

WITHAM FOURTH DISTRICT INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

MINUTES

of the proceedings of the Governance and Risk Committee at a Meeting held at the Board's Office, 47 Norfolk Street, Boston on Wednesday 21 November 2018.

Present - C. Courtison (Committee Chairman)
M Cooper
P Richardson (Vice Chairman)
Apologies - J. S. Grant (Chairman)

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

The Chair Executive explained that the previous Chair of the Committee had stood down at the last election and the Committee needed to appoint a new Chairman. Charles Courtison was nominated, unopposed, and this was supported by the Committee. Charles then chaired the remainder of the meeting and began by thanking and paying tribute to Hugh Drake who had chaired the Committee since its inception in 2013.

2. NEW AEA GOVERNANCE GUIDE FOR DIB MEMBERS

The new Guide had been created by EIFFA and was formally launched at the AEA Conference on 14 November. The aim of the Guide is to help members to understand their role on the Board and the difference they can make.

Members were asked to flag up any concerns raised by the Guide and then decide whether they were happy to recommend that the Board adopts the Guide.

Section 5.7.3 was raised as a potential issue regarding the length of tenure by the Board's current Chairman (10 years) compared to the maximum set out in the guide (10 years). M Cooper suggested that regular rotation is needed in all public life and this represents good governance. Other than raising this issue, the Committee.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND That the Board adopts the Guide as best practice.

3. NEW DIB POLICY STATEMENT

AEA had recently finalized a new policy statement that covers the approach to managing water levels and flood risk in DIB Districts. The Chair Executive went through the amended Policy with the Committee (see end of these minutes), and the Chair Executive confirmed that he was happy the policy accurately reflected the way in which the Board operates. It was therefore:

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND That the Board adopts the new Policy Statement.

4. REVIEW OF GOVERNANCE DOCUMENTS

The Chair Executive went through the current policies that appear on the Board's website. Reviews to policies are only necessary if, and when, the Internal Auditor raises any specific issues or AEA/legislation requires a change. This had not been the case in the last twelve months, other than the matters referred to below in relation to Financial Regulations, Document Retention and Risk.

M Cooper said that the legislation covering Equal Opportunities was about to change and he asked where the Board's policy regarding Equal Opportunities was included. The Chair Executive said he would respond after the meeting. (They are included within the "Employee Terms and Conditions Manual" or **White Book**, under section 12 which states that the Board complies with the latest legislation).

5. LINKING WITH BOSCOM BOROUGH COUNCIL (BBC)

The Chair Executive and Chairman had recently met with the BBC to look at areas of benefit. **CITY at remote sites** - BBC run a CITY contact team and had offered to provide a service to the Board should it want to install CITY cameras at remote sites. This was discussed and although incidents at remote sites are rare as there is nothing "valuable" to attract people, the