

Minutes of the Meeting of the East Harling Internal Drainage Board held on the Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at The Pines, Connaught Road, Attleborough, Norfolk at 8.30am.

**Present:** Mr D Stammers (Chairman) Mr J Salter  
Mr C D Wright (Clerk) Mr A Southgate  
Mr A Bingham (Engineer) Mr J Nelstrop  
Mr P Lee  
Mr R Thornton

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mr J Askew, Mr P Drake, Ms M Hecks, Mr J Cracknell and Mr J Evans.
2. Minutes of the meeting of the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2007 having been previously circulated were approved and approval was proposed by Mr A Southgate and seconded by Mr R Thornton and carried unanimously.

**3. Matters Arising**

**a) *Developments within the Board***

It was noted that the use of the Road Bridge at Roudham is excessive and the question of whether it was safe is an ongoing issue. Norfolk County Council are aware of the situation and there is nothing therefore that the Drainage Board can do at present.

**b) *The Dualling of the A11***

The new stretch is now open. An agreement has been sent to the Highways Agency with an application for the commuted sum and costs. Some works need to be revised before the drainage works will be completed. There is also a problem with the discharge from the highway and this is having to be treated but this is an Environment Agency problem.

**c) *Banham & Kenninghall Fens***

There is some funding available. We do not yet know how much but it does mean that some works can be started. The river is fairly heavily weeded. However, consent will be required from English Nature to carry out any work.

**d) *Extension of the Board***

There is still a problem with Mrs Illman. It would be possible to withdraw that part of the application for extension and continue with the other part and it could be brought back into the application if necessary. It was agreed that Mr Bingham will hold a meeting with Defra, the Environment Agency and Mrs Illman, to see if it can be resolved, otherwise it will be withdrawn from the current application if no resolution is taken place by the 14<sup>th</sup> December. This was proposed by Mr Nelstrop and seconded by Mr Lee and carried unanimously.

**e) *Enmainment of the River Thet***

Mr Bingham reported that he had recently had a message from the Environment Agency saying that this will be considered at their October meeting and advertised in April 2008. Mr Nelstrop said there was an obstruction at the East Harling end which needs to be dealt with and Mr Bingham will investigate and report.

**f) *Maintenance Issues***

There is a stretch of stream at the back of Larling Church which needs to be looked at and a piece at Breccles which Mr Bingham has looked at. In this case the problem is due to a pipe under the road and any works will be left until next year. Mr Bingham will look at the situation at Larling. Some work needs to be done at Quidenham subject to the approval by English Nature. Mr Southgate mentioned the problems around the Ellingham Garden Centre, which in fact is not our problem as it is outside the Drainage Board but he reported that he'd cleared out a ditch, which hopefully now resolves the problem. Mr Nelstrop reported that the bridge over the Weir at Harling Mill is now unsafe and Mr Bingham will suggest to the Environment Agency that they replace the bridge.

**4. Approval of Payment of Accounts**

- a)** After due consideration it was proposed by Mr Nelstrop and seconded by Mr Southgate that the accounts to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007 be approved.
- b)** It was proposed Mr Lee and seconded by Mr Thornton that the statement of governance contained within the accounts to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007 be approved.
- c)** It was agreed to submit the accounts to the auditor.

**5. Any Other Business**

- 1.** Mr Bingham agreed to look at the Watkins sheds with a view to writing to them expressing the Boards concerns on pollution.
- 2.** Mr Nelstrop said that he felt that he should be replaced as vice chairman at the Annual General Meeting in February.
- 3.** It was agreed to update the website with the minutes and engineers reports.
- 4.** Mr Nelstrop said that he would represent the board at the ADA Conference and the IDB Liaison Meetings.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting.