

# WITHAM FOURTH DISTRICT INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

## MINUTES

of the proceedings of the **Board** at a Meeting held at the Board's Offices, 47 Norfolk Street, Boston on **Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019**

Present: -

-----

Messrs:	T. Ashton	A. Harrison
	R. Austin	N. Jones
	P. Bedford	R. Leggott
	B. Bowles	P. Richardson (Chairman)
	C. Crunkhorn	K. Smith
	(Vice-Chairman)	P. Skinner
	F. Pickett	J. Ward
	J. Grant	J. Woods
	C. Hardy	C. Woodcock

### 1 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 1.1 The Chairman extended a warm welcome to the Board to all new members.
- 1.2 Members may have seen the 2018 Wrangle Project featured on Countryside on 1<sup>st</sup> December. This was seen to be very positive and at the recent ADA Conference in November, the CEO had been presented with the ADA Chairman's Lifetime Achievement Award for his part in planning the funding and delivery of the Wrangle Sea Bank project. The Board gave the CEO a round of applause.
- 1.3 The Chairman confirmed the employees and retirees Christmas lunch was due to be held on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December and he would be attending to pass on his thanks to the staff for all their hard work this year. The Lade Bank Pumping Superintendent would also be presented with his 25 years' service award.
- 1.4 Richard Austin had kindly bought in some copies of his book, "Boston the Small Town with a Big Story". Richard offered this at a reduced price for anyone that was interested in purchasing a copy.

### 2 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for non-attendance were received from: -

Messrs: R. Hall-Jones  
A. Saul

No apologies were received from M. Cooper, A. Hall and A. Spencer

### 3 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ANY GENERAL ITEM**

Declared an interest in discussions about Triton Knoll/Viking Link – J. Grant, P. Richardson, R. Leggott

Declared an interest in bridges – J. Grant

### 4 **MINUTES**

#### 4.1 **Board Meeting – Thursday 19 September 2019**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Board held on 19 September 2019 were submitted and agreed as accurate and signed by the Chairman.

**Matters arising:**

4.1.2 **Triton Knoll**

The Chief Executive confirmed that the issues with the Land Registry had now been resolved and we were simply awaiting the documents from them, after which the awaited compensation funds should be released by Triton Knoll.

- J. Grant* - asked how the sea banks were looking?  
*B. Bowles* - said they were good in parts. The Chief Executive confirmed that two repairs had been carried out however parts of the bank would be re-seeded next year.  
*B. Bowles* - confirmed May next year would be the ideal time. The issue was the soil was silty. The Chief Engineer confirmed that the material had been tested but the saline level was wrong for the grass. Over time the level will reduce. D Morgan will re-seed next Spring and will use fertiliser.

4.1.3 **Viking Link**

The Chairman confirmed that Balfour Beatty had been awarded this Contract.

4.1.4 **Apologies**

The Chief Executive offered his apologies to Cllr. T. Ashton for the error contained within the minutes which stated that no apologies had been received from him when in fact he had given his apologies at the Governance & Risk Committee meeting in July 2019. The minutes would be corrected.

5. **MINUTES OF GOVERNANCE & RISK COMMITTEE – 31 July 2019**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 31 July 2019 were submitted and agreed as accurate and signed by the Committee Chairman.

The Committee Chairman ran through the Minutes and there were no questions

- J. Grant* -asked what the outcome was regarding fitting of trackers? The Committee Chairman confirmed that it was not felt appropriate. The Chief Engineer confirmed that the JCBs were fitted with Live Link – which was JCB’s own tracker system. The issue of apps for lone working had been discussed at the recent Health & Safety meeting.

The Committee Chairman asked the Board if they would be willing to approve the Risk Register and the policies as recommended by the Governance & Risk Committee.

**RESOLVED** That the Risk Register and policies recommended be adopted.

6. **MINUTES OF GOVERNANCE & RISK COMMITTEE – 20 November 2019**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 20 November 2019 were submitted and agreed as accurate and signed by the Committee Chairman.

The Committee Chairman asked the Board if they would be willing to approve the Data Protection Policy as recommended by the Governance & Risk Committee.

*P. Skinner proposed that the Data Protection Policy be approved. K. Smith seconded the proposal. It was therefore:*

**RESOLVED** That the Data Protection Policy and the Risk Register be adopted.

The Chief Executive confirmed that these policies were all on the Board’s website.

