MARCH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 3 June 2024 held in The Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall commencing at 7.15pm.

Present	Councillor	G Christy A Woollard	Town Mayor Deputy Town Mayor
	Councillors	S Court J French S Harris M Purser	M Field K French J Lawler T Taylor
	Town Clerk Assistant To	wn Clerk	S Lemmon S Taylor
	Public		0

36 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Spencer and Orbell and County Councillor John Gowing.

37 Police Update

Cllr Christy attended a meeting on 10 May 2024. Minutes to be circulated once received by the Clerk. Next meeting scheduled for 10 June 2024 (tbc).

38 Planning Applications

Because of her position on the Fenland District Council Planning and Development Committee and her commitment to Paragraph 28 of the Fenland District Council Code of Conduct, Councillor J French declares a permanent personal interest and takes no part in discussions relating to planning matters.

Application Name and address of applicant, details of application, Number and recommendation of March Town Council

It was agreed that 2 additional planning applications would be discussed at tonight's meeting.

F/YR23/0909/RM	Paul Hussey, Millfield Development, March. Reserved Matters application relating to detailed matters of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to outline permission F/YR21/1105/O to erect 4 dwellings (1 single-storey 3-bed and 3 2-storey 4-bed) at Land South and West of Highfield House, Elm Road, March. Received: 14 May 2024 Reply by: 28 May 2024 Recommendation; Approval subject to Town Council's flooding/drainage concerns in this area being fully addressed and attenuated.
F/YR24/0396/O	Richborough Estates Erect up to 230 dwellings (outline application with matters committed in respect of access) at Land North of Cherryholt Farm, Burrowmoor Road, March. Received: 24 May 2024 Reply by: 14 June 2024 Recommendation; Approval in principle. The Town Council has serious concerns about flooding and drainage at the location. Any approval must be subject to highways recommendations and suitable s106 contributions/provision secured.
F/YR24/0424/F	Mr Sean Saxby, MJS Investments (March) Ltd. Change of use of land [from agriculture] to dog exercise area, installation of secure fencing up to 1.8m high (max), erect shelters and formation of new access and car parking at Land East of Mill Hill Roundabout, Wimblington Road, March. Received: 29 May 2024 Reply by: 19 June 2024 Recommendation: Approval, subject to satisfactory noise abatement measures for the benefit of neighbouring dwellings (as opening hours are very long!) and Highways recommendations. The Town Council has concerns that the current access' proximity to the roundabout will cause backing up on the roundabout.
F/YR24/0435/F	Mr Josh Ingram, 4 Burn Street, March. Erect a 2-storey side extension and single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling at 4 Burn Street, March. Received; 29 May 2024 Reply by: 19 May 2024 Recommendation; Approval

Public Participation

Since nobody had given the requisite notice to the Clerk to enable them to address the meeting, no public participation took place.

40 Minutes of Meetings

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Main Meeting – 13 May 2024

41 Matters Arising

None

42 Resolution to Approve the Accounting Statements for 2023 / 2024

The Annual Accounting Statements for the financial year 2023 / 2024, as previously circulated, were re-presented to the meeting by the Responsible Financial Officer. Having been previously approved by all councillors at the main meeting of 22 April 2024, a few minor adjustments had been made at the behest of the Council's Internal Auditors which affected Boxes 3 and 9 of the Accounting Statement. It was therefore necessary to seek formal approval once again and re-sign and date the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

After discussing the adjustments;

- a) It was proposed by Councillor K French and seconded by Councillor Purser, with all in favour, that such Accounting Statements be approved.
- b) The resolution to accept the Accounting Statements for 2023 / 2024 was, therefore, unanimously approved.
- c) The Mayor, Councillor Gary Christy duly signed and dated such document as necessary.

43 Summer Band Concerts

The draw was taken prior to the meeting and all dates were allocated to councillors and packs distributed.

44 Grants & Donations

No applications had been received.

45 Cambridgeshire County Council Update

The Clerk reported that all email updates are being circulated on a daily-basis.

As a result of the General Election, Cllr J French reported that all council meetings had been cancelled.

Detailed costings were awaited in relation to possible projects identified as a result of the Broad Street and MATS underspend.

Cllr J French advised that a community celebration party and ribbon-cutting was being organised to celebrate the completion of the Broad Street regeneration at the end of October.

46 Fenland District Council Update

Cllr French advised that all meetings had been cancelled further to the Election being called in July.

47 Payments List

The Payments List, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:30pm.

Councillor G Christy1 July 2024 Mayor of March.