



Preserving our Heritage. Protecting our Future.

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Minutes of the meeting of Beccles Fenland Charity Trust held on Tuesday 20th May 2025 in Council Chamber at Town Hall

Present: Colin Hill (Chair), Jeff Harris, Peter Shannon, Philippa Drew, Daniel Smith, Barry Darch, Richard Stubbings, Stevie Bubb, Christine Wheeler, Joe Athorn and Krista Booker.

In Attendance: Paul Cunningham, Secretary; Candi Turner, Deputy Secretary.

Apologies: Gillian Birrell, Nathalie Chidley, Chris Greenhill and Samuel Hunt.

Absent: Tarek Lahin

Members of public: None.

1 - To receive apologies for absence

Received from Gillian Birrell. Sam Hunt, Chris Greenhill and Nathalie Chidley. Tarek Lahin was not present.

What?	By Whom?	By When?
There are no actions for this item.		

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

There were none.

What?	By Whom?	By When?
There are no actions for this item.		

3 - Draft minutes of the Development, Commerce and Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on Monday 12th May 2025

Motion to receive draft minutes proposed by Cllr Smith.

Seconded by Cllr Stubbings.

Councillors voted in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To receive for information the draft minutes of the above meeting.

To consider the following recommendations from this meeting:

i To ask Secretary to draft a tender document to be considered at next meeting of committee and to give the required 90 days' notice to the current contractor.

Proposed by Cllr Smith.

Seconded by Cllr Shannon.

Councillors voted in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To ask Secretary to draft a tender document to be considered at next meeting of Development Committee and to give the required 90 days' notice to the current contractor.

ii To agree to contribute £3,000 towards the grant application to ESC Local CIL Fund for coloured lights on south side of Beccles Quay, thus sum to be drawn from the town council's own neighbourhood CIL funds.

Cllr Smith explained that this project had been suggested by Quay Development Group and agreed by Development Committee. He noted that he had looked at the current string of non-working lights and that he would suggest leaving two gaps in the string of lights where trees would interfere with the lights.

Cllr Stubbings spoke against the project, arguing that this was not new infrastructure and would therefore risk being rejected by East Suffolk. He also noted that the project was on the agenda of the Assets & Estates Committee meeting the next day. He also noted that this area of the Quay remains wet and that this would make any events there difficult at present.

Cllr Stubbings proposed that the item be deferred. This was seconded by Cllr Bubb. Councillors voted in favour and it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

What?	By Whom?	By When?
There are no actions for this item.		

4 - Any other Fenland Trust business

Cllr Wheeler reported that Finance & Governance Committee had discussed the possibility of submitting an additional bid to the ESC Local CIL Fund to cover the costs of the reports and other documentation to take forward the waste site project. Councillors agreed to defer this to the next meeting.

What?	By Whom?	By When?
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There are no actions for this item.

5 - To confirm the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 3rd June 2025 after the town council meeting

Councillors agreed to hold an additional meeting before the end of May in order to allow decisions on bids to the Local CIL Fund to be made before the application deadline of 31st May. Councillors asked Secretary to arrange a suitable meeting date.

What?	By Whom?	By When?
There are no actions for this item.		