7. **MINUTES OF WORKS COMMITTEE – 20 NOVEMBER 2019**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 20 November 2019 were submitted and agreed as accurate and signed by the Committee Chairman.

The Chief Engineer briefly read through the Minutes and asked the Board if there were any questions. There were no questions, so the Chief Engineer referred the Board to paragraph 4.1 and explained the proposed changes to the current way of working. The Chief Engineer would like to adopt these changes with effect from 2020.

*J. Grant* - commented this would depend on the soil type and the rainfall each year. The Chief Engineer confirmed that the areas highlighted are the areas where there are currently problems. The Chief Engineer hoped that by not stopping for cropping this would enable us to get around the District quickly and ready for any early rains.

*J. Grant* - asked the Chief Engineer to send him a copy of the map of the areas.

The Chairman asked if the Board were prepared to accept the 2020/2021 Channel/Maintenance Estimates recommended by the Works Committee.

*J. Grant* proposed that the 2020/2021 Channel Maintenance estimates for Weed Control, Cleansing Improvements and Asset Improvement programme be accepted. *A. Harrison* seconded the proposal. It was therefore:

**RESOLVED** that the following Estimates be approved

i)	Weed Control	£818,931
ii)	Cleansing/Mudding	£346,204
iii)	Asset Improvements	£ 66,779

The Chairman asked if the Board were prepared to accept the 2020/2021 Environment Agency Public Sector Co-operations works Estimates recommended by the Works Committee.

Item	Works description	Works total	Supervision @ 8%	Uplift @ 10%	Total	Cost to date
1	Flail mowing and weed control all of the COWS.	£12,350.00	£988.00	£1,333.80	£14,671.80	£5,108.53
2	2 Flail mowing cuts on the East Fen catchwater (Raised banks)	£4,613.00	£369.04	£498.20	£5,480.24	£9,043.15
3	2 Flail mowing cuts on the West Fen catchwater (Raised banks)					
4	Weed control and flail mowing (field sections) East Fen Catchwater	£25,412.00	£2,032.96	£2,744.50	£30,189.46	£9,948.64
5	Weed control and flail mowing (field sections) West Fen Catchwater					
7	Boat work 3 cuts on the Maud foster	£30,250.00	£2,420.00	£3,267.00	£35,937.00	£39,678.24
8	Boat work 3 cuts on the Stonebridge drain					
9	Boat work 2 cuts on the East Fen catchwater	£27,850.00	£2,228.00	£3,007.80	£33,085.80	£15,796.94
10	Boat work 2 cuts on the West Fen catchwater					
11	Flail mowing Maud Foster	£3,351.00	£268.08	£361.91	£3,980.99	£2,649.12
12	Spray Lilies	£4,150.00	£332.00	£448.20	£4,930.20	£3,278.56
13	Health and Safety cuts East & West Fen Catchwater Drains	£12,627.05	£1,010.16	£1,363.72	£15,000.94	£19,597.53
14	Badger Sett work and Bushing East Fen.	£82,443.75	£6,595.50	£8,244.38	£97,283.63	£74,193.80
15	Badger Sett work and Bushing West Fen	£83,433.00	£6,674.64	£8,343.30	£98,450.94	£0.00
16	Bank raising East Fen Catchwater Drain	£13,028.00	£1,042.24	£1,407.02	£15,477.26	£0.00
		<b>£299,507.78</b>	<b>£23,960.62</b>	<b>£31,019.83</b>	<b>£354,488.25</b>	<b>£179,294.51</b>

P. Bedford proposed that the Board approve the 2020/2021 Environment Agency Public Sector Co-operations works Estimates recommended by the Works Committee. T. Ashton seconded the proposal. It was therefore:

**RESOLVED** that the 2020/2021 Environment Agency Public Sector Co-operations works Estimates recommended by the Works Committee be accepted.

8. **MINUTES OF PLANT & PUMPING STATIONS COMMITTEE – 20 NOVEMBER 2019**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 20 November 2019 were submitted and agreed as accurate and signed by the Chairman.

