage Rates and Special Levies updated and re-phased to expected levels and time frames.
- Interest has been re-profiled to what is now expected, the increase is due to the additional funds that have been transferred to the 35 Day Notice Account and the renewal of both of the investments through Vernon Building Society and Loughborough Building Society.
- Brewin Dolphin Income updated to current estimated level on their portal.
- Grant income has been updated to match the expected income from all schemes in the current financial year.
- Rechargeable Income has been left as it is from the actuals for P01 – P03 and the budgeted values for P04 – P12, as we are no longer expected to receive the budgeted amount of income but it will be similar to the revised amount, as below.
 - £220,000 EA contract
 - £26,000 SKDC contract
 - £28,000 Additional SKDC works
 - £90,000 Bourne North Fen works

Expenditure

- Board Funded Schemes
 - As explained in the management accounts, Alternate Programme Access Works relates to an additional culvert we have constructed to help with access on the Hammond Beck at Swineshead.
 - As explained at the June Executive meeting, it was not financially viable to complete both MCC replacements for Bicker Fen and Kirton Marsh and therefore Kirton Marsh has been prioritised.
 - Works to replace the syphon valve at Kirton Marsh have been completed earlier than expected and for less than expected, leaving an underspend of £2,021.
 - The below schemes have just been rephased to expected expenditure timescales.
 - Holland Fen PS- Motor refurbishment
 - Great Hale Fen PS- Motor refurbishment
 - Cooks Lock PS- Weedscreen refurbishment
- Flood Defence Grant in Aid/ Local Levy Schemes

- Most of the works have now been completed for the Sempringham PS refurbishment scheme, there is just fencing works due to take place in September, but the scheme overall will be overspent by roughly £23,681.
- The works completed on the Peat Restoration Project at Bourne will result in an overspend of £5,342 for the current financial year as we cannot claim any further funds relating to this project.
- The below schemes have just been rephased to expected expenditure timescales.
 - Wyberton Marsh PS- Transformer replacement
 - South Kyme PS- Bank repair specification
 - Ewerby Fen PS- Bank repair specification
 - Trinity College PS- Bank repair specification
 - Damford PS- Bank repair specification
 - Allan House PS scheme
 - Black Sluice Catchment Strategy
 - Black Hole Drove PS- Structural repairs
 - Chain Bridge PS- Structural repairs
 - Cooks Lock PS- Structural repairs
 - Donington North Ings PS- Structural repairs
 - Great Hale PS- Structural repairs
 - Holland Fen PS- Structural repairs
 - Horbling Fen PS- Structural repairs
 - Wyberton Marsh PS- Structural repairs
- The below schemes have had their costs and budgets moved to IDB Recovery Fund Schemes
 - South Kyme PS- Bank repair works (moved to 1417)
 - Ewerby Fen PS- Bank repair works (moved to 1417)
 - Trinity College PS- Bank repair works (moved to 1417)
 - Damford PS- Bank repair works (moved to 1414)
- The costs on the Gosberton structural repairs scheme have been moved to the Swineshead structural repairs scheme as the Swineshead PS structural repairs scheme has been prioritised and therefore, we are no longer completing the Gosberton scheme in the current financial year and the Projects Director and Grants Manager are looking into when the Gosberton PS structural repairs scheme can be re-introduced into the schemes budget. Swineshead PS- Structural repairs has then been rephased to expected expenditure timescales.
- IDB Recovery Fund Schemes
 - For the following schemes, the remaining costs have been rephased to expected expenditure timescales.
 - Helpringham PS Refurb (1400)
 - South Kyme PS Refurb (1401)
 - Dunsby Fen PS Refurb (1402)
 - Ewerby Fen PS Refurb (1403)
 - Pinchbeck PS Refurb (1405)
 - Mobile Pumps (1411)
 - Level Controllers (1412)
 - Damford PS Refurb (1413)
 - The below schemes are now complete:
 - Donington Northorpe Culvert Repair (1406)- this has been complete, it is showing as an underspend due to the time required for office-based staff complete the scheme.

- Donington North Ings Access Track (1407)- works are now complete.
 - Bank Slips (1409)- underspend showing but this is due to soil being used from Gosberton PS that now needs replacing at our cost.
 - Damford Embankment project- the costs and budget here have just been moved from 1196 as it is now being funded by the IDB Recovery Fund.
 - Embankments x3 project- the costs and budget here have just been moved from 1192, 1194 and 1196 as it is now being funded by the IDB Recovery Fund.
 - The small overspends on the IDB Fund- Gosberton and IDB Fund- Dunsby AWC schemes are due to us not being granted the money from the IDB Recovery Fund for these schemes- the costs relate to work that the Grants Manager had done in relation to applying for the scheme.
- Pumping Station Maintenance
 - We have used the remaining balance from the budget to boost P04 - P12 to allow for additional electricity costs or other unexpected costs.
 - Drain Maintenance
 - Summer Cutting- Rephased to new expected expenditure timescales. Additional budget added into September and October for use of a boat to complete certain sections of work.
 - Desilting- Rephased to new expected expenditure timescales.
 - Bushing- Coding correction in August relating to the costs charged here in May.
 - Culvert Surveying- Rephased to new expected expenditure timescales.
 - Environmental
 - Environmental Schemes have been rephased to the revised expected expenditure timescales as we are still expecting to spend the full overall value.
 - Admin and Establishment
 - Admin Salary has been rephased as the overspend from P01 – P03 should just be a timing issue as there was much more budget in August than all of the other months, so they have been equalled out.
 - New Office, Administration, Miscellaneous and Equipment/ Building Maintenance have just been rephased to revised expenditure timescales.
 - Inspection has had a correction in P05 relating to costs incorrectly charged here for the Northern Works tour and meeting in May.
 - Depot has had the budget for some of the months increased as we are currently underspend but still expecting to spend the full budget between this and the Hessele Drive codes.

Summary

- This means we are forecasting to require £204,268 less from the reserves compared to the budget at the end of the financial year.
 - Some of this is due to the underspends overall on schemes and drain maintenance.
 - Other reasons for this are the additional interest and grant income we are forecasting to receive.

