



Preserving our Heritage. Protecting our Future.

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Minutes of the meeting of Beccles Fenland Charity Trust on Tuesday 3rd March after the Town Council meeting in Council Chamber at Town Hall

Present: Joseph Athorn, Stephanie Bubb, Barry Darch (Chair), Philippa Drew, John Greig, Jeff Harris, Peter Shannon, Richard Stubbings

In Attendance: Paul Cunningham, Secretary; District Councillor Sarah Plummer

Apologies: Gillian Birrell, Krista Booker, Nathalie Chidley, Alan Hopley, Samuel Hunt, Tarek Lahin, Daniel Smith, Christine Wheeler

Members of public: 1.

1 - To receive apologies for absence

Received from Christine Wheeler, Tarek Lahin, Krista Booker, Nathalie Chidley, Gillian Birrell, Alan Hopley, Daniel Smith and Sam Hunt.

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 3rd February 2026

Motion to approve minutes proposed by Cllr Darch.

Seconded by: Cllr Shannon

Councillors voted unanimously in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To accept for accuracy and adoption the minutes of the meeting held

on Tuesday 3rd February 2026

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 February 2026

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 February 2026.

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

6 - Draft minutes of Assets and Estates Committee meeting held on Wednesday 18th February 2026

Cllr Stubbings reported that the meeting had discussed a response to a request from the Golf Club to cull rabbits on the common. He noted that the meeting had declined to authorise a cull and that they had agreed to commission an ecological report on the state of the common and whether damage from rabbits was disproportionate. He also noted that the meeting had declined the request from the Golf Club to instal practice nets adjacent to the clubhouse.

He noted that the meeting had also agreed a request to fix the track between the sports and social club and The Avenue but had declined to contribute to the costs. The meeting had also authorised a quote to take electricity to the new location of the pay kiosk at the Quay car park.

Motion to receive draft minutes proposed by Cllr Stubbings.

Seconded by Cllr Drew.

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 18th February 2026.

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

7 - Draft minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting held on Monday 23rd February 2026

Motion to receive draft minutes proposed by Cllr Stubbings.

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 23rd February 2026.

Councillors considered the following recommendation from this meeting:

To amend the Trust budget for 2026-27 to increase the salary budget by £1950 and to change the grant income budget by £1950 to reflect an increase in grant from Town Council

Motion to amend the Trust budget for 2026-27 to increase the salary budget by £1950 and to change the grant income budget by £1950 to reflect an increase in grant from Town Council proposed by Cllr Stubbings.

Seconded by Cllr Athorn.

Councillors voted in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To amend the Trust budget for 2026-27 to increase the salary budget by £1950 and to change the grant income budget by £1950 to reflect an increase in grant from Town Council.

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

8 - Any other Fenland Trust business

There was none.

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

9 - To agree the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 7th April 2026 after the town council meeting

Councillors agreed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 7th April 2026 after the town council meeting.

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

10 - 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.		

11 - To approve the confidential minutes of the Beccles Fenland Charity Trust meeting held on Tuesday 3rd February 2026

Motion to approve confidential minutes proposed by Cllr Darch.

Seconded by: Cllr Athorn

Councillors voted unanimously in favour and it was therefore

RESOLVED To accept for accuracy and adoption the confidential minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 3rd February 2026

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