



BECCLES SOCIETY

Minutes of the Meeting Held 13th March 2019 in Rosedale Funeral Home at 7.00 pm

Attendance -

Executive Paul Fletcher (Chairman)
 John Sayer (Vice Chairman)
 Jennifer Fletcher (Minutes Sec.)
 Richard Bellefontaine
 David Lindley

Members Bob Aris
 Terry Goodwin
 Joan Pattison

Apologies Jeff Harris (Treasurer), Julia Harris, Chris Scott, Steve Terry

1.3.19 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and notified the apologies.

2.3.19 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (9th January 2019)

The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3.3.19. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

a) Future projects (3.1.18)

Bob Aris brought the meeting up to date with a progress report on the Pound booklet.

Paul Fletcher indicated that articles detailing what Beccles Society was all about had been submitted to the Bugle and The Charter for publication.

b) McDonald's Car Parking (4.1.18b)

There had been no further response to date and it was agreed that as we had reached an impasse, we would remove this item from the future agenda.

c) Dr. Nicholson Award (15.6.18b)

Bob Aris has produced 2 plaques, one for Sabberton Builders Limited and one for the house itself. The presentation has been arranged for the 26th March 2019 at 10.00am when Greta Levy from the B & B Journal hopes to be present. Paul Fletcher, Bob Aris and John Sayer will present the plaques to Peter Sabberton.

Action PF/BA/JS

d) Development of the Old Ironworks Site (3.11.18b)

Pedestrian access to the town centre from this proposal had been raised with the developer, and although he had agreed to provide this, it was not shown on the planning application plans. Therefore for the avoidance of doubt we requested that it should be indicated on the drawings.

We also expressed concern about the height of the apartment block.

e) Pride in Beccles (10.11.18b))

Alterations are planned for the width of the footpath at the junction of Market Street with Station Road. This will mean that there is no longer any room for the Beccles Society planter to remain, but it is in poor condition and couldn't be moved.

Concern was expressed about the proliferation of existing and proposed signs at this junction and at the Market Street/ Smallgate Junction. Paul Fletcher to take this up with Suffolk CC.

Action PF

f) Peter Clarke Memorial Award (7.1.19)

The Chairman had written to all schools in the town and only received one response from Beccles Primary Academy. This school was unable to produce anything this year, but was happy to consider a submission next year. It was agreed that all the relevant information would be resubmitted in January 2020.

Action PF

4.3.19 Planning applications

1) Ravensmere/Fen Lane

An application was received for a new footpath connection across the green area at the above junction. We were opposed to a similar access from the next door house, which regrettably was subsequently given approval.

We therefore opposed the present application, but this too has now been approved.

2) Caxton Road

The Vets at the end of Caxton Road has sought approval for additional signing on the building. We objected on the grounds that there were too many signs and the proposals were too dominant especially on the corner of a residential terrace.

5.3.19 Membership update

There are currently 80 members of whom 11 are Life Members.

6.3.19 Treasurer's Report

The balance of money held is £2619.51. A donation had been made to Brian Sabberton's Memorial Fund on the sad occasion of his death on 19th January 2019.

7.3.19 Items for the AGM

Fliers were handed out for distribution to members.

Duties on the night of the AGM were agreed as follows:-

- Tea - Joan Pattison and Bob or Eleanor Aris
- Executive - Joan Pattison and Terry Goodwin were put forward for membership of the Executive Committee.
- Admission - Jenny Fletcher and Terry Goodwin would collect subscriptions at the door.
- Vote of Thanks - Bob Aris
- Greet Speaker - John Sayer

Bob Aris suggested giving membership cards out to those who have paid their subscriptions and signed the privacy form. He will investigate this.

Terry Goodwin has taken flyers for the AGM to many shops in the town for their notice boards. Charlie Middleton has distributed notices to the official town notice boards.

8.3.19 Neighbourhood Plan

Draft 4 of the Beccles Neighbourhood Plan is out for consultation with Waveney DC and the Broads Authority.

9.3.19 Broads Local Plan

Comments have been sent to the Broads Authority regarding the Inspector's changes to the Broads Local Plan. The scheme for the Loaves and Fishes in Fen Lane was changed in relation to its proposed use class, not only to allow a public house, but also some business, retail, and possibly some housing on the first floor.

The proposal for residential moorings at Hippersons was also limited to 5.

We raised no objections but preferred the public house use in Fen Lane.

10.3.19 Waveney Local Plan

The Waveney Local Plan is now being signed off by the Inspector as sound, subject to the following modifications in the Beccles area. The vehicular access to the employment area for the Garden Village Development will be from Ellough Road, and 0.9 hectares of land should be reserved for a pre-school site within the proposed housing scheme off London Road.

11.3.19 HGV Movements in Beccles

A further meeting had been organised by Peter Aldous at Ringsfield to enable comments to be made by parish councils and other organisations on the current problems with HGV's in and around the Beccles area.

At this meeting Suffolk CC confirmed that the signing which had been requested was now complete. They confirmed that a registration plate survey would be carried out in March, and the results reported in May.

Ringsfield parish council complained about the rat run which had developed from the Relief Road through Ringsfield and Ilketshall St Andrews towards Bungay etc.

Paul Fletcher was tasked with reporting to Peter Aldous the names of any hauliers whose vehicles were still using Beccles centre as a through route.

Mark Bee raised the prospect of designing for shared spaces in Beccles and Beccles Road Safety group floated the concept of an area wide 20mph zone.

Action PF

12.3.19 Future Meetings

10th April (AGM); 12th June; 11th September; 13th November 2019.

13.3.19 Any Other Business

- a) Richard Bellefontaine asked whether the railway keeper's cottage on Common Lane North should be considered as a non-designated asset.
- b) It appears that negotiations are taking place regarding development of the hotel site off George Westwood Way
- c) Beccles Community Arts have circulated a questionnaire with a covering letter in respect of a public stage at the Quay. It was felt that the questions being put to the residents were too simplistic and would give little useful information.

14.3.19 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

The next executive meeting is on 12th June 2019 at Rosedale Funeral Home at 7.00 pm. The AGM is on 10th April at 7.00pm in Hungate Church Hall.