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 16 SEPTEMBER 2025

AGENDA ITEM 11

FUTURE MAINTENANCE OF CLIFF BECK EA MAIN RIVER

Cliff Beck Restoration Report

This report outlines the current condition of Cliff Beck and the estimated costs associated with restoring it to a serviceable state for potential future maintenance by the Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board (BSIDB). Cliff Beck is a 12.3 km main watercourse managed by the Environment Agency (EA), with a catchment area of 30.64 km². It receives water from BSIDB-maintained drains serving Quarrington, Silk Willoughby, and the Hadley Chase housing development.

In 2018, the EA invited BSIDB to assume responsibility for several watercourses under the Rationalizing the Main River Network (RMRN) initiative, and in 2021 including Cliff Beck. Following a site survey, BSIDB estimated that restoration would cost approximately £30,000. The EA declined to provide funding, citing Cliff Beck as a low consequence watercourse. Nevertheless, limited EA funding was later made available for vegetation clearance under our PSCA contract at a cost of £2702 that is one flail and once with the cutting basket that had become less effective due to poor condition and trees in the center of the drain. In 2023, the EA formally instructed BSIDB to cease all maintenance activities on Cliff Beck the cost of which would have been £2972. which has left the drain in a very poor condition

Later that year, Storm Babet caused Cliff Beck to overtop, resulting in widespread flooding across more than 250 acres of farmland near Whitecross Lane, Burton Gorse, and surrounding areas. The flooding disrupted agricultural operations, damaged crops, and rendered large areas of land temporarily unusable. Several landowners reported significant financial losses due to waterlogging and potential delayed harvests. The incident also led to a surge in complaints from ratepayers, many of whom expressed frustration over the perceived lack of maintenance and its role in exacerbating the flooding. Additionally, the event placed considerable strain on BSIDB's drainage infrastructure, which discharges into Cliff Beck, reducing system efficiency and increasing the risk of further flooding in adjacent areas.

A recent reassessment revealed significant deterioration of the watercourse, including bank slips, culvert failures, excessive vegetation growth, and erosion requiring bank reprofiling. The estimated costs for restoration are outlined below:

Work Description	Estimated Cost
Vegetation clearance (bushing)	£57,000
Culvert repairs/replacement	£125,000
Bank repairs and reprofiling	£395,000
Total Estimated Cost	£577,000

These figures are conservative and may increase once works commence due to unforeseen conditions.

Other Internal Drainage Boards have opted to maintain low consequence watercourses at their own expense. BSIDB must now consider whether to adopt a similar approach to mitigate future flood risks, safeguard its infrastructure, and maintain public confidence.

Flooding following storm Babet



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

Year	Scheme	Total	Grant / Local Levy	Other Contributions	Possible Board Contribution	Board Funded Schemes
2025/26	B/F Allan House PS Scheme	£539,304	£539,304			
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Bank Slips	£113,109		£113,109		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Ewerby PS Refurbishment	£107,520		£107,520		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - South Kyme PS Refurbishment	£38,430		£38,430		
	B/F Black Sluice Catchment Modelling Study	£76,099	£76,099			
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Mobile Pumps	£4,562		£4,562		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Helpringham PS Refurbishment	£47,613		£47,613		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Pinchbeck PS Refurbishment	£74,020		£74,020		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Donington North Ings Access Track	£41,314		£41,314		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Donington Northorpe Culvert Repair	£66,925		£66,925		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Dunsby Fen PS Refurbishment	£96,471		£96,471		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Damford PS Refurbishment	£26,367		£26,367		
	B/F Trinity College PS Bank Repair Specification	£12,803	£12,803			
	B/F Damford PS Bank Repair Specification	£15,875	£15,875			
	B/F South Kyme PS Bank Repair Specification	£14,996	£14,996			
	B/F Ewerby Fen PS Bank Repair Specification	£4,838	£4,838			
	B/F Sempringham PS Refurbishment	£32,562	£32,562			
	B/F Wyberton Marsh Transformer	£84,551	£84,551			
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Level Controllers	£8,697		£8,697		
	SFFD Desilting Guthrum to Blackhole Drove PS	£105,000				£105,000
	Black Hole Drove p/s under pump inspections	£35,000				£35,000
	Bicker Fen PS replace MCC					
	Kirton Marsh PS replace MCC	£80,000				£80,000
	Kirton Marsh PS replace syphon valve	£5,000				£5,000
	Horbling Fen PS 1 x pump motor refurbishment	£4,000				£4,000
	Holland Fen PS 1 x Motor refurbishment	£6,000				£6,000
	Great Hale Fen PS 1 x Motor Refurbishment	£5,000				£5,000
	Cooks Lock PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£95,000				£95,000
	Great Hale Fen PS replace MCC	£85,000				£85,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£40,000				£40,000
	NFF Desilting	£20,000				£20,000
	IDB Recovery Fund - Head Dyke bank repairs(South Kyme PS) works	£451,100			£451,100	
	IDB Recovery Fund - Hodge Dyke bank repairs(Ewerby Fen PS) works	£480,300			£480,300	
	IDB Recovery Fund - Trinity College Bank Repair Works	£623,600			£623,600	
	IDB Recovery Fund - Damford PS Bank Repair Works	£105,346			£105,346	
	Black Hole Drove PS - Structural Repairs	£50,000	£50,000			
	Chain Bridge PS - Structural Repairs	£1,500,000	£1,500,000			
	Cooks Lock PS - Structural Repairs	£50,000	£50,000			
	Donington NI PS - Structural Repairs	£450,000	£450,000			
	Swineshead PS - Structural Repairs	£1,000,000	£1,000,000			
Great Hale PS - Structural Repairs	£1,290,000	£1,290,000				
Holland Fen PS - Structural Repairs	£970,000	£970,000				
Horbling Fen PS - Structural Repairs	£50,000	£50,000				
Wyberton Marsh PS - Structural Repairs	£970,000	£970,000				
To be allocated	£20,000				£20,000	
General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000	
	£9,901,402	£7,111,028	£2,285,374		£505,000	
2026/27	Claydyke desilting	£130,000				£130,000
	NFF Desilting	£60,000				£60,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£50,000				£50,000
	Horbling Fen PS new roof	£18,500				£18,500
	Gosberton Fen PS Refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£78,750				£78,750
	Dowsby Fen PS replace MCC	£60,000				£60,000
	South Kyme Fen PS refurbish w/s cleaner & controls	£90,000				£90,000
	Swaton Fen PS replace MCC	£48,000				£48,000
	Rippingale Fen PS replace MCC	£48,000				£48,000
	Donington North Ings PS new transformer	£55,000	£55,000			
	Cooks Lock PS new transformer	£55,000	£55,000			
	Holland Fen PS under pump inspections	£28,000				£28,000
	Donington NI PS - Structural Repairs	£450,000	£450,000			
	Graft Drain	£45,000				£45,000
	Depot storage and concrete hardstanding	£100,000				£100,000
	To be allocated	£175,000				£175,000
General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000	
	£1,496,250	£560,000			£936,250	
2027/28	Graft Drain	£95,000				£95,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£75,000				£75,000
	Holland Fen PS replace MCC	£90,000				£90,000
	New Hammond Beck Desilting	£75,000				£75,000
	Dowsby Fen Catchment Works	£350,000	£162,686	£137,314	£50,000	
	Kiron Marsh PS new roof	£23,000				£23,000
	Bicker Fen refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£33,000				£33,000
	Bicker Fen PS replace weedscreen cleaner	£155,000				£155,000
	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS new transformer	£60,000	£60,000			
	Holland Fen PS new transformer	£75,000	£75,000			
Donington Northings PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£85,000				£85,000	
Ewerby Fen PS refurbish 2 x axial flow pumps	£58,000				£58,000	