R. Leggott - stated that the word "not" had been missed from his statement on page 31 which would be corrected.

8.1 The Chief Engineer handed out an updated sheet showing the Plant replacements for the next 6 years and confirmed there were a number of items requiring approval in the plant replacement programme. There was also an additional item that the Chief Engineer would like to bring to the Board's attention. There was an issue with the New Holland Tractor which had been purchased in 2013 and has suffered ongoing issues with regard to Ad-Blue/power issues. The tractor has completed 4,500 hours of work. In 2017/18 the machine had considerable down time and repairs. Repair costs total in excess of £11,000 and there is likely to be another £2,000 incurred with Pecks. The tractor is due for replacement next year, but the Chief Engineer would like the Board's approval to bring it forward to this year. The Board had been offered £18,000 part exchange value against an estimate of £80,000 for a new machine.

J. Grant - asked if the existing problems would not be dealt with under the original warranty? The Chief Engineer confirmed that the Plant Foreman had been through this with them and they have confirmed that it is not covered. The dealer is not really sure where the issue is. The tractor has had a new ad-blue tank and they are now considering whether it is an issue with the catalytic convertor. The Chief Executive added that the machine has earned its cost over the past 7 years.

N. Jones - asked if we were looking to replace it with another New Holland machine? The Chief Engineer confirmed we were looking to replace with a CLAAS machine.

T. Ashton - confirmed if the machine had had no issues then it should be retained but as things stand it should be replaced.

C. Hardy - asked if we had details of the number of downtime hours? The Chief Engineer said he did not have that information to hand.

P. Skinner - added that if Pecks have had the machine and changed bits and cannot solve the issue then proposed that the machine was replaced with the CLAAS machine.

J. Ward - queried why the new CLAAS machine was £80,000 when the one we had previously purchased was £53,000. The Chief Engineer confirmed that this was a larger machine.

A. Harrison - asked if we had experienced any other issues with Ad-Blue? The Chief Engineer confirmed we had not.

R. Leggott - asked if the purchase of this machine would mean we have to forego other items? The Chief Engineer confirmed no as it was being bought forward and if anything would ease up expenditure next year. The Chief Executive confirmed that the payment would be coming out of the Plant account.

The Chief Engineer asked if there were any further questions on any of the Plant Replacement Items and there were none.

A.Saul proposed that the Board approve the 2020/2021 Plant Replacement Estimates recommended by the Plant and Pumping Station Committees. J. Grant seconded the proposal.

It was therefore:

- RESOLVED** That the Board agree the Estimates recommended by the Plant & Pumping Committee
- (i) Atlas 160LC Excavator estimated at £130,000 plus VAT
  - (ii) Unimog estimated at £131,000 plus VAT
  - (iii) Flail Head Spearhead (SPV) estimated at £9,000 plus VAT
  - (iv) Bailey Trailer estimated at £20,000 plus VAT
  - (v) Tree Shears (Hydraulic) estimated at £20,000 plus VAT
  - (vi) Claas Tractor Estimate £80,000 plus VAT

## 8.2 Estimate for Pumping Stations

The Chairman asked the Board to approve the 2020/21 Estimates for Pumping Stations recommended by the Plant & Pumping Committee.

*P. Bedford proposed that the Board approve the Pumping Station Estimates 2019/20 recommended by the Plant & Pumping Committee. J. Grant seconded the proposal.*

It was therefore:

**RESOLVED** That the Board approves the Pumping Station Estimates recommended by the Plant & Pumping Committee.

	2020/21 Estimate	2019/20 Estimate
Pumping Stations	£476,639	£461,783

## 8.3 The Chairman asked the Board to approve the 2020/21 Depot Estimate recommended by the Plant & Pumping Committee.

*T. Ashton proposed that the Board approve the Depot Estimate recommended by the Plant & Pumping Committee. J. Ward seconded the proposal.*

It was therefore:

**RESOLVED** That the Board approves the Depot Estimates recommended by the Plant & Pumping Committee.

	2020/21 Estimate	2019/20 Estimate
Pumping Stations	£43,900	£42,500

## 9. MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 20 NOVEMBER 2019

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 20 November 2019 were submitted and agreed as accurate and signed by the Chairman.

The Committee Chairman briefly ran through the report and asked if anyone had any comments.

*J. Grant* - asked if £300k was a realistic figure for an eel bypass? The Chief Engineer confirmed that £300k was the total cost of the refurbishment.

