

Minutes of the Meeting of the East Harling Internal Drainage Board held on Thursday 25th September 2008 at The Pines, Connaught Road, Attleborough, Norfolk at 8.30am.

Present: **Mr D Stammers (Chairman)** **Mr R Kemp (Breckland Council)**
 Mr C D Wright (Clerk) **Mr J Cracknell**
 Mr J Salter **Mr J Askew**
 Mr J Nelstrop **Mr P Drake**
 Mr A Bingham (Engineer) **Mr A Southgate**

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr P Lee, Mr R Thornton and Mr R de Beer.

2. Minutes of the meeting of the 7th August 2008, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman. This was proposed by Mr Nelstrop and Mr Drake.

3. Matters Arising

a) *Extension of the Board*

Mr Bingham produced a Report on the drainage of the Gaymers site showing that the drainage system is working properly. It was agreed to send a copy to Mrs Illman to see if she would now withdraw her objections.

b) *Amalgamation of the Boards*

Mr Wright and Mr Nelstrop informed the Board that they had been meeting with Norfolk & Suffolk Rivers Authority with a view to complying with DEFRA's requirements. The Board has now been moved into South Level and we will be trying to initiate meetings with the other Boards within the South Level. There is a further meeting of the Norfolk & Suffolk Rivers Authority next week which we will be attending and to whom we may have some expenditure to pay but hopefully we will end up with copies of the proposed Board Agreement between the Boards within the sub-catchment area. There may be a cost to the Board relating to the employment of a Chief Executive Officer and for the venue for meetings.

c) *Website*

This is now up to date and linked to the DEFRA website.

4. *Appointment of Chief Executive Officer*

The appointment of a Chief Executive Officer was discussed and the Clerk estimated that it would incur an additional £4,000.00 of expenditure to have him take on the additional responsibility. It was proposed by Mr Salter and seconded by Mr Kemp that the Clerk be appointed the Chief Executive Officer.

5. Approval of the Board's Policy Statement

The document was produced to the Board and it was agreed to revise the Policy Statement to reflect the appointment of a Chief Executive Officer. It was proposed by Mr Nelstrop and seconded by Mr Southgate that the Policy Statement be approved as revised.

6. Any other Business

- 1) Mr Bingham reported that Mr Ulrich is clearing various streams. This includes Harling Station to the Thet, Old Buckenham Fen to Leys Lane and on down to the main stream and the section upstream from Larling Fen.

Mr Bingham said that he had also had discussions with Mr de Beer in relation to Quidenham Mere and there is not much that can be done to lower the water levels within the Mere as this appears to be at a set level.

The stream at the rear of Illington needs to be looked at and Mr Bingham said that he would do so.

- 2) There is now a recorded message on the Clerk's office phone giving an out of hours emergency number.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting.