

## **Association of Drainage Authorities - Lincolnshire Branch**

Minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** held at The Boston & County Club, Park Gate, Boston Lincolnshire on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

### ***PRESENT:***

Branch Chairman	Mr R A Fletcher – Member, Witham First District IDB
Branch Secretary	Mr P Bateson – Chief Executive, Witham Fourth District IDB
Black Sluice IDB	Mr K Casswell – Chairman and ADA Director Mr P Holmes – Vice-Chairman Mr P Bedford – Member (also Witham Fourth DIBD) Mr M Brookes – Member Mr J Fowler - Member Mr I Warsap - Chief Executive Mr D Withnall – Finance Officer Nicola McGarry – Branch Grant Application Manager
Environment Agency	Mr N Robinson – Area Manager Mr P Reilly – Operations Manager Mr D Normandale – Senior Policy Advisor
Lincolnshire County Council	Mr D Hickman – Environment Commissioner Mr M Harrison – Senior Commissioning Officer
Lindsey Marsh DB	Mr G Crust – Chairman M P Pridgeon – Member Mr R Needham – Member Mr T Heys - Member Mr A McGill – Chief Executive Mr D Sisson – Assistant Chief Executive
North Level IDB	Mr W Gee – Vice Chairman Mr P Sharman – Chief Executive Mr J Stubley – Operations Manager
Witham & Humber Boards	Mr P Hoyes Mr M Shilling - Director of Operations Mr G Hird – Engineering Services Officer
South Holland IDB	Mr K Vines – Catchment Engineer
Witham Fourth District IDB	Mr P Richardson – Chairman Mr C Crunkhorn – Vice Chairman Mr R Leggott – Member (also Black Sluice IDB) Mr M Cooper - Member Mr B Bowles - Member Mr E Johnson – Chief Engineer

Welland and Deepings IDB      Mr T Purllant – Chairman  
Karen Daft – Chief Executive

**GUESTS:**

Mr Robert Caudwell	ADA Chairman
Mr Ian Thornton	Chairman, ADA Northern Branch
Mr Malcolm Harris	Chairman, ADA Trent Branch

**1.      ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN *(Peter Bateson in the Chair)***

Mr Fletcher had already indicated that he would like to retire as Branch Chairman but as a successor had not come forward ahead of the meeting, he agreed to Chair the meeting for the last time. The next meeting in October 2019 would give plenty time to find a successor and in the unlikely event that this would not happen, Keith Casswell, the ADA Branch Director agreed to act as Chairman in the interim. Mr Fletcher took the Chair and told members that he had enjoyed his role as Chairman and also working with the Branch Secretary.

**2.      ELECTION OF SECRETARY**

Mr Bateson had informed the Branch at the previous meeting that he wanted to stand down from the role of Branch Secretary after 8 years. Mr Andrew McGill had indicated that he was happy to take on the role and it was therefore *RESOLVED* that he be elected as Secretary to the Branch. The Chairman thanked the Secretary for the work he had done over the last 8 years.

**3.      APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from:

I Thomson	J Grant
P Camamile	S Eyre
D Worth	C Leyland
S Markillie	P Camamile
D Branton	M Rollinson
Mrs J Froggatt	M Robinson
M Sly	

**4.      CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chairman welcomed the guests to the meeting but did not have any announcements.

**5.      MINUTES**

The Chairman went through the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2017 and it was unanimously *RESOLVED* that they be approved and duly signed by the Chairman.

**6.      MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

## **7. ADA NATIONAL UPDATE**

Mr Caudwell began by thanking the Branch for their kind invitation and he then highlighted the following national matters:

### *ADA Good Governance Guide and Workshops*

- ADA had 204 attendees to 5 workshops
- 64 out of 112 IDBs had Board Members attend
- ADA are working on turning these into five 20 min training videos via the ADA website
- Will be undertaking minor updates to Guide later in year, some minor corrections/clarifications, also to cover appointed member/Local Authority representation.

### *Demaining pilots*

- All continuing demaining should complete by September.
- Have been slightly delayed by 'purda' for local council elections.
- EA held 2 workshops to learn lessons from the pilots.
- EA preparing report on pilots for Minister. They will be sharing a longer version with partners (incl. ADA) following feedback received from Minister.
- ADA keen to simplify process based on lessons learned and create clear guidance, seek local opportunities for future remaining as part of partnership working and strategic role of IDBs.