The Chairman asked the Board to approve the 2020/21 Estimate recommended by the Environment Committee.

*P. Skinner proposed that the Board approve the 2020/21 Estimates recommended by the Environment Committee. C. Hardy seconded the proposal.*

It was therefore:

**RESOLVED** That the Board adopt the 2020/2021 Estimate recommended by the Environment Committee in the sum of £79,010.

## 10. **MEETINGS WITH OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

### 10.1 **River Steeping Catchment Steering Group – Various**

- J. Grant* - provided a brief update regarding the Steeping Catchment Group and confirmed the process was laboured and drawn out. More important events such as Doncaster and Fishlake had superseded the smaller Wainfleet event. J. Grant was very frustrated that little had happened aside from basic maintenance. The Wainfleet residents need action and the S19 report will not now be published until January 2020.
- P. Skinner* - shared the frustrations but believed that the EA needed help to go forward. There had been over 100 S19 reports since June and no report yet available. The Chief Executive was hopeful that the report would have been received by the next Board meeting.
- P. Skinner* - confirmed he was keeping up the pressure from the Council's side.
- C. Hardy* - confirmed the EA must be swamped as they were not keeping on top of maintenance.
- K. Smith* - asked if there was anything more that we can do? The Chief Executive confirmed that Lindsey Marsh IDB were more frustrated at the lack of progress and their Chief Executive had made his feelings known at the last meeting because he was so frustrated with the situation.
- J. Grant* - suggested writing to them as a ratepayer in the District and would encourage everyone to keep the pressure on them.
- K. Smith* - confirmed that this had been an ongoing situation since he was a Councillor in 2007 and nothing appears to have been done.
- J. Grant* - added there was a lack of good, competent engineers with the EA.
- T. Ashton* - added that the EA were aiming to be carbon neutral by 2030 whereas he would have thought flooding and drainage should be their priority.
- R. Leggott* - asked if we were working with any other organisations to get this pushed through? The Chief Executive confirmed the NFU were heavily involved.

The Chairman added that Witham Fourth had been a good, reasonable partner to the EA and that James Grant and the Chief Executive were working well on the Steeping Steering Committee.

- B. Bowles* - added that if we had been in the position of having been flooded, we would be much more concerned. The NFU, IDBs, CLA and EA all need to be working together as one unit not individually. The Chief Executive confirmed that the RFCC would be a very good forum to raise this as the EA are answerable to them.

### 10.2 **LGPS – Fund Valuation Meeting with the Actuary at LCC Council Chamber -28<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

The Chief Executive confirmed that the total pension fund now stood at £2.4bn. IDB's represent £10m of this sum. There had been a 36% return on the investments over a 3-year period. This was very positive and would help reduce the deficit. There were 2 schemes opened up to everyone, paying 19% which would mean that the deficit costs would be down. However, our accounts will still show a deficit at the end of March 2020.

### 10.3 **Presentation of trip to Netherlands September 2019**

The Chief Executive presented some photographs to the Board of his two-day trip to the Netherlands in September 2019. He was invited to attend the trip as a result of his involvement with the Wrangle Sea Bank project. KRING is a collection of professionals who are running a 12-year programme looking at sea defences and also funnel tanks which collect information about wave action. They are hoping this will enable them to collect data to build the perfect sea bank.

The Chief Executive confirmed that he saw an 8m high bank which was 12km long and had cost £125m. In contrast, Wrangle Sea Bank was 7m high and 6km long and cost £2m.

On the second day of the visit, the Chief Executive visited Breebaart Polder Sluice where the

drainage board were permitted to extract silt from a protected salt marsh to maintain sea defences.

## 11. **CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND FINANCE MANAGERS REPORT**

### 11.1 **Bank Balances**

The Chief Executive confirmed that the cash in the bank had now increased back to its usual Level, following completion of the Wrangle Sea Banks project. The Special Levies have also been paid.

### 11.2 **Fixed Term Deposits**

These will be discussed in the January Finance meeting.

### 11.3 **Payments Made**

The Chief Executive went through his report and confirmed that there had been two large payments for the EA Contractor works in the period.

