Land Drainage Infrastructure

Internal Drainage Board System

4.9 The land drainage infrastructure must obviously be considered as a potential flooding source, albeit that the IDB system serving the catchment extending to Barrier Bank is regularly maintained and provides a good standard of drainage to the area.

4.10 Owing to the many inherent vagaries involved, there is no definitive standard for the design of land drainage systems but the empirically derived criterion employed by the industry over many years has proven to work well.

4.11 Internal Drainage Board data indicates the normal maximum water level in Clowacre Drain, at a site near the A16 road culvert, to be approximately 0.90m ODN thereby conferring a freeboard of approximately 1.10m to the lower area of the proposed development site. This freeboard, to be viewed as a "safety margin", would be reduced in the eventuality of extreme flows, or the channel condition, causing the water level to exceed the empirically derived normal maximum but the clearance is, in any event, some 0.20m greater than the 0.90m usually adopted below controlling low lands in local fenland drainage design. It is accordingly unlikely that the IDB system will cause the application site to flood.



Clowacre Drain
Alongside Drain Bank