

WITHAM FOURTH DISTRICT INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

MINUTES

of the proceedings of the **Plant & Pumping Stations Committee** at a Meeting held at the Board's Offices, 47 Norfolk Street, Boston on Wednesday **20 November 2019**

Present:- C. Crunkhorn (Committee Chairman)

Messrs:	T. Ashton	F. Pickett
	P. Bedford	P. Richardson (Chairman)
	R. Leggott	A. Saul
		K. Smith

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from:-

Messrs: J.E. Grant
J. Ward

2. **CHIEF ENGINEER'S ESTIMATES 2020/2021**

2.1 **Plant Replacement Programme 2019/2020 – Current Year Update**

The Chief Engineer updated the Committee Members on progress in the current year:

Purchased	Replaced	Estimated Cost	Actual Cost
JCB 3CX	Case 540 Super	£80,000.00	£72,500.00
Claas Arion Tractor & Loader	Claas Celtis 456 Tractor & Loader	£65,000.00	£53,000.00
Bailey Tipper Trailer	Tipper Trailer	£8,500.00	£9,100.00
Spider Cherry Picker	New purchase	£38,000.00	£38,000.00
Avant Loader	New purchase	£20,000.00	£23,800.00
Flail/Bank Cutter	New purchase	£8,000.00	£8,200.00
4x4 Pickup	Toyota Hilux	£25,000.00	Not purchased yet
Total		£244,500.00	£204,600.00

The Chief Engineer confirmed the new 4x4 had not yet been purchased but would be in March 2020. The Board have taken delivery of everything else and the biggest success had been the JCB 3CX.

T. Ashton - was pleased to note that the actual purchase prices were less than the estimated prices.

R. Leggott - queried the mileage of the Unimog and the Bailey Trailer. The Chief Engineer confirmed that the Unimog is the only vehicle the Bailey Trailer can go on, although the Unimog does go out without the trailer every time.

The Chief Engineer handed Committee members a revised handout as the one at the end of his report only showed 4 years' worth of records rather than 6 although a couple of items have been deferred.

A. Harrison - asked if the tree cutter was a wearing item? The Chief Engineer confirmed that it was.

P. Bedford - asked if the Unimog price was a final price as Black Sluice were told that the price could not be guaranteed because of Brexit. The Chief Engineer confirmed this was the best price to order now. Once the purchase had been approved, he would put this out to tender.

2.2 **Plant Replacement Programme 2020/21**

The Chief Engineer invited questions from Board members regarding the list of assets for replacement:

a) **Atlas 160LC Excavator**

Purchased in 2012 and has 7048 hours on the clock. It is the Board's policy to replace hydraulic excavators after 8 years' service. The depreciation value on this machine as at 1st April 2019 was £18,400.00.

A. Harrison - proposed this purchase be recommended to the Board. There was a show of hands and all agreed.

b) **Unimog**

Purchased in 2002 and has completed 88,128 miles. The machine is an essential vehicle and whilst it is still in good condition obtaining spares for it is becoming difficult.

A. Saul - asked if a Fastrack had been considered? The Chief Engineer confirmed this had been looked at 2 years ago, but the main issue was that it was required to carry 3,500 litres of diesel. Also a FastTrack would require ADR/HGV driver and the fuel tank system would need revision. The Chief Executive confirmed the part exchange price of the Unimog was £17,500.00.

T. Ashton - proposed that the purchase of this item be recommended to the Board. There was a show of hands and all agreed.

c) **Flail Head Spearhead (SPV)**

Purchased in 2015 this has now completed 5 flail mowing seasons. The machine has had a number of breakdowns and repairs this year. The Chief Engineer would like to purchase a new one and retain the existing one as a spare.

A. Saul - proposed that the purchase of this item be recommended to the Board. There was a show of hands and all agreed.

d) **Bailey Trailer (Unimog)**

The Chief Engineer confirmed that this was used with the Unimog but had not covered 88,000 miles. The trailer was purchased in 2002 and is a road-tested trailer. The trailer is still in relatively good condition but is showing signs of wear and tear, so it was a good opportunity to purchase a replacement along with the new Unimog.

R. Leggott - did not see why this item should be replaced when trailer spares are freely available. If the Chief Engineer said there was a problem with the trailer, then that was a different matter. The Chief Engineer confirmed that there was no specific issue with the trailer but that it was a good time to replace the package together – i.e. Unimog and trailer.

P. Bedford - supports the item being changed if it is tested yearly.

T. Ashton - agreed with P. Bedford that the trailer should be replaced.

- B. Bowles* - asked if the trailer was fitted with brakes? If it was then we need to replace. The Chief Engineer confirmed that it was.
- K. Smith* - agreed that the item needed to be replaced.
- T. Ashton* - confirmed that, with the exception of R. Leggott, the majority were in favour of the trailer being replaced and accordingly proposed that the purchase of this item be recommended to the Board

The Chief Engineer confirmed there was 1 additional item that had not been included in his report.

e) **Tree Shears (Hydraulic)**

There had been a number of issues with this item which had resulted in downtime. The cost of replacing this item was £17,500.

- R. Leggott* - asked if we would choose a similar make? The Chief Engineer confirmed that Herder seemed the most reliable, but he would compare quotes.

There was a show of hands and it was unanimously agreed to recommend to the Board that this item be purchased.

After discussion it was

- RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND** That the Board purchase:
- a) Atlas 160 LC Excavator, estimated at £130,000 plus VAT
 - b) Unimog, estimated at £131,000 plus VAT
 - c) Flail Head Spearhead (SPV), estimated at £9,000 plus VAT
 - d) Bailey Trailer, estimated at £20,000 plus VAT
 - e) Tree Shears (Hydraulic), estimated at £17,500 plus VAT

2.3 **Pumping Stations Estimate 2020/2021**

The Chief Engineer confirmed the increase in the estimate reflected the anticipated cost of living increase in staff wages, due to be applied in April 2020 and an additional £10,000 in respect of the electric pump overhaul.

After discussion it was

- RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND** That the Chief Engineers estimate of £478,639.00 (2019/20 £461,783.00) be approved.

2.5 **Depot Estimate 2020/2021**

The Chief Engineer set out this estimate and after discussion it was

- RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND** That the Chief Engineers estimate of £43,900 for 2020/21 (2019/20 £42,500) be approved.

3. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business and the meeting was closed.

Chairman