

Minutes of a Meeting of the Assets and Environment Committee held on Monday 14 May 2018 at 11:00am in the Council Chamber of Beccles Town Hall

PRESENT: Mrs C A Topping (Chair)
Mrs S A Bubb
E Brambley-Crawshaw (Ex-Officio)
G Catchpole (Deputy Chair) (part)
N Elliott
M Haynes
R Stubbings (Ex-Officio)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs C Boyne, Town Clerk

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: 0

1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were none.

2. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR ANY REQUESTS FOR THE GRANTING OF DISPENSATIONS IN RELATION TO ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

There were none.

3. TO RECEIVE FOR ACCURACY AND ADOPTION THE MINUTES OF THE ASSETS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12 MARCH 2018

RESOLVED To receive for accuracy and adoption the minutes of the Assets and Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 12 March 2018

4. TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE BLYBURGATE HALL OPERATIONAL GROUP MEETINGS HELD ON TUESDAY 13 MARCH 2018 AND TUESDAY 8 MAY 2018 AND CONSIDER A REQUEST FORM MAYFLOWER ARTS & CRAFTS TO OCCUPY STORAGE AT BLYBURGATE HALL

The chair explained that the expression of interest from Mayflower Arts would be moved to item 7.

The clerk reported that all of the users had been asked to detail their chairs and tables requirements. Unfortunately some of the layouts were big and quite complex and the caretaker would be spending a lot of his time laying out and putting away tables and chairs, and he would not be available to do this in the afternoons or the evenings. She was not aware of any other halls that provided this service without making a charge.

A compromise had therefore been suggested by the Operational Group for chairs to be left around the side of the hall so that it would be easier to move



them into position and for tables to be left in the kitchen so that they were more easily accessible. The committee agreed that this would be a good compromise. Roger Andrew had agreed to still set up the chairs and tables for the Beccles WI on the first Wednesday of the month.

RESOLVED That chairs will be left around the edge of the Blyburgate Hall and that tables will be left in the kitchen for easier access

The clerk reported that the Beccles Lions had asked to hire the mezzanine room in the hall. Another group would be hiring the main hall at the same time. The Lions had suggested that they could share the cost of the hire of the hall with the other hirer. The Operational Group suggested that a separate charge should be made for the mezzanine hire due to the extra wear and tear on the building, and it would be dependent on the group in the hall agreeing to share.

RESOLVED That a charge of £10 is made for the hiring of the mezzanine room, providing any hirers in the main hall agree to the sharing of the building

The chair reported that Quayside Conservatories does not carry out repairs to windows so another contractor would need to be found.

The clerk confirmed that Field 2 Fork had now returned its licence in respect of the hire of the car parking space at Blyburgate Hall.

It was confirmed that Swifts had been seen in the area but not yet at Blyburgate Hall.

5. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PRIDE IN BECCLES SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14 MARCH 2018

Councillor Brambley-Crawshaw reported that no further detail had been received from Stephen Malster regarding the planting at the base of the Tower. It was agreed that the clerk should contact Stephen by phone to chase regarding this and also in respect of the planters at Blyburgate Hall.

The new bins on the A146 were being well used and the litter in the area was reducing.

The planting of the Flower Towers for winter 2018 and spring 2019 was discussed and it was

RESOLVED To accept the quotation of £2,053 from Goose Green Nurseries for the planting of the Flower Towers for winter 2018 and spring 2019



6. TO RECEIVE AN OFFER OF A GRANT FROM THE BECCLES BUSINESS AND TOURISM ASSOCIATION TO PURCHASE REPLACEMENT CHRISTMAS LIGHTS FOR THE TOWN

A request had been made for the council to purchase replacement display Christmas lights at an approximate cost of £6,000. The Beccles Business and Tourism Association was offering to grant the full amount towards the cost of the lights. The council would be the owner of the lights and would be purchasing for the benefit of the town.

The clerk was asked to ascertain which lights were being replaced and whether the old displays could be passed on to another council.

