

Minutes of the meeting of Trust's Development and Commerce Committee meeting on Monday 6th July after the town council's equiv... in Committee Room at Town Hall

Present: Gillian Birrell (Chair), Krista Booker, Barry Darch, Alan Hopley, Peter Shannon

In Attendance: Paul Cunningham, Secretary

Apologies: Joseph Athorn, John Greig, Daniel Smith

Absent: None

Members of public: No members of the public.

1 - To receive apologies for absence

Received from Joe Athorn, Daniel Smith and John Greig.

What?	By Whom?	By When?

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

There were none.

What?	By Whom?	By When?

3 - To approve the minutes of the Development & Commerce committee meeting held on Monday 8th June 2026

Motion to approve minutes proposed by Cllr Darch.

Seconded by Cllr Birrell.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour and it was therefore **RESOLVED** To accept for accuracy and adoption the minutes of the committee meeting held on Monday 8th June 2026.

What?	By Whom?	By When?

4 - Matters arising from these minutes

There were none.

What?	By Whom?	By When?

5 - To consider report on potential leisure hire activities at Beccles Quay

Councillors considered the report from Cllr Stubbings. Town Clerk reported that Sportstore had responded to say that they were unable to operate a hire service themselves but that they would be willing for the Trust to use their equipment to run such a service. Councillors asked Secretary to investigate planning permission for a storage facility for the paddleboards at the Quay.

What?	By Whom?	By When?
Investigate planning permission for a storage facility for the paddleboards at the Quay.	Paul Cunningham	21/08/2026

6 - To consider storage hire rates at former waste site

Councillors considered the suggested charges per month for storage of items at the former waste site.

Cllr Darch proposed that the Secretary's recommended hire rates be approved.

Seconded by Cllr Shannon.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour and it was therefore **RESOLVED** To agree the hire charges per month (inc VAT) for items stored other than in containers as follows:

14 feet by 10 feet shed for Rotary Club	£50
Land Rover	£50
Small trailer	£20
Large trailers	£45

What?	By Whom?	By When?

7 - To receive an update on 'Box Up' play equipment facility and to decide whether to accept delivery in November 2026 or to delay to Spring 2027

Cllr Darch proposed that the delivery be delayed until Spring 2027.

Seconded by Cllr Hopley.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour and it was therefore **RESOLVED** To delay delivery of 'Box Up' play equipment facility until Spring 2027.

What?	By Whom?	By When?

8 - Hire rates for 'pop-up' sauna operator

Chair noted the good feedback from the initial weekend. Councillors considered the other proposals from the sauna operator for other activities such as wellness sessions and / or food trailers.

Chair proposed that the committee approve the five further dates for the sauna operator at £100 per weekend and that the operators be invited to submit proposals for wellness sessions and / or food trailers.

Seconded by Cllr Hopley.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour and it was therefore **RESOLVED** To approve the five further dates for the sauna operator at £100 per weekend and to invite the sauna operators to submit proposals for wellness sessions and / or food trailers.

What?	By Whom?	By When?

9 - Any other Fenland Trust business falling under the remit of this committee

Councillors considered a query from Harbour Masters regarding reasonable notice to cancel a pre-booked mooring and still be eligible for a refund. Councillors agreed that the limit should be 48 hours.

Secretary gave a verbal update on his recent meeting with the Broads Society, who have taken over the ownership of the Broads Hub from the former Broads Trust charity, which has now dissolved. Secretary reported that the society are keen to work with us on future events and that they will be attending the Duck Race and will have a stall where members of the public decorate ducks to enter the 'best dressed duck' competition.

Cllr Booker noted that Twinning Association had been successful in their bid for a grant from Sport England towards the cost of the petanque pitch but that this grant covered 50% of the costs. She noted that they would need to raise the other 50% to allow the project to proceed.

What?	By Whom?	By When?

10 - To agree the date of the next meeting

This was confirmed as Tuesday 10th August after the town council's Development & Commerce Committee meeting.

What?	By Whom?	By When?

11 - To consider confidential items

Councillors noted that there were no members of the public present.

What?	By Whom?	By When?

12 - To approve the confidential minutes of the Development & Commerce committee meeting held on Monday 8th June 2026

Motion to approve confidential minutes proposed by Cllr Darch.

Seconded by Cllr Birrell.

Councillors voted unanimously in favour and it was therefore **RESOLVED** To accept for accuracy and adoption the confidential minutes of the committee meeting held on Monday 8th June 2026.

What?	By Whom?	By When?