	To be allocated	£175,000				£175,000
	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000
		£1,354,000	£297,686	£137,314	£50,000	£869,000
2028/29	Old Hammond Beck Desilting	£80,000				£80,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£80,000				£80,000
	Twenty PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£35,000				£35,000
	Bourne Fen 28/10 Revetment	£30,000				£30,000
	Helpingham PS new roof	£20,000				£20,000
	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS under pump inspection	£25,000				£25,000
	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£90,000				£90,000
	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS replace MCC	£72,000				£72,000
	Dowsby Fen PS refurbish 2 x axial flow pumps	£58,000				£58,000
	Swaton Fen PS replace weedscreen cleaner	£160,000				£160,000
	To be allocated	£175,000				£175,000
	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000
		£830,000				£830,000

2029/30	Jetting to major pipelines	£80,000			£80,000
	Great Hale Fen PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£95,000			£95,000
	Cooks lock PS pump drain desilting under pump inspection	£56,000			£56,000
	Quadring Fen PS replace MCC	£40,000			£40,000
	Mallard Hurn PS under pump inspections	£32,000			£32,000
	Damford Grounds PS under pump inspections	£32,000			£32,000
	Helpringham Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000			£32,000
	Swaton Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000			£32,000
	Billingborough Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000			£32,000
	Pinchbeck Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000			£32,000
	Haconby Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£30,000			£30,000
	Gosberton Fen PS replace MCC	£80,000			£80,000
	Quadring Fen pump drain desilting/under pump inspection	£48,000			£48,000
	To be allocated	£179,000			£179,000
General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000			£5,000	
	£805,000			£805,000	
2030/31	Damford PS pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£50,000			£50,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£60,000			£60,000
	Horbling Fen PS replace MCC	£45,000			£45,000
	Mallard Hurn PS replace MCC	£45,000			£45,000
	Mallard Hurn PS under pump inspections	£10,000			£10,000
	Trinity College PS refurbish 2 x axial flow pumps	£63,000			£63,000
	Ewerby Fen PS under pump inspections	£34,000			£34,000
	South Kyme Fen PS under pump inspections	£34,000			£34,000
	Sempringham Fen PS under pump inspections	£34,000			£34,000
	Black Hole Drove PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£100,000			£100,000
	Great Hale Fen PS replace MCC	£90,000			£90,000
	Kirton Marsh PS replace MCC	£50,000			£50,000
	To be allocated	£40,000			£40,000
General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000			£5,000	
	£660,000			£660,000	
2031/32	Jetting to major pipelines	£90,000			£90,000
	Heckington Fen pump drain desilting under pump inspections	£50,000			£50,000
	Billingborough Fen p/s replace MCC	£50,000			£50,000
	Dowsby Lode PS replace MCC	£50,000			£50,000
	Pinchbeck Fen PS replace MCC	£50,000			£50,000
	Cooks Lock PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£105,000			£105,000
	Swaton Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£35,000			£35,000
	Twenty PS replace MCC	£55,000			£55,000
	Dowsby Fen PS drain desilting under pump inspections	£49,000			£49,000
	Dowsby Lode PS under pump inspections	£36,000			£36,000
	Dunsby Fen PS under pump inspections	£36,000			£36,000
	To be allocated	£75,720			£75,720
General culvert replacement contributions	£6,000			£6,000	
	£687,720			£687,720	
2032/33	Jetting to major pipelines	£70,000			£70,000
	Rippingale p/s refurb 1 x axial flow pump	£37,000			£37,000
	Gosberton Fen pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£56,000			£56,000
	Donington Northings PS desilting under pump inspections	£56,000			£56,000
	Great Hale Fen PS desilting under pump inspections	£56,000			£56,000
	Trinity College PS desilting under pump inspections	£56,000			£56,000
	Holland Fen PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps & motors	£118,000			£118,000
	Helpringham Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£38,000			£38,000
	To be allocated	£222,604			£222,604
	General culvert replacement contributions	£7,000			£7,000
	£716,604			£716,604	
2033/34	Great Hale Fen PS desilting/under pump inspections	£55,000			£55,000
	Trinity College PS desilting/under pump inspections	£40,000			£40,000
	Horbling Fen PS desilting/under pump inspections	£35,000			£35,000
	Bicker Fen PS desilting/under pump inspections	£40,000			£40,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£70,000			£70,000
	Kirton Marsh PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£110,000			£110,000
	Swaton Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£45,000			£45,000
	Sempringham Fen PS refurb pump & motor	£45,000			£45,000
	Horbling Fen PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£90,000			£90,000
	NFF desilting	£60,000			£60,000
To be allocated	£149,702			£149,702	
General culvert replacement contributions	£7,000			£7,000	
	£746,702			£746,702	
2034/35	Kirton Marsh PS desilting & under pump inspections	£90,000			£90,000
	Rippingale Fen PS desilting & under pump inspections	£90,000			£90,000
	Haconby Fen PS desilting & under pump inspections	£90,000			£90,000
	NFF desilting	£100,000			£100,000
	Dowsby Lode PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£75,000			£75,000
	Blackhole Drove PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£110,000			£110,000
	Horbling Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£75,000			£75,000
	To be allocated	£141,063			£141,063
General culvert replacement contributions	£7,000			£7,000	
	£778,063			£778,063	

