

TYDD PUMPING STATION, FOUL ANCHOR, PE13 5RE

Prior to the visit to the Station, we thought you may like to read some of the history:-



Tydd Pumping Station in 2012

Tydd Pumping Station was designed by R.B. Grantham, Son and Farran in 1936 and constructed in 1937/39 at an estimated cost of £43,000. The Station is capable of discharging 800 tons per minute. The diesel pumps were specified to lift 200 tons per minute against a head of 16.5 feet driven by four horizontally opposed cylinder engines of 360 h.p. running at 267 r.p.m.

The engine slab and building is carried on 40 foot long concrete piles driven through sandy silt to hard gravel.

In the station, pumps are numbered now from 1 to 6 commencing at the north end. Originally, only pumps 2, 3, 4 and 5 were installed.

Following the catastrophic floods of 1947 when Crowland Bank breached, pump 1 was installed in 1950 to similar specification, i.e. 48", increasing the capacity to 1,000 tons per minute.

The extremely wet year of 1968, culminating in torrential rain of 4.5 inches in 12 hours, indicated the need for further improvement of capacity. This has been achieved by electrifying pumps 4 and 5 and increasing r.p.m., together with installing a new electric pump (No.6) in the space provided in the original station, thus giving a final capacity of 1,276 tons per minute. The contract for the pumping plant was awarded to NEI-APE Ltd. - W.H. Allen for the sum of £364,659.

The final updating of the Pumping Station and Main Channel was completed in 1986 at a cost of £1,020,107.



Inside Tydd Pumping Station 2006 prior to refurbishment

The Board commenced the refurbishment of Tydd Pumping Station during summer 2007, phasing the work over five years. E. Rand and Sons were engaged as the contractor to supply and install the replacement engines to the original pumps. Through the summer and into autumn, the first Crossley Premier engine was removed and transported to the Museum of Internal Fire and Power in Wales. The first of the Scania DC16 Turbo charged V8 diesel engines was installed and coupled to the original Gwynnes 1.20m diameter pump. This was commissioned late in 2007. The second phase of the upgrade saw the two remaining Crossley Premier engines replaced with Scania engines. Again, one of these Crossleys was donated and transported to the Anson Museum in Stockport. This phase was completed by late 2008.

Phase III of the refurbishment programme involved the replacement of the electric motor driving pump number 4 with a further Scania diesel engine. This work was completed during 2009 and now gives the Board a totally automatic, telemetry controlled pumping station with 4 diesel driven pumps and 2 electric pumps.



Inside Tydd Pumping Station on completion of the 2009 phase of works



New electric control cabinets

Phase V of the refurbishment involved the complete re-decoration of the station including ceilings, walls, floors and all pumping plant doors, which was completed in 2011.

The final phase of the refurbishment was completed in June 2012 with the replacement of all the old steel framed windows and doors with new UPVC fixtures.