### 11.4 **Compensation Claims**

The Chief Executive confirmed there were no compensation claims at present

### 11.5 **Rating Income**

The Chief Executive confirmed that the current balance outstanding was £179,286.21 which equated to 85% collection of the total rates. There were 8 large ratepayers owing more than £5,000 but four of these were paying by way of monthly instalments.

There was one ratepayer, a Solar Panel Farm, which has been paying both agricultural drainage rates and business rates. Upon consulting with ELDC it has been agreed that drainage rates shall no longer apply with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. The Chief Executive asked the Board if they were happy to approve this. The Board confirmed their approval.

### 11.6 **Expenditure**

The Chief Executive read through the report and confirmed that the Board should be at 58% of the expenditure target and we are thereabouts. There are £125,000 electricity costs due in November-December for pumping costs which had not been included in the figures, so the figures would be over the estimate then. RFCC have asked for details of the pumping hours and costs incurred so that they may try and ask the Treasury to compensate as we are taking main river water into our system.

### 11.7 **Flood Defence Grant in Aid Applications**

The Chief Executive confirmed that the larger refurbishment projects had come to an end.

## 12. **CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT**

The Chief Engineer went through his report, highlighting those areas of importance for Board Members.

### 12.1 **Second-Hand Engines**

The Chief Engineer confirmed there was no update on this subject. He had requested contact details from Severn Trent but without success. Spare parts are a real issue for us and moving forward we would need to be looking at installing modern diesels. The Chairman confirmed there had been an occasion where 2 of the 3 engines had been down.

*B. Bowles* - expressed concern about using an engine that had been stood for a while.

*R. Leggott* - was concerned that 2 of the 3 engines had been down and asked if a new maintenance regime should be considered? The Chief Engineer could not fault the current maintenance regimes but lots of problems could not be cured solely by maintenance. The Chief Engineer confirmed that maintenance would be reviewed in the New Year.

- 12.3 **Engine No 1 Exhaust Silencer**  
The Chief Engineer apologised and said this heading should refer to engine no 2 not 1.
- 12.4 **Heating Boiler**  
The Chief Engineer confirmed that this was in relation to the main central heating. Three tenders had been obtained and Derry Building Services had provided a competitive quote which had allowed for the advantage of a twin-boiler system. The work had commenced on 11<sup>th</sup> November and should be completed by 20<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
- 12.5 **Pump No 1 Gearbox**  
*J. Grant* - asked if the correct grade of oil was being used? The Chief Engineer confirmed that it was. The Chief Engineer confirmed that when the gearbox was at low revs it sounded nice and was freewheeling but once the revs were increased it shakes and is noisy. Everything is being tested.
- 12.6 **Staff Illness Issues**  
The pump men at Hobhole had been taken ill through the Autumn. Pump shifts had to be reorganised to cover them.
13. **Rainfall and Water Level Management**  
The Chief Engineer confirmed that this year had seen significant rainfall and a total to date of 30.7".  
  
The Chief Engineer referred Board Members to the handout entitled Pump Estimate Spend Profile. The blue line represents our preferred spend line and the orange line shows the actual spend line. This is something that is beyond the Chief Engineer's control and as Board Members can see has been an extremely expensive time for the Board.
14. **Water Level Management**  
*J. Grant* - asked if the levels could be kept down to give the pipes a chance?  
The Chief Engineer confirmed the abstraction licence will be determined by December 2022.
- 15 **Channel Maintenance Operations**  
Summer maintenance had been affected by the weather and a number of machinery breakdowns which has resulted in a backlog with flail mowing and weedcutting. The Board has also had to deal with a number of slip repairs.
- 15.1 **Slip Repairs**  
The Chief Engineer confirmed that a number of slips had been caused by the bad weather. Not all of these have been completed and the Foremen are logging them as they see them. The slip at the Fodderdyke had caused problems between the construction issues and residents. There was also an issue of access on the bridge leading to one of J. Grant's properties. LCC Highways are to assess the damage to the bridge.  
  
*J. Grant* - asked if mowing would help? The Chief Engineer said he was a great believer in pro-active maintenance on the banks. He felt this was essential although traditionally the banks have not been mown each year.  
*R. Austin* - asked how faggotts were made? The Chief Engineer explained there were made from hedgerows on land the Board owns.  
*F. Pickett* - asked who was responsible for road signs? The Chief Engineer confirmed that was the responsibility of Highways.  
The Chief Engineer said that he had seen a report dating back to 1980 which stated that the Fodderdyke had always been a problem. The Chief Executive asked if the fact it had been mudded last year had added to the problem and the Chief Engineer said no.  
  
