

# North Kent Marshes Internal Drainage Board Meeting Minutes

28 January 2019, Medway Council (Gun Wharf)  
13:00 to 16:00

## Attendees:

Cllr Gary Etheridge (Chair), Medway  
Council  
Priscilla Haselhurst, Clerk, Medway Council  
Dan Atkinson, Flood Risk Officer, Medway Council

Cllr Harold Craske, Gravesham BC  
Cllr Mike Franklin , Medway Council.  
Cllr Leslie Hills, Gravesham BC

Alex Bates - Landowner  
Julian Nash - RSPB  
John Nottage- Landowner  
Ben Wright - Landowner

## Agenda

### Apologies:

David Long - Landowner  
Cllr Dan MacDonald - Medway

### Items of interest declaration

None received

### Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising 07 November 2018

No outstanding matters

## Governance update

PH gave the Board an update on the ADA Good Governance Guidance and forthcoming workshops.

## Activity Report

Members asked what stage the planning applications are around Cliffe Pools. PH explained that the LLFA/Board are still waiting to be consulted on a discharge of conditions application relating to drainage and will advise Members when this application is being reviewed.

## Finance update

Members noted the work undertaken to review the landowner data which informs Drainage Rates. PH advised that Drainage Rate demands for 2018/19 will be sent in January 2019 but that now the data cleansing had been completed, the intention would be to bring forward gradually the Drainage Rates to be consistent with other Boards. Members noted the projected budget and update on audit of the End of Year accounts 2017/18.

PH explained that a review was being undertaken of projected budgets now following completion of the Drainage Rate review, now that there were nearly 3 years of financial data to make estimations from.

PH advised that savings were already being made in maintenance costs via the IDB and that this would need to be considered for any future rates, to be reported in January 2020 which may necessitate a reduction in the penny rate for subsequent rates and levies.

Two budget forecasts were presented for consideration, presenting a budget based on a 2% raise the Penny Rate from 7.10 to 7.24 and presenting a budget where there is no increase in the Penny Rate which results in maintaining reserves closer to £100k.

PH proposed that for 2019/20 the penny rate remain at 7.10 with no increase. Members approved the penny rate at 7.10p.

PH advised she was in contact with the EA regarding the outstanding Precept payments.

## Environment Agency update

Members noted the Precept Report including reference to the £25k contribution to the Boards Water Level Management Plan. EA Officers provided an overview of initial consultations with landowners and stakeholders relating to the TE2100 plan options around St Mary's Marshes.

## Forward look

### ADA updates

PH advised of the ADA national conference taking place on 14 November. Unfortunately no Members were able to attend.

### AOB

The Chairman requested for a programme of work to be provided to the Board on an annual basis. PH to provide a breakdown of work that is undertaken to run the Board including planned workload, site visits, inspections etc.

Cllr Leslie Hills enquired about the Lower Thames Crossing and its potential impact on the Board's interests. PH advised that she understood that the LTC entrance had been moved further south so there would be less of an impact. PH advised that the Board were waiting for further confirmation on the drainage arrangements following initial meetings.

Signed (clerk):



Date:

17 / June / 2019

Signed (chairman):



Date:

17th June  
2019.