

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BECCLES FENLAND CHARITY TRUST HELD ON TUESDAY 2ND AUGUST 2022 IN COUNCIL CHAMBER AT TOWN HALL

Present

Councillors: Barry Darch (Chair), Graham Catchpole, Richard Stubbings, Colin Hill, Jack Walmsley, Daniel Smith, Stevie Bubb, Brian Woodruff, Jeff Harris, Peggy McGregor and Nathalie Chidley.

In Attendance: Paul Cunningham (Secretary)
Michael Delgudice and Alexandra Young (East Solutions) (until end of Item 3)

Members of the Public: 0

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Gillian Birrell, Jennie Robinson, Ash Lever and Phil Dennington. Nick Johnson was not present.

2. To receive declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in items on the agenda

There were none.

3. To receive a presentation from Michael Delgudice (Managing Director) and Alexandra Young (Sales and Contract Coordinator) of East Solutions concerning their request to install high voltage cabling across Trust owned land and to ask questions

Michael Delgudice explained that the proposal is to take a high voltage (11,000 volt) cable from the UK Power Networks' primary sub-station in Beccles to the retail park at the roundabout in Gillingham, including crossing the Trust's land and going beneath the river. The cable is needed to supply power to a proposed electric car charging station, which would have charging capability for 12-15 vehicles.

He noted that East Solutions are working on behalf of the client developing the charging station, but that any formal agreement for the cable would be between the Trust and UK Power Networks, as they have agreed to 'adopt' the cable once it has been installed. He then invited questions from councillors:

How long would the works take on site? 4-6 weeks;

When would the work take place? Probably not for 6-9 months, as permissions have to be obtained all along the route.

How much land would be taken up by the works? The cable trench itself would be c600mm but the works would take up approximately an additional two metres on either side. The site will be within a secure compound.

The site of the works will involve blocking off a public footpath, will this be replaced during the works? Yes, the contractors will comply with all legal requirements.

Will financial compensation for the Trust be included as part of any agreement?

Yes, this will need to be agreed as part of the negotiation.

Where is the primary sub-station in Beccles? East Solutions did not have this information to hand but agreed to supply it; they noted that the sub-station is approximately 1.5km from the Morrisons' roundabout.

Chair pointed out the severe traffic disruption that would be caused by closing the Norwich-Lowestoft road near the Morrisons roundabout for cabling work and said that tunnelling would be preferable.

Chair thanked Michael and Alexandra for attending the meeting.

(Michael Delgudice and Alexandra Young left the meeting).

4. To consider the East Solutions proposal above

Cllr Stubbings commented that the Trust did not have enough information and proposed that the matter be referred to the Assets & Estates Committee for further consideration. This was seconded by Cllr Catchpole, a vote was taken which was in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To refer this issue to the Assets & Estates Committee for further consideration.

5. To approve the minutes of the Beccles Fenland Charity Trust meeting held on Tuesday 5th July 2022

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Beccles Fenland Charity Trust meeting held on Tuesday 5th July 2022.

6. Matters arising from the minutes

Secretary gave an update that he is still awaiting quotations for the repair of the Avenue gates but that the bollard has now been installed.

Secretary also noted that East Suffolk Council have offered a Zoom meeting with two officers concerning the transfer of the Common Play Park on 17th August, which Secretary and Cllr Stubbings will attend for the Trust.

7. To receive the draft minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee meeting held on Thursday 21st July 2022

RESOLVED to receive the draft minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21st July 2022.

8. To receive the draft minutes of the Development, Commerce & Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 13th July 2022

RESOLVED to receive the draft minutes of the Development, Commerce &

Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on Thursday 13th July 2022.

9. **To receive the draft minutes of the Assets & Estates Committee meeting held on Tuesday 19th July 2022**

RESOLVED to receive the draft minutes of the Assets & Estates Committee meeting held on Tuesday 19th July 2022.

10. **To receive the draft minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Wednesday 27th July 2022**

RESOLVED to receive the draft minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Wednesday 27th July 2022.

11. **To receive the Responsible Financial Officer's Report and agree the payment schedules for July**

RESOLVED To receive the Responsible Financial Officer's Report and agree the payment schedules for July 2022.

12. **Any Other Business**

There was none.

13. **Date of next meeting Tuesday 6th September 2022 following the Town Council meeting**

RESOLVED that the date of the next meeting is confirmed as Tuesday 6th September 2022 in Council Chamber at Town Hall.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

14. **To receive the draft confidential minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee meeting held on Thursday 21st July 2022**

RESOLVED to receive the draft confidential minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee meeting held on Thursday 21st July 2022.

15. **To receive the draft confidential minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Wednesday 27th July 2022**

RESOLVED to receive the draft confidential minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Wednesday 27th July 2022.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm.