

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Assets and Environment Committee held on Monday 11 February 2019 at 11:00am in the Council Chamber of Beccles Town Hall**

**PRESENT:** Mrs C Topping (Chair)  
G Catchpole (Deputy Chair)  
Mrs S A Bubb  
N Elliott  
Mrs M D Haynes  
J Janney  
R Stubbings

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs C Boyne, Town Clerk

**MEMBERS OF PUBLIC: 0**

**1. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brambley-Crawshaw and Downes.

**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 10 DECEMBER 2018**

**RESOLVED** To receive for accuracy and adoption the minutes of the Assets and Environment Committee meeting held on Monday 10 December 2018

**4. TO RECEIVE THE MINUTES OF THE PRIDE IN BECCLES MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 15 JANUARY 2019**

**RESOLVED** To receive the minutes of the Pride in Beccles meeting held on Tuesday 15 January 2019

**5. TO RECEIVE A RESPONSE FROM SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL REGARDING THE BUS STOP ADJACENT TO TESCO BEING USED AS A COACH DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP POINT**

Suffolk County Council had agreed that the bus stop adjacent to Tesco on Newgate could be used as a coach drop-off and pick-up point. The coaches could then lay-over in the lay-by on George Westwood Way. Councillor Topping to inform Shreeve coaches and some of the local holiday camps that arrange bus trips for their guests.

*CT*

**RESOLVED** To note the response from Suffolk County Council that the bus stop adjacent to Tesco can be used as a coach drop-off and pick-up and publicise this amongst coach companies and local holiday camps

**6. TO INVESTIGATE A SUITABLE LOCATION IN THE VICINITY OF THE WAR MEMORIAL FOR A SIMPLE AND SYMPATHETIC MEMORIAL TO BE INSTALLED TO MARK THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR I**

It was generally agreed that the type of memorial should be decided first and that this would then inform where the best location would be for it to be placed.

(Councillor N Elliott arrived)

The soldier silhouette benches were discussed but there was concern regarding the longevity of these benches.

Councillor Stubbings agreed to investigate options for a memorial.

**RESOLVED** That Councillor Stubbings investigates options for a simple and sympathetic memorial to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the end of World War I.

**7. TO INVESTIGATE THE MOVING OF A VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGN POST FROM CONEY HILL TO BALLYGATE IN ORDER TO ADDRESS SPEEDING ISSUES IN BALLYGATE**

The chair reported that there was an existing post (a former bus stop sign) on Ballygate that could be used as a post for the VAS sign. The height of the post needed to be increased, but once Suffolk County Council had carried out this work, a bracket could be purchased and attached to the post.

**RESOLVED** To utilise the existing post in Ballygate for attaching the Vehicle Activated Sign

**8. TO RECEIVE THE NOTES OF THE BLYBURGATE HALL OPERATIONAL GROUP MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16 JANUARY 2019 AND A QUOTATION IN RESPECT OF BLYBURGATE HALL**

The operational group had now been disbanded. The clerk would be writing to the remaining members of the group to thank them for their assistance in due course.

**RESOLVED** To receive the notes of the Blyburgate Hall Operational group meeting held on Wednesday 16 January 2019

GA

The quotation for the cleaning of the hall was considered, but it was generally agreed that the cost of paying an outside contractor to clean the hall was prohibitive. It was agreed that the cleaning of the hall and the town centre should be monitored more regularly.

**RESOLVED** To not accept the quotation for the cleaning of Blyburgate Hall

**9. TO CONSIDER THE PRODUCTION OF A NEW TOWN GUIDE FOR SUMMER 2019**

It was generally agreed that there was no particular need to update the guide for this year, as most of the content was still current and there were still plenty of copies left.

**RESOLVED** To not produce a new Town Guide for summer 2019

**10. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM COUNCILLOR TOPPING TO SET ASIDE TIME SLOTS AT BLYBURGATE HALL FOR COMMUNITY USAGE**

The chair explained that the council now owned a village hall but there was no time set aside for community use, as most days and evenings were now booked. She was hoping that time could be set aside for people to have a coffee, play some table tennis, socialise, have cooking classes etc

It was suggested that the mezzanine could be used for this purpose whilst the main hall was in use, but that the council should not turn away paying groups as ultimately these groups were also offering activities for the community. It was pointed out that as the mezzanine was upstairs, people with disabilities would not be able to access it. There was the option of using the Ambulance Station for some community use as this was not fully booked.

It was suggested that there were plenty of alternative community venues in Beccles.

**RESOLVED** To turn down the request from Councillor Topping to set aside time slots at Blyburgate Hall for Community usage

**11. TO REVIEW PROGRESS ON THE COMMITTEE'S PROJECT LIST**

**Further CCTV Cameras** – Planning permission had been submitted for cameras on Twyford's and the tattoo parlour on Hungate Car Park.

**Internal Alterations to the Town Hall** – The clerk had met with the architect and planning permission would be sought for the changes to the building as agreed by council, except for the blocking up of the Deputy Clerk's door and the creation of an upstairs fire escape, as the planning officer had reservations regarding these two alterations.

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**Refurbishment of Blyburgate Hall Cottage** – It was agreed that this item could now be removed.

**12. TO CONFIRM THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING AS MONDAY 11 MARCH 2019 AT 11:00AM**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed at Monday 11 March 2019 at 11:00am.

*G. Hopping  
11 March 2019.*