

LITTLEPORT & DOWNHAM INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

District Wards covered:	Downham Villages Ely North Littleport Stretham Sutton
Parish Councils covered:	Coveney Parish Council Little Downham Parish Council Little Thetford Parish Council Littleport Parish Council Stretham Parish Council Wentworth Parish Council Wilburton Parish Council Witchford Parish Council
Representation:	Six Members
Status of Member:	Board Member
No. meetings per year:	3
Expenses paid by organisation:	No (paid by Council)
Insurance provision:	Yes
Category of Officer Support (see p. 6):	3
Contact Officer:	Finance Manager, Ian Smith
Representatives for 2025/26:	Cllr Christine Ambrose Smith Cllr Lorna Dupré Cllr Martin Goodearl Cllr David Miller Parish Cllr Andrew Butcher Parish Cllr Mark Taylor

REPORTS FROM 2024/25 REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Christine Ambrose Smith

I have been an ECDC member representative on L&D IDB for a considerable number of years and find that my understanding of our Drainage Boards is increasingly improving.

The Board is made up of a number of Farmer members with land within this catchment and who often sit as members on other boards in which they have an

interest. A Chair & Vice Chair are elected from within the Farmer members and generally serve in that capacity for a few years. They work closely with the Board Engineer, his working foreman, and the Clerk to the Board, meets quarterly, in person, at the offices/workshop/museum in Prickwillow.

The Engineer, the Working Foreman and the Clerk all give reports and other business is dealt with.

During the last few years, the Board has reorganised its working, accepting that working practices need to adapt and is now settling down with the current workforce. Keeping up with regular maintenance work both on the water courses and the machinery is always ongoing, and the Foreman is carefully planning and carrying out the schedule of work.

Considerable housing development has an impact on this and other boards and needs to be constantly monitored. Currently the board is looking at the potential merging of local boards but this is at a very early stage.

L&D IDB have four District representatives, and generally all are present at the quarterly meetings.

I am content to recommend that I continue to be a District Representative on the Board.

Our Drainage Boards have a major impact on the control of flooding across the District and are a valued organisation.

PADNAL & WATERDEN INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

District Wards covered:	Ely North Littleport
Parish Councils covered:	City of Ely Council Littleport Parish Council
Representation:	Seven Members
Status of Member:	Board Member
No. meetings per year:	3
Expenses paid by organisation:	No (paid by Council)
Insurance provision:	Yes
Category of Officer Support (see p. 6):	3
Contact Officer:	Finance Manager, Ian Smith

Representatives for 2025/26:	Cllr Alison Whelan Cllr Lis Every Parish Cllr Clive Webber tbc tbc tbc tbc
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REPORTS FROM 2024/25 REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr Alison Whelan

Attended 2 of 3 meetings

The IDBs are important in preventing flooding and managing the land across the district and wider.

Currently there is consideration of merging boards.

Formalising the ownership of the droves is being progressed

Currently there is insufficient capacity to cope with climate change, but because of the Fens 2100 Project, capacity cannot be upgraded at this time.