

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BECCLES FENLAND CHARITY TRUST HELD ON TUESDAY 10TH JANUARY 2023 IN COUNCIL CHAMBER AT TOWN HALL

Present

Councillors: Barry Darch (Chair), Jennie Robinson, Richard Stubbings, Colin Hill, Stevie Bubb, Ash Lever, Graham Catchpole, Gillian Birrell, Nathalie Chidley, Chris Greenhill and Phil Dennington.

In Attendance: Paul Cunningham (Secretary)

Members of the Public: 1

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Peggy McGregor, Jeff Harris and Daniel Smith. Brian Woodruff was not present.

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 6th December 2022

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Beccles Fenland Charity Trust meeting held on Tuesday 6th December 2022.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

There were none.

5. To receive the draft minutes of the Assets & Estates Committee meeting held on Wednesday 21st December 2022

RESOLVED to receive the draft minutes of the Assets & Estates Committee meeting held on Wednesday 21st December 2022.

6. To receive the draft minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee meeting held on Thursday 15th December 2022

RESOLVED to receive the draft minutes of the above meeting.

7. To agree the Trust budget for 2023-24

Cllr Stubbings proposed that the draft Trust budget, as amended by earlier discussion at the Town Council meeting, be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Birrell, a vote was taken which was in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED to approve the draft Trust budget for 2023-24.

8. To consider proposal to plant willow trees on 'Marina site' and Marshes 19 and 20

Cllr Stubbings noted that this issue had been discussed at a recent Assets & Estates Committee meeting and that he had asked for it to be considered by Full Trust for an 'in principle' decision, and he invited comments from councillors. Cllr Chidley noted that willows will continue to grow on any site long-term, as they regrow easily. Cllr Catchpole commented that marshes 19 and 20 were not appropriate sites, as the visual impact on the Common would be problematic. Cllr Chidley proposed that planting should not go ahead on Marshes 19 and 20. This was seconded by Cllr Catchpole, a vote was taken which was in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED to reject the suggestion to plant willow trees on Marshes 19 and 20.

Cllr Stubbings proposed that the Assets & Estates Committee be asked to carry out further investigations with a view to planting on the Marina site in 2024. This was seconded by Cllr Bubb, a vote was taken which was in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED to ask the Assets & Estates Committee to carry out further investigations with a view to planting on the Marina site in 2024.

9. To give delegated authority to Secretary, in conjunction with Cllr Catchpole, to take part in East Suffolk Council tender assessment process for refurbishment of Common Play Park

Chair proposed that the Secretary, in conjunction with Cllr Catchpole, be given delegated authority to take part in East Suffolk Council tender assessment process for refurbishment of Common Play Park. This was seconded by Cllr Chidley, a vote was taken which was in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED to give the Secretary, in conjunction with Cllr Catchpole, delegated authority to take part in East Suffolk Council tender assessment process for refurbishment of Common Play Park.

10. To receive the Responsible Financial Officer's Report and agree the payment schedules for December

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

11. Any Other Business

Gill Bullen (member of the public) read a letter about her work as a volunteer at the Quay, looking after the planters and litter picking, which she is willing to continue to do. Councillors thanked her for her work and asked her to continue with her volunteering.

12. Date of next meeting Tuesday 7th February 2023 following the Town Council meeting

RESOLVED that the date of the next meeting is confirmed as Tuesday 7th February 2023 in Council Chamber at Town Hall.

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

13. To consider an issue with the Quay car park

An issue was discussed, and appropriate action agreed.

14. To approve the confidential minutes of the Beccles Fenland Charity Trust meeting held on Tuesday 6th December 2022

RESOLVED to approve the confidential minutes of the Beccles Fenland Charity Trust meeting held on Tuesday 6th December 2022.

15. To receive the draft confidential minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee meeting held on Thursday 15th December 2022

RESOLVED to receive the draft confidential minutes of the above meeting.

16. To receive the draft confidential minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Wednesday 16th November 2022

RESOLVED to receive the draft confidential minutes of the above meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.53pm.