*J. Ward* - asked if we would be looking to Highways for a contribution towards the repair costs? The Chief Engineer confirmed that he had asked for 50%. £80,000 had been spent on slips this year.



R. Leggott - asked if we had sufficient resources or should we be seeking to increase? The Chairman said that was a nice idea, but we do have budgets to hit. There has been 24-hour cover at the pumping stations and then slips to deal with. The Chief Engineer said it would need a solid review of the works programme. Existing resources are perhaps not used as efficiently as they could be. Resources are stretched so weedcutting had to stop as the Fodderdyke Bank took priority.

R. Leggott - added whilst we have a good system which needs to be maintained, improvements and efficiencies need to be made next year. The Chief Engineer agreed and said flail mowing and weed cutting are critical and the most important operation.

16. **Planning Matters**

The Chief Engineer referred Board Members to the Planning Summary which showed all applications received up to the end of October 2019.

16.1 **Alcorn Green Boston – PENQ/19/00870**

J. Grant - asked how deep the pipe was? The Chief Engineer confirmed the trench was 1.8m deep to work in with the pipeline over the top.

17 **Enforcement – Bull Drove, Wrangle Ref EN001**

The Chief Engineer confirmed having looked at the Land Drainage Act 1991 in more details, Section 6 – Protection for Particular Undertakings stated that undertakings “consisting in the provision of electronic communications are protected and the Board cannot prevent or interfere with their construction”. However, on a positive note, Open Reach are now working with and consulting the Board before placing further boxes.

18. **Health and Safety**

Unfortunately, there had been three incidents since the last Board meeting.

With regard to the incident with the CLAAS Tractor, the insurers have agreed to pay £4,500 towards the repair costs.

T. Ashton - confirmed this was the second incident involving a CLAAS Tractor that he had heard of. The other had been used for heavy carting work.

19 **Rechargeable Works**

The Chief Engineer confirmed the EA are happy with the work the Board has completed on their behalf and this additional work has had no detrimental effect on our own workload. The Board have been asked to assist with the same work and more next year.

The Chief Engineer referred the Board to page 22 of his Report which showed the total work done. He confirmed that items 14, 15 and 16 had been paid out of the recovery funds following the June event. A Contractor did the work and 18% was added to his costs for administration and management.

The works had been completed overall within budget and the EA were desperate to get the weed cutting completed and a Contractor had again been employed.

There were no further questions.

20. **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

The Chief Engineer read through his report and confirmed Eel Passes had already been discussed within the Finance section of the meeting.

20.1 **Species Data Collecting**

The Chief Engineer confirmed this was new for 2020. There is a free application called ArcGis Collector which will be installed on smartphones. We will then record sightings of any species and send the information to a database in the office. This information will be useful for our own records and will be passed onto GLNP.

*B. Bowles* - confirmed it would be interesting to see what comments were received regarding the early weed cutting. The Chief Engineer confirmed the flail mowing should assist the water vole habitat.

21. **2020 Meeting Dates**

The Chief Executive confirmed that the 2020 meeting dates were as set out in the Agenda.

*T. Ashton* - pointed out two inaccuracies.

The correct dates for the meetings are:-

Wednesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	– Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	– Board Meeting
Wednesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2020	– Board Meeting and Works Inspection
Wednesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	– Board Meeting
Wednesday, 18 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	– Committee Meetings
Wednesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	– Board Meeting

22. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

*J. Grant* - asked what was happening with the land the Board purchased? The Chief Executive confirmed that the Ragwort was being kept down and opportunities were under review.

The Chairman thanked the Board Members during a very trying year, and whilst he did not have the experience of the previous Chairman, he felt that he was getting there. He was pleased that the Board was seen in such a positive light in being helpful to other Partners and he was to thank the Chief Executive and the Chief Engineer for all their hard work through the year. Finally, he would like to thank all the office staff for their efforts this year, which he would relay at the Employees lunch on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December. The Chairman said that it just remained for him to give his best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. There was no other business and the meeting concluded at 4.13pm

**Chairman**