



Case Study 9.4 Historic management at Wheldrake Ings, Yorkshire



The historic management costs of Wheldrake Ings are shown in Tables 9.4 and 9.5. Activities required to maintain a functional floodplain meadow included drain digging, fence mending and mole catching amongst others. The document lists “looking after clue” (i.e. looking after ditches) and “Clough Dyke dressing out” (clearing out ditches), as well as the provision of bread, cheese and beer for banking men! The management of an Ings in 1911 (from Warburton 2006) was a serious undertaking, costing the equivalent of £3,000⁴¹ in today’s money to carry out the tasks described below.

	£	s	d
Taking banking things & back from Ings		6	0
Taking workmans things & back from Ings		6	0
Mole catching		9	0
Beer for banking men		2	0
Mr Wright for use of boat		11	0
R Biscombe 2 days leading gravel to bridge		14	0
Taking woodwork to clue		3	0
Taking 1 ton of cement to bridge		3	0
“ part of a ton		2	0
J Bielby for mowing old dyke out		7	0
Breaking day	1	0	0
Ings masters	2	0	0
Looking after clue		10	0
Collecting rate		10	0
J Myers bill		12	6
Pacey for Low Marr ditch 25 chains at 3/6 (22 x 25 = 550 yds)	4	7	0
Fencing and wood	1	0	0
Cheese and bread		5	0
Notices and postage		3	0
W Barker for looking after ditches	10	0	0
Pacey for 35 chains (700 yds) low Ings dyke at 2/0	3	10	0
Ditto 11 chains from Ploug? Hole at 1/0		11	0
Ditto Clough Dyke dressing out		8	0
Garbutt new rope 10 yds		8	6
2 men and 1 cart ½ day in Ings		5	0
	28	13	6
Recvd by rate at 1/6 per acre		12	6
Balance from last year	6	8	4
	27	0	10
Balance due to Ings masters	1	12	6

Table 9.4 An extract from the accounts of Wheldrake Ings in Yorkshire in 1911 (from Warburton 2006) showing trends in rates, income and wages. Case Study 10.4 demonstrates current-day drainage management at Wheldrake Ings.



41 <http://www.thisismoney.co.uk/money/bills/article-1633409/Historic-inflation-calculator-value-money-changed-1900.html>

Table 9.5 The disbursement of Wm. Hick, J.B. Hall, W.J. Smith, J. Buckton being Bylaw men from 16 November 1910 to 15 November 1911 showing costs associated with different elements of management (from Warburton 2006).

	1874-75	1880-81	1887-88	1888-89	1910-11
Rate levied per acre	3s-10d	2s	2s-6d		1s-6d
Total income on 275 acres	£52-14s-2d	£27-20s-0d	£34-0-0d		£20-12-6d
Wage per day for 1 man	3s-0d		2s-9d	2s-8d	

