



Preserving our Heritage. Protecting our Future.

Town Hall,
The Walk,
Beccles,
NR34 9AJ

Tel: 01502 712109

admin@becclestowncouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the meeting of Beccles Fenland Charity Trust on Tuesday 13th January 2026 after the town council meeting in Council Chamber at Town Hall

Present: Joseph Athorn, Gillian Birrell, Krista Booker, Stephanie Bubb, Barry Darch (Chair), Philippa Drew, John Greig, Alan Hopley, Samuel Hunt, Peter Shannon, Richard Stubbings, Christine Wheeler

In Attendance: Paul Cunningham, Secretary

Apologies: Nathalie Chidley, Jeff Harris, Daniel Smith

Absent: Tarek Lahin

Members of public: No members of the public.

1 - To receive apologies for absence

Received from Jeff Harris, Daniel Smith and Nathalie Chidley.

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 - To approve the minutes of the Beccles Fenland Charity Trust meeting held on Tuesday 2nd December 2025

Motion to approve minutes proposed by Cllr Darch.

Seconded by: Cllr Bubb

Councillors voted unanimously in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To accept for accuracy and adoption the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd December 2025.

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

4 - Matters arising from these minutes

There were none.

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

5 - To receive the Responsible Financial Officer's Report and agree the payment schedules for December 2025

Cllr Stubbings noted the two transactions with Toolstation and he suggested that such purchases should be made with independent local suppliers instead, where appropriate.

Motion to approve the payment schedules: Cllr Darch

Seconded by: Cllr Stubbings

Councillors voted in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To receive the RFO's report and to agree the payment schedules for December 2025.

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

6 - Draft minutes of Assets and Estates Committee meeting held on Wednesday 17th December 2025

Motion to receive draft minutes proposed by Cllr Stubbings.

Seconded by Cllr Wheeler.

Councillors voted in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To receive for information the draft minutes of the Assets and Estates Committee meeting held on Wednesday 17th December 2025.

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

7 - Draft minutes of Development and Commerce Committee meeting held on Monday 8th December 2025

Motion to receive draft minutes proposed by Cllr Birrell.

Seconded by Cllr Darch.

Councillors voted in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To receive for information the draft minutes of the Development and Commerce Committee meeting held on Monday 8th December 2025.

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

8 - Draft minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on Monday 22nd December 2025

Motion to receive draft minutes proposed by Cllr Wheeler.

Seconded by Cllr Darch.

Councillors voted in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To receive for information the draft minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on Monday 22nd December 2025.

To consider the following recommendation from this meeting:

To agree the draft Trust budget for 2026-27

Cllr Wheeler noted that proposed budget is balanced, with the exception of £150,000 for toilet block refurbishment, which will need to be funded by a combination of our own CIL funds and external grants.

Cllr Wheeler proposed that the draft budget be approved.

Seconded by Cllr Stubbings

Councillors voted unanimously in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To agree the Trust's budget for 2026-27 as drafted.

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

9 - Draft minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025

Motion to receive draft minutes proposed by Cllr Athorn.

Seconded by Cllr Darch.

Councillors voted in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To receive for information the draft minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025.

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

10 - Any other Fenland Trust business

There was none.

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

11 - To agree the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 3rd February 2026 after the town council meeting

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Tuesday 3rd February 2026 after the town council meeting.

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

12 - To consider confidential items

Councillors asked any members of the public to leave the meeting at this point.

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

13 - Draft confidential minutes of Development and Commerce Committee meeting held on Monday 8th December 2025

Motion to receive draft confidential minutes proposed by Cllr Birrell.

Seconded by Cllr Darch.

Councillors voted in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To receive for information the draft confidential minutes of the Development and Commerce Committee meeting held on Monday 8th December

2025.

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

14 - Draft confidential minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025

Motion to receive draft confidential minutes proposed by Cllr Athorn.

Seconded by Cllr Booker.

Councillors voted in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To receive for information the draft confidential minutes of the Personnel Committee meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025.

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