PLANT REPLACEMENT BUDGETS 2025/26

Existing Plant/Equipment	Year Purchased	Purchase Price	Hours / Miles	Age to Replace	Replace Year	New Plant	Replace Cost	Est Trade in Target	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2034/35
Hobby	2023/24	£290,195	1,501 Hours	8	2031/32	???	£ 428,750	£ 107,188	£ 189,573	£ 2,711	£ 234,570	£ 111,045	£ 152,989	£ 270,572	£ 429,176	£ 163,173	£ 337,174	£ 143,905	£ 533,288
Twiga SFV2 (2019)	2019/20	£197,150	4,705 Hours	8	2027/28	Twiga/Herder/Hobby?	£ 291,280	£ 72,820	£ -	£ -	£ 216,460	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 321,563	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Twiga SFV2 (2017)	2017/18	£205,811	6,694 Hours	8	2025/26	Twiga/Herder/Hobby?	£ 266,100	£ 70,000	£ 186,100	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 274,954	£ -	£ 322,765
Aebi T211	2023/24	£79,875	1,197 Hours	8	2031/32	Aebi & Rear Flail	£ 229,597	£ 51,021	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 178,575	£ -	£ 88,509	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Linings	2020/21	£148,000	152,044 Km	9	2029/30	New unimog	£ 118,012	£ 29,503	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Hitachi ZX210LC-5B	2016/17	£133,845	8,988 Hours	9	2025/26	20T Excavator	£ 198,850	£ 38,000	£ 158,850	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 234,694	£ -	£ -
JCB 304 Telescopiic LR	2019/20	£105,350	7,429 Hours	8	2027/28	13T Excavator	£ 155,650	£ 38,912	£ -	£ -	£ 116,737	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 172,474
JCB 145 Standard & LR	2019/20	£129,850	6,798 Hours	9	2028/29	13T Excavator	£ 201,440	£ 44,784	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 156,676	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
JCB 140 Telescopiic LR	2022/23	£137,500	2,150 Hours	8	2030/31	14T Excavator	£ 203,150	£ 50,788	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 152,363	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
JCB 150X Excavator	2022/23	£139,605	3,547 Hours	9	2031/32	16T Excavator	£ 216,573	£ 48,127	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 188,446	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
JCB 531 Teleporter	2012/13	£43,470	45,287 Hours	12	2027/28	?	£ 78,066	£ 13,011	£ -	£ -	£ 65,055	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 116,829
Toyota Hilux (Pump Engineer)	2023/24	£27,985	24,170 Miles	4	2028/29	Pick-Up	£ 34,016	£ 11,339	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 22,677	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Toyota Hilux (Works Super/son)	2023/24	£28,168	37,495 Miles	4	2028/29	Pick-Up	£ 34,238	£ 11,413	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 22,826	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Toyota Hilux (Works Manager)	2023/24	£28,143	15,536 Miles	4	2028/29	Pick-Up	£ 35,423	£ 11,808	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 23,616	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Toyota Hilux (Pump Maintenance)	2023/24	£28,168	12,543 Miles	4	2028/29	Pick-Up	£ 34,238	£ 11,413	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 22,826	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Mitsubishi (Pool Vehicle)	2019/20	£20,431	63,125 Miles	?	?	?	?	?	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Mitsubishi (Fitter)	2019/20	£20,000	59,806 Miles	6	2026/27	Pick-Up	£ 28,768	£ 4,795	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Ford Transit Tipper	2022/23	£30,271	33,240 Miles	7	2031/32	Tipper	£ 29,000	£ 5,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 24,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Dump Trailer 1	2006	£13,832		18	2024/25	Dump Trailer	£ 37,500	£ 1,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Low Loader Trailer	2020/21	£27,000		15	2036/37	Low Loader	£ 56,131	£ 7,484	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Tippling Trailer	2022/23	£6,895		25	2047/48		£ 23,349	£ 1,868	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
4m ³ Trailer	2022/23	£4,500		25	2047/48		£ 15,239	£ 1,219	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
100mm Self priming Pump	2015/16			16	2039/40		£ 22,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Vibrating piling Hammer				20	2035/36				£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Steel/Timber Pile Hammer									£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
150mm Portable Pump	2006	£15,050		16	2039/40		£ 23,100	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Compressor	2008	£4,950					£ 30,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Ride on Lawnmower	2016/17			8	2025/26		£ 41,862	£ 5,000	£ 36,862	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Fuel Tanks x 2	2024/25								£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
8" Mobile Pump	2021/22	£52,566		20	2047/42		£ 139,473	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Nifty Lift	2007/08	£18,500				Tracked aerial platform	£ 56,000	£ 5,000	£ 51,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Welfare Unit	2024/2025	£21,500				CMC S15F	£ 22,249	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Weshaskets							£ 5,500	£ 500	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Net/Spand from Plant Reserve Generated									£ 7,718	£ 234,570	£ 111,045	£ 162,989	£ 270,572	£ 429,176	£ 163,173	£ 337,174	£ 143,905	£ 533,288	£ 1,116,829
Balance/G/F									£ 2,711	£ 234,570	£ 111,045	£ 162,989	£ 270,572	£ 429,176	£ 163,173	£ 337,174	£ 143,905	£ 533,288	£ 1,116,829
									£ 437,862	£ 31,661	£ 400,253	£ 248,620	£ 187,509	£ 151,743	£ 612,367	£ 169,161	£ 564,110	£ 1,059,059	£ 2,059,059
									£ 251,000	£ 263,550	£ 276,728	£ 290,564	£ 305,092	£ 320,347	£ 338,354	£ 353,482	£ 370,841	£ 389,383	£ 408,653
									£ 2,711	£ 234,570	£ 111,045	£ 162,989	£ 270,572	£ 429,176	£ 163,173	£ 337,174	£ 143,905	£ 533,288	£ 1,116,829

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 04 JUNE 2025

AGENDA ITEM 11(b)

Replacement Plant

Ride on lawnmower

The existing Kubota 3090 ride on lawnmower purchased by the Board in 2016/17 was due to be replaced after 8 years. It was kept and due to some operational problems this year, which prior to this it had not required any additional maintenance costs or downtime.

