



BECCLES SOCIETY
Minutes of the Meeting Held 4th September 2019
in Rosedale Funeral Home
at 7.00 pm

Attendance -

<u>Executive</u>	Paul Fletcher	(Chairman)
	John Sayer	(Vice Chairman)
	Jeff Harris	(Treasurer)
	Jennifer Fletcher	(Minutes Sec.)
	Terry Goodwin	
	Julia Harris	
	David Lindley	
	Joan Pattison	
	Chris Scott	

<u>Members</u>	Bob Aris	<u>Apologies</u>	Clare Mackney
	Ray Poll		

1.9.19 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and hoped that all attendees were well.

2.9.19 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (12th June 2019)

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

3.9.19. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

a) Future projects – Pound Booklet (3.1.18)

Robert Aris is awaiting photographs from the museum to illustrate the text which he has rewritten. Terry Goodwin has generously offered to print the booklet which will be sold to the public for £1.50

Action R.A

b) Pride in Beccles – Market Street junction (10.11.18b))

The chairman had written to both Suffolk Preservation Society and the Conservation Officer regarding the sign clutter on Market Street. Suffolk Preservation Society had responded positively and would publish details of the issues involved in the next edition of their journal. They would invite other towns and villages to indicate whether they were experiencing similar problems. The Conservation Officer had also responded saying she

would mention it to Suffolk Highways department.

c) HGV Movements in Beccles (11.3.19)

Road works unfortunately prevented all the traffic counts from being completed, and further counts will be carried out later in September. A further meeting with Peter Aldous will then be arranged.

Action P.F & J.S

4.9.19 Planning applications

- 1) The Morrisons Totem Pole application has been refused following the objections raised by Beccles Society.
- 2) A planning application had been submitted for a nursery and a gun shop in Hungate Court. It was stressed that they were unconnected due to a separating wall. However we raised an objection to the lack of parking provision for the nursery. Action P.F
- 3) Lidl staff parking – Concern was expressed about the apparent lack of staff parking spaces. No objections were sent because subsequent to the meeting a check revealed that 5 spaces for staff were being provided with access off Pound Road.
- 4) 49 Northgate - David Lindley expressed concern at the scale of the redevelopment of this site. Although not posing a problem from Northgate, the height of the building seemed excessive from the other side of the river. It was explained that the details shown on the original planning application did not appear to be a problem, but subsequently the building had been sited on the old railway bridge abutment causing it to be elevated more than expected.

5.9.19 Membership update

Since the very sad death of Ann Frith, our membership currently stands at 74. A donation of £50 had been made from Beccles Society to her memorial fund.

6.9.19 Treasurer's Report

The current balance of money held is £2731.64.

7.9.19 Speaker for the AGM 2020

Mike Wade, ex police and town crier will speak to the meeting on historical Foul Murders in East Anglia. The fee and date have been agreed.

8.9.19 Neighbourhood Plan

20 comments and observations have now been received from the public consultation exercise. These will now be assessed over the coming weeks. Most were from public organisations with only a disappointing 6 from members of the public. Action P.F & J.S

9.9.19 Quality of Place Awards

Robert Aris stated that 9 projects are being considered for the award and site visits are due to take place shortly in order to assess the merits of each scheme. The award will be made later in October.

10.9.19 Media Training Course by Suffolk Preservation Society

This course was attended by the Chairman who had since written a press release based on the advice provided, about the sign clutter in Market Street. This had been accepted by the Bugle but the Beccles & Bungay Journal did not print it.

11.9.19 Future Meetings

13th November 2019; 8th January 2020; 11th March 2020; 8th April 2020 (AGM); 10th June 2020.

12.9.19 Any Other Business

a) The Chairman requested ideas for the future development of the Society, including how to involve more of the membership.

Action All

b) Conservation of the environment was being undermined in several locations in Beccles eg:-

* 2 flint walls at Lavinia cottages were propped up with sandbags and high visibility mesh.

* Asphalt in Old Market and epoxy mix in Northgate, which in each case replaced paving after repairs, is crumbling and deteriorating.

* A general indication of lack of contractor monitoring, incorrect specifications being used and in some instances removal of Council assets (eg. granite kerbs and paving flags).

* A resident appears to be running an aggregate business from his home near Fen Lane and also doing welding work.

This results in heavy lorries using a totally unsuitable road.

It was agreed that these matters would be discussed with the Conservation Officer.

Action R.A & P.F

13.9.19 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

The next executive meeting is on 13th November 2019 in Rosedale Funeral Home at 7.00 pm.