

MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 3rd August 2020 held via “Zoom” commencing at 7.15pm.

Present	Councillor	K French R Jack	Town Mayor Deputy Town Mayor
	Councillors	DW Connor CK Elkin R Johnson RF Skoulding RW White	SR Court J French MW Purser G Tustin
	Town Clerk		C Lemmon

Public / Press No members of the public or press (although it was offered within the agenda notice) had requested permission to access the MTC “Zoom” group to witness proceedings.

To allow the meeting to take place via “Zoom”, and as agreed at the 6th April 2020 Main Council Meeting, Standing Orders are suspended until such time as the coronavirus epidemic abates.

63 Apologies

Apologies were received from County Councillor Gowing.

64 Police Update

No police were in attendance but a written report had been circulated on Saturday 1st August 2020.

65 Planning Applications

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

It was also noted that, due to their involvement in the building industry, Councillors Purser and Skoulding would not take part in any discussions relating to planning issues.

Councillor J French declared that, since she has been made a substitute member for the FDC Planning Committee, she would not take part in any discussions relating to planning applications.

The afore-mentioned Councillors remained visible during this agenda item but all other members observed that their microphones were muted for the entire time.

It was agreed that two additional planning applications would be discussed.

<i>Application Number</i>	<i>Name and address of applicant, details of application, and recommendation of March Town Council</i>
F/YR20/0608/F	<p>Mr M Patel, 2 Great Northern Close, March. Erect a 2-storey rear and single-storey side extension to existing dwelling at 2 Great Northern Close, March. Received: 21 July 2020. Reply by: 11 August 2020. Recommend approval.</p>
F/YR20/0610/F	<p>Mr S Hudson, 6 Almond Drive, March. Erect a single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling (retrospective) at 15 Newlands Avenue, March. Received: 21 July 2020. Reply by: 11 August 2020. Recommend approval.</p>
F/YR20/0625/F	<p>Mr J Palmby, 99A Maple Grove, March. Conversion of garage to additional living accommodation including rendering front elevation at 99A Maple Grove, March. Received: 20 July 2020. Reply by: 10 August 2020. Recommend approval.</p>
F/YR20/0631/F	<p>Mr P Walton, 117 Badgeney Road, March. Erect a single-storey extension to rear of existing dwelling involving demolition of existing extension at 117 Badgeney Road, March. Received: 21 July 2020. Reply by: 11 August 2020. Recommend approval.</p>
F/YR20/0640/F	<p>Mr D Howe, 53 Russell Avenue, March. Erect a single-storey extension to rear and side of existing dwelling at 53 Russell Avenue, March. Received: 28 July 2020. Reply by: 18 August 2020. Recommend approval.</p>
F/YR20/0645/F	<p>Mr Wadlow, 44 Westwood Avenue, March. Erect a 2-storey rear extension to existing dwelling involving removal of conservatory at 44 Westwood Avenue, March. Received: 23 July 2020. Reply by: 13 August 2020. Recommend approval.</p>

F/YR20/0658/VOC

Mr D Creese, 327 Norwood Road, March.

Variation of condition 9 (condition listing approved plans) to planning permission F/YR18/1146/F (Erection of 2 x single-storey 3-bed dwellings with attached single garage) relating to repositioning of dwellings at Land West of 327 Norwood Road, March.

Received: 3 August 2020.

Reply by: 24 August 2020.

Recommend approval.

F/YR20/0674/O

Mr S Thomas, c/o Maxey Grounds & Co, Market Place, March.

Erect up to 9 dwellings involving demolition of existing building (outline application with all matters reserved) at WH Feltham and Son Limited, Estover Road, March.

Received: 29 July 2020.

Reply by: 19 August 2020.

Recommend approval.

66 Public Participation

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

67 Minutes of Meetings

The following Minutes were agreed:

Main Council Meeting of 6th July 2020.

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 20th July 2020.

Unlike the procedure normally adopted whereby the Mayor immediately endorses the minutes, it was agreed that the Clerk should sign the minutes on her behalf.

68 Matters Arising

Re Main Council Meeting of 6th July 2020:

Minute 41 / 54: A replacement Deputy Mayors Chain has been ordered and, whilst things are still relatively quiet, the Mayors Chain has been sent away for repair.

Minute 55: Phil Hughes of Fenland District Council was notified of MTC's willingness to provide £2,500 matched funding on 7th July 2020.

Minute 56: All persons connected with the Christmas events were notified on 7th July 2020 of the Council's decision to cancel.
A press release was issued on 14th July 2020.

Minute 57: The new computer system was ordered on 7th July 2020.
It was noted that, several years previously, MOECS had changed their name to Oznet Limited.

Minute 60: The CGM Group were requested to improve the grass cutting in the vicinity of St Mary's Church on 7th July 2020. A further complaint was lodged on 21st July 2020.

69 Internal Audit Review for Year Ending 31st March 2020 & Reappointment of Internal Auditors

Whiting and Partners, in a letter dated 15th June 2020, stated the following:

- a) "Based on our tests there are no material items in relation to which we need to report".
- b) "We have reviewed the expenses supplied by the Mayor which indicate that the Mayor's Allowance has been expended".

Following the proposition of Councillor Jack, seconded by Councillor Purser, it was unanimously agreed to accept the Internal Audit Review.

Following the proposition of Councillor Purser, seconded by Councillor J French, it was unanimously agreed that Whiting and Partners be re-appointed as the Council's Internal Auditors for year ending 31st March 2021.

70 Cambridgeshire County Council Update

The Clerk reported that all email updates are being circulated on a daily basis. Councillor J French then reported that the March Area Transport Strategy is progressing well.

71 Fenland District Council Update

Councillor J French reported that the March Railway Station Upgrade is moving forward in a positive manner with proposals including:

- a) Platform redesign.
- b) New toilets.
- c) Reconfiguration of parking.

72 Schedule of Accounts

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.55pm

Councillor K French 7th September 2020.
Mayor of March.