Option 1 – Evo-74 zero turn commercial electric 48V 35kWh Lithium Ion battery ride on lawn mower - £41,862.00 price shown includes a 10% discount if ordered prior to 30/09/2025

Quotation received 03/09/2025

The machine above and as shown in the photo below is the second generation of a fully electric ride on lawnmower sold by a Lincoln based company Overton (UK) Ltd. It can run for up to 8 hours on a single charge and charged via a 220V charger and is equivalent to a 37hp diesel engine powered machine.



It weighs 840kg which is slightly lighter than the existing Kubota 3090 machine.

We did look at this machine about 18 months ago and was very impressed with its capability and capacity to do the work required, as battery life was the initial concern.

It has a 5 year battery warranty.

This machine is the only one that would provide the Board with reduced emissions and a lower carbon footprint whilst completing grass cutting maintenance.

Option 2 – New John Deere 1580 72RD TERRAINCUT - £31,191.00

Quotation received 03/09/2025

This quotation above and shown in the photo below received from Ben Burgess. 1580 Terraincut commercial front mower, three cylinder, liquid cooled diesel engine, hydrostatic transmission, four wheel drive, power steering 72" rear discharge mower deck



Option 3 – Kubota F391 Out Front ride on mower ROPS - £31,795.00

Quotation received 01/08/2025

The quotation above and shown in the photo below received from Ireland's Farm Machinery.

38hp Kubota Diesel Engine, 60" Rotary Mower Deck



Replacement 4 in 1 bucket attachment for Teleporter.

The existing 4 in 1 bucket attachment was bought by the Board in 2003 along with other attachments to fit the Manitou machine.

The original Cherry Products bucket is now very worn and the steel on the bucket blade thin and out of shape.

A replacement Cherry products bucket is £5,550.00

A similar White Materials handling bucket is £4,350

I would recommend a like for like replacement based upon the 22 years service the existing bucket has given.

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD 2026/27 Budget and 10 Year Estimates

Executive Committee

July 2025 Inflation figure = 4.20%

Income	Budget / Estimates																
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Q1 Forecast	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36
Rates and Levies	2,143,773	2,204,498	2,325,594	2,982,916	3,216,348	3,398,676	3,398,676	3,540,938	3,690,140	3,844,546	4,005,892	4,174,178	4,349,403	4,531,568	4,722,407	4,920,186	5,126,640
Interest & Investment Income	16,247	11,833	17,357	54,680	73,581	60,000	76,908	80,138	83,504	87,011	90,666	94,474	98,441	102,576	106,884	111,373	116,051
Grants/Local Levy	316,986	293,500	70,000	564,016	4,660,148	8,242,637	8,310,346	560,000	435,000								
Contribution Development Fund	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Other Income	368,040	822,534	683,313	420,299	270,537	400,000	367,586	383,025	399,112	415,874	433,341	451,541	470,506	490,267	510,859	532,315	554,672
Rechargeable Income	17,121	16,466	21,411	23,050	19,654	24,416	25,350	26,415	27,524	28,680	29,885	31,140	32,448	33,811	35,231	36,710	38,252
Solar Panel Income	2,925,693	3,391,055	3,308,603	4,086,797	8,287,734	12,155,130	12,207,778	4,620,432	4,666,242	4,408,165	4,592,973	4,785,706	4,986,405	5,195,114	5,413,613	5,640,212	5,876,697

Expenditure	Budget / Estimates																
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Q1 Forecast	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2035/36
Board Funded Schemes	302,926	122,298	200,011	278,338	36,006	505,000	510,882	936,250	869,000	830,000	805,000	660,000	687,720	716,604	746,702	778,063	810,742
FDGiA/Local Levy Funded Schemes	141,222	475,024	68,073	476,009	642,050	7,111,028	7,140,052	560,000	435,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IDB Recovery Fund Schemes					2,924,653	2,285,374	2,199,788										
Pumping Station Maintenance	277,891	230,367	197,746	285,396	159,380	264,433	263,005	274,051	285,561	297,555	310,052	323,074	336,644	350,783	365,515	380,867	396,864
Pumping Station Electricity Standing	242,779	84,558	188,138	573,829	-144,713	353,569	353,569	368,419	383,892	400,016	416,817	434,323	452,565	471,572	491,378	512,016	533,521
Pumping Station Electricity Usage	53,832	66,924	68,031	95,892	99,616	107,985	107,985	112,520	117,246	122,171	127,302	132,648	138,220	144,025	150,074	156,377	162,945
Insurance	823,466	763,367	808,893	850,043	726,106	1,043,543	1,002,486	1,044,590	1,088,463	1,134,179	1,181,814	1,231,450	1,283,171	1,337,064	1,393,221	1,451,736	1,512,709
Drain Maintenance	15,873	19,578	17,808	15,041	39,069	49,069	49,067	51,128	53,275	55,513	57,844	60,274	62,805	65,443	68,192	71,056	74,040
Environmental Works	559,536	578,579	621,767	702,219	729,624	807,238	807,403	841,314	876,649	913,468	951,834	991,811	1,033,467	1,076,873	1,122,101	1,169,230	1,218,337
Administration & Establishment	276,552	276,552	276,552	276,552	276,552	276,552	276,552	288,167	300,270	312,882	326,023	339,716	353,984	368,851	384,343	400,485	417,305
EA Precept	315,597	743,006	621,532	382,186	251,857	372,093	313,468	356,302	371,267	386,860	403,108	420,038	437,680	456,063	475,217	495,176	515,974
Rechargeable Expenditure	2,327	3,414	866	543	3,767	3,400	3,403	3,546	3,695	3,850	4,012	4,180	4,356	4,539	4,729	4,928	5,135
Solar Panel Expenditure	3,012,001	3,363,667	3,138,371	4,096,811	5,896,148	13,331,465	13,179,841	4,994,860	4,949,552	4,628,665	4,763,209	4,784,454	4,985,401	5,194,788	5,412,969	5,640,314	5,877,207
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,220,944	1,234,636	1,262,024	1,432,256	1,422,242	3,813,828	3,813,828	2,841,765	2,467,336	2,184,026	1,963,526	1,793,290	1,794,542	1,795,546	1,795,873	1,796,517	1,796,415
OPENING BALANCE	100,000																
Introduced from Plant Reserve	(86,308)	27,388	170,232	(10,014)	2,391,586	(1,176,335)	(972,063)	(374,429)	(283,310)	(220,500)	(170,236)	1,252	1,004	327	644	(101)	(510)
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) IN YEAR	1,234,636	1,262,024	1,432,256	1,422,242	3,813,828	2,637,493	2,841,765	2,467,336	2,184,026	1,963,526	1,793,290	1,794,542	1,795,546	1,795,873	1,796,415	1,796,415	1,795,906
CLOSING BALANCE	45.81%	43.69%	46.68%	40.26%	72.59%	51.83%	47.05%	55.64%	48.38%	42.42%	37.65%	37.51%	36.02%	34.57%	33.19%	31.85%	30.56%
Reserve % of Expenditure (Excl Grants)	12.84	13.16	13.71	17.53	18.84	19.59	19.59	20.41	21.27	22.16	23.09	24.06	25.07	26.12	27.22	28.36	29.55
RATE	1.90%	2.49%	4.18%	27.86%	7.47%	3.98%	3.98%	4.19%	4.21%	4.18%	4.20%	4.20%	4.20%	4.19%	4.21%	4.19%	4.20%
Increase in Rates																	

BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 16 SEPTEMBER 2025
AGENDA ITEM 13

Enforcement actions since last board meeting June 2025

Dances Bank, Swineshead – BT Openreach installed concrete hub on dyke top. Informed & advised to move as B.S machinery will potentially cause damage. REF: AF-TPD-2760371654

Anglian Water site, Little Hale Rd, Gt Hale – reported site overgrown, cones/barriers strewn on roadside and brambles growing into B.S maintained drain. Job now out to clear REF: 27765162

LCC, A16 Kirton – site visit with Highways who are now aware it is their responsibility to look at either getting access for B.S to flail from the rear of the properties or, look at traffic management should we have to flail from the road. They are also aware of larger tree's now growing out from the dyke causing potential issues with flow of water.

Fore Lane, Bicker – resident filled in dyke without permission. Site visit & checked all paperwork and photos to confirm resident has piped this piece of dyke rather than simply filling in.

North Forty Foot Bank – report of trees planted within 9M of dyke top – letter sent advising B.S are aware with advice in future to ask for permission and be aware that in the event of future issues, B.S may have to gain access from their side potentially posing a risk of damage to said trees.

North Forty Foot Bank – riparian owner allowed vegetation to grow over drain, following a letter from B.S he has now cleared this.

Cowleys Road, Donnington – resident report of dyke damage/collapse. Site visit & advised resident being monitored but no cutting of dykes due to nest season and also building site on opposite side not yet finished.

Maryland Bank – site visit & chat with resident re laurel tree's planted within 9M strip of dyke top – is aware to keep them cut short at all times as potentially, B.S could damage them when flailing.

Highfield Rd, Donnington – discussion with resident to remove steps in dyke bank and wooden plank as a riparian owner – not at home so ongoing.

B&M Stores, Boston – site visit & discussion with H&S Officer re rubbish blowing into drain. They are currently seeking permission from landlord to install a metal framed enclosure to store deliveries & stop issue of litter blowing into dyke & drain.

Donington Skate Park – email sent to Flinders Foundation requesting they cut back vegetation and clear drain of dumped rubbish as per their riparian duties.

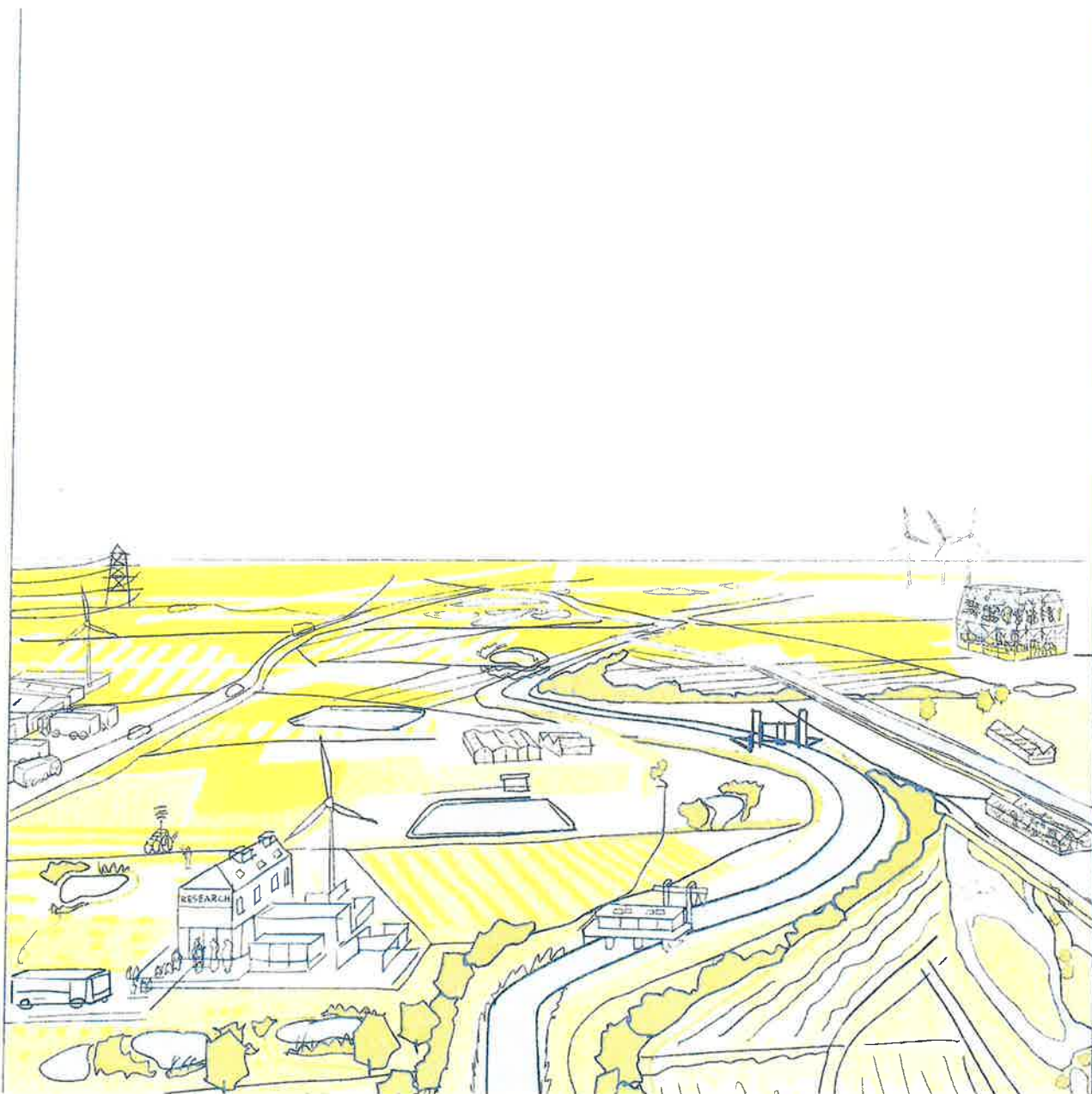
Summerson Close, Donington – trailer full of rubbish blocking access to drain for cutting – TM visited site and located owner and asked he remove. A visit booked in calendar to check this has been done.