RESOLVED To purchase replacement Christmas Lights at an approximate cost of £6,000 and receive a grant from the Beccles Business and Tourism Association for the full amount

7. TO CONSIDER VACATING THE HUNGATE STORE AND MOVING ALL STORED ITEMS TO THE BLYBURGATE HALL

The clerk explained that there was a cellar and a side store at the Hall. The cellar was currently accessed through the garden of the Cottage and would need boarding out as the floor was currently soil. Mayflower Arts & Crafts had expressed an interest in letting out the side store as it backed on to their shop. There was also the possibility that a shed could be erected at the side of the hall.

The council was currently paying rates of £650 per year for the Hungate Store. It was in a poor state of repair. There were a lot of items currently kept in the store and it was easily accessible.

It was agreed that the first task should be sort out the Hungate Store and then work out what space would be needed. It was suggested that the building should be registered as a Community Asset given its location and historical significance.

It was noted that the Men's Shed had expressed an interest in the Store. It was pointed out that the store does not currently have power.

It was agreed that the matter should be deferred to the next meeting and that Councillor Brambley-Crawshaw and Mr Tidy, along with any other willing committee members, would produce an inventory listing all of the items in the store and bring that back to the next meeting.

It was agreed to decline Mayflower Arts & Crafts Group's request to occupy the side store at the Hall until the council's storage requirements were known.

RESOLVED That Councillor Brambley-Crawshaw and Mr Tidy produce an inventory listing of the items currently held in the Hungate Store and this will be reviewed at the next meeting



(Councillor Catchpole arrived)

8. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REGARDING FLOODING PROBLEMS AT WAVENEY MEADOW

The chair reported that three phases of work were required and a budget was in place for the first two phases which would be going to the Waveney District Council Cabinet meeting of approval. No evidence had been found of any sluice gates next to the moorings. The current sluice gate next to Galleon's Boat Yard would be very expensive to repair. The alternative was to install an outlet pipe which would take the water out to the other side of the Barsham Wall. The drainage from Nelson Way was coming down into the system and this was Anglian Water's responsibility and so Anglian Water was being approached regarding a contribution. Heavy plant would be required to carry out the work but given that the Lido was opening in a couple of weeks, it made sense to hold off any works until September when the area would be quieter. Dredging would also be carried out and the Broads Authority was being approached as it was planning to dredge further up the river and so the machinery would be nearby and could be utilised near Waveney Meadow also. All residents were being informed of the planned works and the mooring holders had received a letter.

Waveney District Council had asked whether the Waveney Meadow car Park could be used for the duration of the works and this was agreed. The chair was thanked for her work on this.

RESOLVED That the Waveney Meadow car park is used for plant storage and works vehicles whilst work is carried out to resolve the flooding issues at Waveney Meadow and the surrounding land

9. TO REVIEW PROGRESS ON THE COMMITTEE'S PROJECT LIST

Improvements to Facilities for Car, Bus and Coach Parking – It was noted that a response had not been received from Roy's, and it was suggested that coaches could drop off in the lay-by outside Sheepgate. Councillor Brambley-Crawshaw agreed to investigate further.

Napier Terrace – This needed to be transferred to the Beccles Fenland Charity Trust project list.

CCTV Cameras – The Twyfords' camera installation was going ahead, but suitable locations at Old Market and Hungate car park were proving difficult to find. There was an option to put a camera on the Tattoo Parlour but the transmitter would need to be situated on a pole in order to have line of site with the transmitter on the Tower. Councillor Stubbings agreed to investigate further. The problem with locating the camera on the Hungate Store was the lack of power.

10. TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AS MONDAY 11 JUNE 2018



The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 11 June 2018.

- 11. ADMISSION TO MEETINGS - PURSUANT TO SECTION 1(2) OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 IT IS PROPOSED THAT, BECAUSE OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED, THE PUBLIC AND PRESS LEAVE THE MEETING DURING CONSIDERATION OF THE REMAINING MATTERS**

RESOLVED That pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is proposed that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the remaining matters

