

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BECCLES FENLAND CHARITY TRUST HELD ON TUESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2021 REMOTELY VIA ZOOM

Present:

Councillors: A Lever (Chair), R Stubbings, P McGregor, J Walmsley, G Birrell, G Catchpole, J Robinson, P Jackson, Mrs S A Bubb, J Harris

Secretary: Catherine Moore, Secretary
Angela Raven (Minute Clerk)

Members of the Public: 0

1. APOLOGIES

There were apologies from Councillors Chidley and Woodruff.

2. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were none.

3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BECCLES FENLAND CHARITY TRUST MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12 JANUARY 2021

RESOLVED To approve the minutes of the Beccles Fenland Charity Trust meeting held on Tuesday 12 January 2021

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were none.

5. TO OUTLINE THE INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEALING WITH URGENT MATTERS FROM COMMITTEES

The Chair pointed out that during the staffing changes which are taking place at the town council offices it may not be possible, temporarily, to hold committee meetings in the usual way, due to time constraints. If there are any urgent matters the relevant Chairs of the committees can bring them to the full Trust meeting for discussion. This mirrored the arrangements for the Council.

6. TO RECEIVE THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 28 JANUARY 2021 AND CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS:-

RESOLVED To receive the draft minutes of the Finance & General Purposes committee meeting held on Thursday 28 January 2021

i. Contractor for dredging at Beccles Quay

This item will be discussed in the Confidential section.

ii. Car Parking Charges, Fen Lane

The Finance & General Purposes committee proposes no change to the car parking charges at Fen Lane, except to reduce the two hours free parking to one hour.

Councillor Stubbings explained that it has been a very poor year because the NHS have not used the car park and it is unknown whether they will return or not. There is a lot of work to do in the near future. It was felt that two hours for 70p was reasonable, and income is needed. There are far less visitors due to lockdown and many people are working from home. It would be very difficult to predict the coming year's income.

There is the possibility that there will be no all day parking there. Complaints had been received about lighting and potholes and income will be needed.

There was the opinion that an hour would not be long enough for some visitors and a question about how much extra income would be gained by reducing the free parking time.

A vote was taken on the proposal:

For	5
Against	4

RESOLVED that there is no change to the car parking charges at Fen Lane except to reduce the free parking from two hours to one hour

7. TO RECEIVE THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT AND AGREE THE PAYMENT SCHEDULES FOR JANUARY

The secretary reported an amendment to the receipts and payments summary for East Anglian Cleaning Services amount of £1,245.54. This figure should now read £1,187.64 due to there being no cleaning undertaken over the Christmas period.

RESOLVED To receive the Responsible Financial Officer's Report and agree the payment schedules for January

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Catchpole has been looking into the ditches and the areas that need attention will be sorted out shortly. There has been a problem with the sluice gate behind Morrison's petrol station, which was cable tied open. He has now cut the ties and closed the gate hoping this will alleviate the drainage problem. He will keep an eye on it. He pointed out that there is a lot of flooding there at the moment. The contractor will start work in the next few days.

It was suggested that Anglian Water is contacted regarding the sluice gate issue.

The Drainage Board recently carried out a 'walk about' on the Common and associated areas and their report is awaited.

It was confirmed that there is a reserve fund of £49,000 in the budget, for replacing the marsh pump. A review would have to take place to ascertain how much Anglian Water and Suffolk County Council would give if the pump needed replacement.

The Chair thanked Councillor Catchpole for his work on this.

Parking Enforcement letter

An email had been received from a member of the public concerning a parking fine at Beccles Quay car park, from National Parking Enforcement, of £160 including charges, which is now going to court. He asked for help from the Trust in over-turning these charges.

The Trust chose a licensed company to do the work and it was felt that this is between the car parking company and the person who has received the fine.

RESOLVED To delegate to Trust officers that the response to any requests for intervention in parking fines would be refused on the basis that this is between the car owner and the parking company.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO FOLLOW