Black Sluice IDB

2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE		
Jan	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Feb	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Mar	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Apr	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
May	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Jun	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Jul	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Aug	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Sep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Oct	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Nov	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
Dec	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec



**Fens
2100+**



Fens 2100+

Summer 2025 Newsletter

Fens 2100+ Summer Newsletter

Welcome to the Summer edition of the Fens 2100+ programme newsletter!

This summer has been busy for the Fens 2100+ team as we continue to work towards publishing our first set of key deliverables in the Autumn. We have also been out and about visiting stakeholders, to gain insights and help underpin the work we are doing.

Project Update

Baseline reports

The final draft of the catchment baseline reports is due mid-July. Once issued there will be a review process undertaken with EA colleagues, IDBs and key stakeholders to ensure they are an accurate reflection of the current system and meet the objectives of Fens 2100+. Following the review process there will be a final period of refinement alongside the development of a system wide report, capturing the key elements from each catchment.

Case for Change

The team continue to develop the Case for Change alongside our partners with the completed first draft due in July. Building upon the evidence highlighted by the Baseline Reports the Case for Change explores the current and potential value of the Fens, sets out our case for continued and enhanced investment in the area and considers how we shift to a system wide approach to asset management. To support this a 10-step action plan has been developed which will be implemented by the Partnership over the next 2 years to ensure we set ourselves up for success.

Flood Resilience Strategy

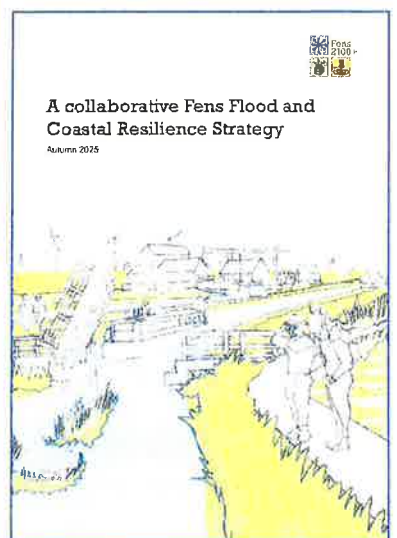
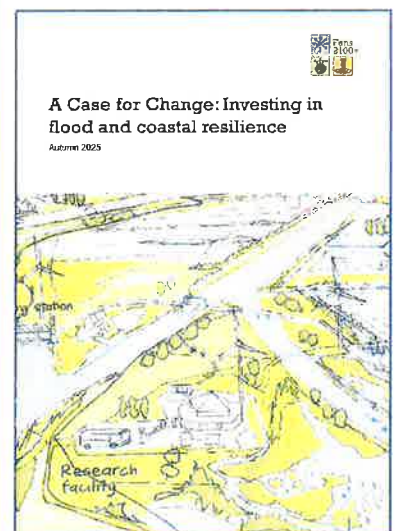
The work we have done to date has further highlighted the need for continued investment in our existing, ageing asset base to ensure we manage the inherited system that we currently have. In the autumn we will publish our approach to how we will develop a Flood and Coastal resilient Strategy which will be finalised in 2027. The strategy will include a costed 10-year pipeline of investment priorities with a focus on 'no regret' decisions as well as identifying potential transformational shifts. In addition, it will define a 'target end state' for the system at the end of 5, 10, 15 & 20 years to allow us to monitor success.

Contact and further information

Via our email address: Fens2100@environment-agency.gov.uk

Visit our information:

<https://engageenvironmentagency.uk.engagementhq.com/fens2100>



The Denver Complex

The Denver Complex video is part of a wider visualisation tool that will be launched in August, which is being developed to 'bring to life' the Great Ouse Baseline Report (2020) to facilitate engagement across the region.

The visualisation of Denver Complex was a 'proof of concept' to understand how we can adopt different approaches to engagement and education. The video was created using a combination of drone footage, 3D models, historical photos and a voiceover script to explain how the system works and contributes to the flood risk management of the Fens.

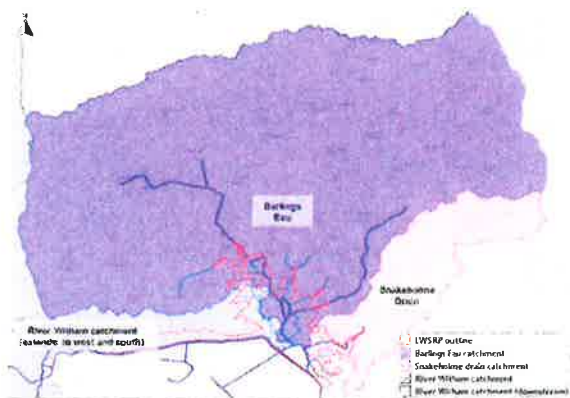
Please do share the video widely with your contacts to educate others on the importance of the Denver Complex, and we look forward to being able to share the Fens 2100 Great Ouse Baseline Visualisation interactive tool with you in the next few months.

Watch the video now!

<https://youtu.be/Vk1Kir8rJqw>



Lower Witham Sustainable Recovery pilot project



The Lower Witham Sustainable Recovery Pilot project is a Fens 2100+ pilot project focused on the Fiskerton and Barlings Eau area. After being impacted by flooding in 2019 and again during winter 2023/2024 farmers and landowners in this area approached the Environment Agency to explore different approaches to flood recovery. The aim of this is to work with partners and stakeholders to explore whether there is another way to manage flood risk and recover sustainably from flooding.

A 'Partnership Group' was established, that includes Witham Third Internal Drainage Board, Lincolnshire County Council, National Farmers Union and Natural England alongside a 'Stakeholder Group' that includes local landowners and land managers. A 'Terms of Reference' and 'Contingency Plan' have so far been created to help define the project goals and what will happen while the project is developing, should flooding happen again.