### *RALD Bill (presented by David Sisson)*

- Bill awaiting date for 2nd reading in House of Lords having cleared commons unamended.
- ADA supports reforms to valuation and ability to establish Rivers Authorities (e.g. the SRA in Somerset), where locally supported by existing RMAs.
- Need changes to IDB valuation where lists unavailable or new/expanded IDBs desirable.
- Defra trying to get a handle on number of IDBs seeking boundary changes, reconstitution or amalgamation.

Mr Sisson urged IDBs to respond to the recent DEFRA request for IDBs to outline their future plans as this would help to inform future policy.

Mr Caudwell asked for questions and Mr Crust asked if a revision of the Good Governance Guide would advocate the appropriateness of consortium management arrangements v contracting management arrangements. Mr Caudwell said this would be considered.

## **8. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY MATTERS**

### **8.1 Humber Strategy Review**

Dan Normandale gave a presentation on the Humber Strategy Review which covers a huge area including North Lincolnshire. With 660,000 people living in the area, half of whom are at flood risk, it is important that the review delivers. The entire area is covered by IDB districts and there are 300 miles of flood defence, but different solutions are required for different reaches.

Dan is involved in delivering the Engineering Work Stream including the long-term Capital Programme using Geo-Intelligence to help to predict and populate future maintenance and capital requirements

Martin Shilling highlighted the difficulty in managing gravity outfalls from IDB Districts with rising sea levels and asked to be included in any debate regarding their management in North East Lindsey.

## **8.2 EA Update**

Pete Reilly then gave a general update of the matters on which the EA were focussing in the next 12 months:

- A review of the work programme
- A push to move more works under PSCA's
- Tighter control over High Risk Assets
- A strategic focus on the coast
- £13.5M will be spent in the current year on capital projects
- £4.4M will be spent on Capital Maintenance

## **9.1 LINCOLNSHIRE FLOOD RISK AND WATER MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP (LFR&WMP)**

David Hickman presented on behalf of LCC and gave a potted summary of the development of the Partnership Strategy Review. He thanked partners for their input into the process and outlined the timetable for completion. He highlighted the refocussing of the Operational and Management Groups within the partnership.

## **9.2 LFR&WMP - IDB PARTNERSHIP REPRESENTATION**

The following IDB partnership representatives had agreed to stand for the next 12 months:

Strategy Group	- Sam Markillie and David Sisson/Andrew McGill
Management Group	- Jane Froggatt, Ian Warsap, Peter Bateson and Karen Daft
LRF Representative	- Guy Hird
Strategic Control Group	- Daniel Withnall
LEP Water Mngt Board	- Ian Warsap

In addition, the following Branch roles were agreed:

Branch Secretary	- Andrew McGill
Clerks' Society Chairman	- By rotation
Clerks' Society Secretary	- Paul Sharman
Branch Auditor	- Daniel Withnall
Pay & Conditions Secretary	- Daniel Withnall
Pay & Conditions Chairman	- Peter Richardson
Environment Secretary	- Jane Picking
Environment Chairman	- Paul Skinner
Events Committee Secretary	- Julian Boden
Events Committee Chairman	- Peter Richardson

All the above appointments were approved en masse by the Branch for the following 12 months.

**10. ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

There were no representatives from this committee at the AGM but the Branch were pleased to note that there was a new chairman, Paul Skinner, who is an Appointed member of Black Sluice and Witham Fourth District IDBs.

**11. LINCOLNSHIRE EVENTS COMMITTEE**

The Show Committee Chairman Peter Richardson presented a report on preparations for the stands the Branch were taking at 3 shows in 2019. The Committee were hoping to develop a new interactive game for the shows. We need to continue to improve the ADA profile around the County. The shows would continue to promote partnership working.

**12. PAY AND CONDITIONS COMMITTEE**

The Committee secretary Daniel Withnall gave an update and said that everything was working well with this committee.

**13. APPROVAL OF BRANCH ACCOUNTS**

The Branch Secretary went through the accounts with members who were pleased with the healthy balance and they were subsequently accepted and approved by the Branch.

**14. BUDGET AND SUBSCRIPTIONS**

The level of Branch Subscriptions for 2019/20 was set at the same level as the previous year.

**15. 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

It was AGREED to hold the 2020 AGM at a similar time of year and the date and venue would be confirmed in due course by the new Branch Secretary.

**15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

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