



BECCLES SOCIETY MINUTES

Meeting by Zoom at 7pm on 13 January
2021

Attendance

<u>Executive</u>	Paul Gurbutt	(Chairman)
	Ray Poll	(Membership Sec)
	Clare Mackney	(Publicity Sec)
	Mu Gurbutt	(Minutes Sec)
	Christopher Scott	
	Barry Darch	
<u>Members</u>	Bob Aris	

1.1.21 Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

There were no apologies.

The chairman welcomed Barry Darch who has agreed to join the executive committee.

2.1.21 Minutes of the previous meeting on 11 November 2020

The Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

3.1.21 Matters arising from the previous minutes

(a) Pound Booklet (3.11.20a)

There is no further progress.

(b) Commemoration Plaques Review (3.11.20b)

Bob Aris reported that it had not been on the agenda for the Town Council meeting on 23 November. Bob had tried to contact Jeff Harris about this, but without success. Paul said he would try to contact Jeff by phone.

(c) Town Council Pedestrianisation Proposals (3.11.20c).

Nothing to report.

(d) Dr Nicholson Awards (9.11.20d)

Bob has drafted a letter to be sent to the winners. However, because of lockdown, this is being held until it is safe to visit.

(e) Neighbourhood Plan (7.11.20e)

The plan is out for Regulation 16 consultation for the period 14 December to 8 February 2021.

Clare Mackney felt it important that the Society makes a response that is seen to be broadly supporting. She volunteered to draft the response.

Christopher Scott said he had been telephoned by Robert Fiske who was concerned that those without a computer could not see the plan during lockdown and questioned whether the consultation should be put on hold. Paul said he would contact East Suffolk about possibility of delaying the end of the consultation period, informing the mayor and district councillors about our action. Clare will contact Chris Greenhill, chairman of the Beccles Neighbourhood Plan group about extending the consultation period.

(f) Weekly Planning reports (7.77.20)

Bob Aris said there was nothing to report.

4.1.21 Planning Applications

(a) 5 Ringsfield Road

Ray Poll had visited the property and had reported via email to everyone. The consensus was that there are no grounds for objecting if built as planned.

5.1.21 Membership Update

(a) Members of the Society

No change. Instead of contacting people about membership renewals at present, everyone will be notified in the preparation notices for the AGM. There was a discussion on how to offer life membership to certain people.

(b) Members of the committee

Barry Darch, who is chairman of the Trustees of Beccles Museum was introduced, and has agreed to join the committee.

6.1.21 Treasurer's report

There was no report. Paul agreed to try to contact Jeff Harris about the latest situation. Bob also reported he had had difficulty contacting Jeff.

Bob reported that our reports to the Charity Commission are up to date, and there is no need for HMRC returns.

7.1.21 AGM Preparations for 14 April 2021

It was agreed that:

- It is would not be possible to hold a physical meeting in April, but a meeting will be held on 12 May by zoom. Members without a computer will be able to dial in using a landline or mobile. It is important that members are able to attend as the quorum for an AGM is 15.

- A newsletter will be sent out to all members containing a chairman's report, an article with an historical theme by Barry Darch, a summary of the Dr Nicholson award.
- The Newsletter will be accompanied by: the notice of the AGM , nominations papers for committee members, details of how to participate in the AGM and how to submit question and proposals and a summary of accounts.
- The subscriptions should remain the same.
- The timetable for preparation of the Newsletter should be: all items to Bob by 14 February, Bob to prepare for printing by 10 March and distribution to members at the beginning of April.
- Paul agreed to inform Martin Bell.

8.1.21 Beccles Neighbourhood Plan - Regulation 16 consultation

See matters arising 3.1.21(e)

9.1.21 Links with Beccles Museum

Barry Darch said the Museum would like to collaborate with the Beccles Society. The Museum could offer to display leaflets, etc., and offer the society one of their temporary exhibition slots on our activities including, for example, items on plaques, awards and Beccles people.

10.1.21 Representation on East Suffolk's Historic Environment SPG

Clare proposed that the society should respond with a general statement of support and some suggestions such as the need for more diagrams, a glossary including a definition of historic building. Clare will draft a response, Paul will circulate it to the committee and then send on to East Suffolk.

11.1.21 A.O.B.

Bob reported that Paul Fletcher is still listed as a Trustee on the Charity Commission site. Paul G will contact him about this.

10.1.21 Date of Next Meeting.

17 March 2021 by Zoom. There may be need for a meeting before the newsletter is sent out.