Recent meetings between the project team, farmers and landowners have helped to deepen the team's understanding of past flooding impacts, local priorities, and how the proposed measures could work within the landscape. Using these insights, Arup have been assessing a short list of potential measures against specific criteria. Their analysis aims to help us understand which measures are technically viable, how they could be implemented as part of a master plan, and whether they meet the partner & stakeholder objectives. A draft report has been shared with project partners for feedback before sharing this further with stakeholders for discussion.

Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust – Bourne Fen

We visited Bourne North Fen in June to learn more about Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust plans to restore over 50 hectares (128 acres) of former farmland into a wet fenland. Creating a healthy wetland will support a rich diversity of wildlife including rare species that once flourished in the Fens such as bittern, common crane, bearded tit, greater water parsnip, European eel and spined loach. The site will link up with Willow Tree Fen, the first place where cranes have nested in Lincolnshire for 400 years.



Bourne North Fen will help regulate water supply during shortages and absorb floodwaters in times of spate. A new system of reedbeds will improve the quality of the Bourne Eau river before it enters the River Glen and increasing amounts of carbon will be captured by the wetland soils and plant life.

The Wildlife Trust is leading the project as part of the South Lincolnshire Water Partnership (SLWP), which represents environment, public water supply, flood risk management, agriculture, business, tourism and leisure sectors.

Sainsburys & G's Farm

On 8th May the Fens 2100+ team visited G's farm in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk to better understand the operation and the value that the farm generates at a local and national level.

Through G's and Sainsburys existing partnership, a case study was developed for Fens 2100+ to help demonstrate the value and importance of the agricultural sector within the Fens landscape.

The findings from this case study will be included within the Case for Change.



"Between 2021 and 2024, Sainsbury's sourced 1.3 million tonnes of fresh produce from farms located in the Fens with an estimated value of £225m."

Fens 2100+ Stakeholder Forum and internal Environment Agency webinar

To support our proposed shift towards a system wide approach Fens 2100+ organised a cross catchment internal Environment Agency Webinar on 17th June to engage with colleagues and highlight the work the project is undertaking. Following this a series of roadshows were undertaken across local offices.

In addition to the internal webinar, the Fens team held our second stakeholder forum with stakeholders across the Fens who have a vested interest in the continued investment in the region. The aim of the forum was to gain feedback from stakeholders whilst also sharing our current progress and aims for the future of the Fens 2100+ programme.

RSPB Ouse Washes

In June we met with the RSPB at their Ouse Washes reserve site to learn more about the history of the reserve and how they currently manage it.

We heard about the species that are present on the site including Hooper Swans, Spoonbills and Bitterns. We also discussed the role of the Ouse Washes as both a flood storage reservoir and an important Environmental habitat and explored our different roles and responsibilities.

We learnt about the new Ouse Washes Landscape recovery project, an ambitious 20-year partnership project to deliver habitat creation across the Fens. DEFRA funding is currently supporting a two-year development phase under the Landscape Recovery Pilot. Over the next two years private landowners and Environmental NGO's (non-governmental organisations) including the RSPB are working in partnership to secure income for delivering nature-friendly land management across the Fens.



Flood and Coast 2025

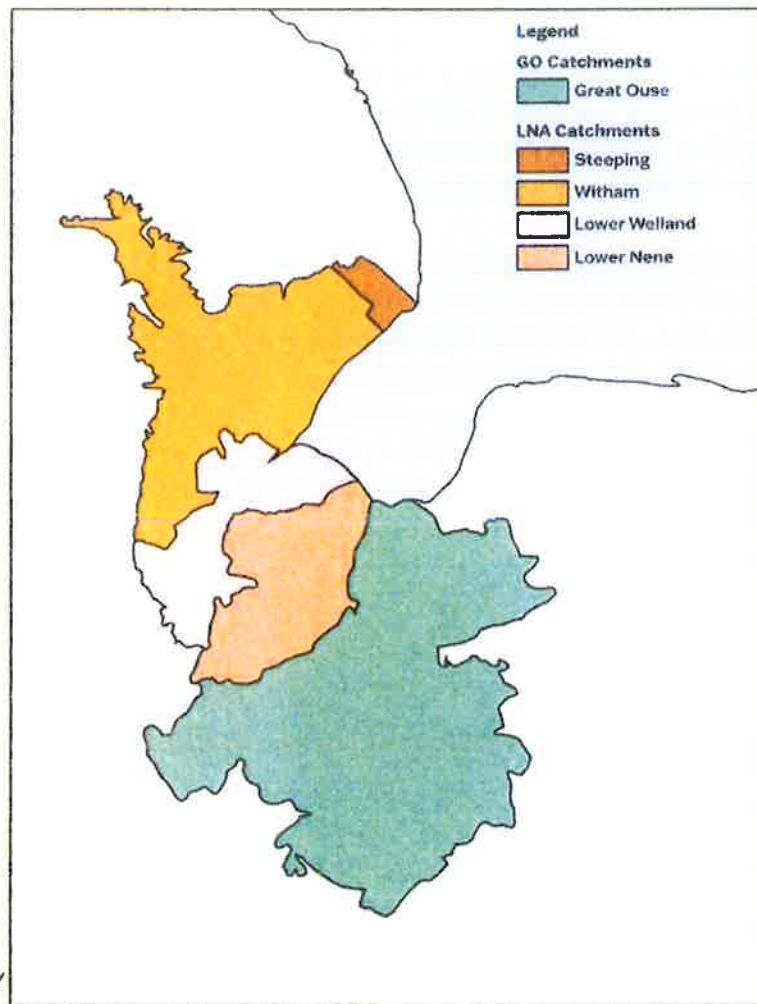
Fens 2100+ was in full force at Flood and Coast 2025!

The team had a busy few days! First Katie Teesdale-Ward (Anglian Water/FFIA) and Katie Jenkins (UEA/Tyndall Centre) presented the Fens Climate Change risk assessment. This was followed by a Fens 2100+ workshop where we undertook a lively debate on the opportunities and challenges that may arise if we were to consider moving the tidal limit on the Nene. Finally, Jennifer Laight (Arup) provided a fantastic overview of the work that Arup have developed on behalf of Fens 2100+ and the lessons learnt so far.



As a team we had 100's of conversations over the three days. We used this opportunity to raise awareness of our work and also learn from others.





**Fens
2100+**



Contact and further information

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