**MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.**

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 3rd July 2017 in The Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall commencing at 7.15pm.

**Present** Councillor K French Town Mayor

 J French Deputy Town Mayor

 Councillors SR Court AR Donnelly

 ML George MEC Field

 JW Gowing NJ Harris

 CC Owen MW Purser

 RF Skoulding

 Town Clerk C Lemmon

 Asst Town Clerk GSD Wilkinson

 Public None

**46 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Pugh.

**47 Police Update**

No police were in attendance but written reports from PCSO Thomas Horwood had been circulated on 2nd & 3rd July 2017

**48 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 Court declared a personal interest and took no part in the discussions relating to planning matters.

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

Councillors Court, Purser and Skoulding all left the debating table for the entirety of this agenda item.

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

*Application Name and address of applicant, details of application,*

*Number and recommendation of March Town Council*

F/YR17/0536/F Mr J Cavilla, 21 Henson Road, March.

 Erection of a part single-storey and part 2-storey rear extension involving demolition of existing single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling, and insertion of window to existing first floor side elevation.

S/a.

Received: 26 June 2017.

 Reply by: 13 July 2017.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR17/0541/F Mr T Hussey, 38 Burrowmoor Road, March.

 Erection of a part 2-storey, part single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling and insertion of window to existing first floor side elevation.

43 Upwell Road, March.

Received: 26 June 2017.

 Reply by: 14 July 2017.

Recommend approval.

F/YR17/0399/O Withdrawn

 Erection of up to 2 dwellings and garage to serve No. 69 The Avenue (Outline application with all matters reserved) at Land West Of 69 The Avenue March.

Received: 30 June 2017.

 Withdrawal noted.

F/YR17/0550/F Ms J Mooney, 532 Whittlesey Road, March.

 Erection of a two-storey side extension and detached double garage/store with study above to existing dwelling involving demolition of utility, store and sheds.

S/a.

Received: 3 July 2017.

 Reply by: 20 July 2017.

Recommend approval.

**49 Public Participation**

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

**50 Minutes of Meetings**

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Main Council Meeting of 5th June 2017.

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 19th June 2017.

Christmas Lights Working Party Meeting of 19th June 2017.

**51 Matters Arising**

Re Main Council Meeting of 5th June 2017:

Minute 39: In an e-mail dated 6th June 2017, March Brass 2000 had withdrawn from their commitment to play at the 2nd July 2017 Band Concert. They were replaced by Fenland Music Centre Concert Band.

Minute 40: In an e-mail dated 6th June 2017, Whiting & Partners confirmed their willingness to continue as March Town Council’s Internal Auditors for year ending 31st March 2018.

Re Christmas Lights Working Party Meeting of 19th June 2017:

At the request of Councillor Field, all Councillors were reminded that they should never use

sexist or racist comments.

**52 City Road Toilets Lease Renewal**

The Clerk informed Councillors that the lease with Fenland District Council relating to the City Road Toilets was due for renewal from 1st July 2017.

The proposed lease terms were unchanged from previously as follows:

Term 5 years.

Rent £100 per annum exclusive of VAT.

Break Provision Either party can terminate on no less than 6 months’ notice expiring at the end of a calendar month.

Following discussions, it was agreed that the lease should be renewed in accordance with the

terms stated.

**53 Grants and Donations**

Prior to discussions commencing, the Clerk advised Councillors that £2,000 had been provided

under this budget heading for the current financial year.

It was noted that this was the first occasion, out of a possible four, that this item had been

discussed this financial year.

Two requests for funding had been received and both appeared to meet the general criteria.

Name Cambridgeshire Lowland Search & Rescue (CamSAR).

Amount requested Any amount.

Purpose of request Contribution towards operational costs of the organization.

Name Revitalise Respite Holidays.

Amount requested £354.00p.

Purpose of request Contribution towards a holiday for a disabled person and carer from March.

After discussing both applications, it was unanimously agreed that the following amounts should

be awarded:

CamSAR £200.00p.

Revitalise Respite Holidays £NIL.

**54 Planning Sub-Committee – Replacement of Reserve Member**

Since Councillor Court has been appointed to the Fenland District Council Planning Committee,

it is necessary to replace him on the March Town Council Planning Sub-Committee.

Following discussions, it was agreed that Councillor Owen should replace him thereon.

**55 Cambridgeshire County Council Update**

It was noted that all information received from Cambridgeshire County Council had been circulated to Councillors by e-mail as and when received.

Councillor J French also reported the following:
a) Problems were being encountered with the illegal removal of bollards in Nene Parade, and a solution is currently being sought.

b) Cambs County Council is attempting to obtain £3.5M funding for highway junction improvements within the town. Further information will be provided once it is known whether the bid has been successful.

c) An additional £6M funding has been achieved for education, and will be split between Fenland and East Cambs.

**56 Fenland District Council Update**

Councillor Owen reported that a seminar had been held to discuss the “Wisbech Garden City” proposals.

**57 Schedule of Accounts**

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.05pm

Councillor K French ……………………………………….. 7th August 2017.

Mayor of March.