

MARCH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 6 July 2026 held in The Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall commencing at 7.15pm.

Present	Councillor	A Woollard	Town Mayor
	Councillors	S Court J French H Orbell M Purser	M Field J Lawler R Skoulding
	Town Clerk		S Lemmon
	Assistant Town Clerk		S Farmer
	Public		0
	Press		0

53 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Spencer, K French, Taylor and Christy.

54 Police Update

No official update as the Mayor has been on holiday.

The Clerk reported that despite assurances from the police that the homeless individual in town had been moved on and would no longer cause a nuisance in town, he has since returned and has been observed heavily intoxicated and urinating in public places once again. These incidents have been reported.

55 Planning Applications

Because of their 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 and Cllr Purser declare a permanent personal interest and take no part in discussions relating to planning matters.

<i>Application</i>	<i>Name and address of applicant, details of application, Number and recommendation of March Town Council</i>
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It was agreed that no additional planning applications would be discussed at tonight's meeting.

F/YR26/0445/F	Mr G Harradine, 19 The Avenue Erect a 2-storey dwelling involving the partial demolition of existing building at Grammar House 34A Station Road. Received: 18 June 2026 Reply by: 9 July 2026 Cllr Skoulding declared an interest in this application. Recommendation; Approval. March Town Council would, however, hope to see a bat survey submitted.
F/YR26/0450/F	Mr G Hetherington Erect an agricultural building (free range egg production) and the formation of an attenuation pond at West Fen Farm Whitemoor Road. Received: 22 June 2026 Reply by: 3 July 2026 Recommendation; Approval
F/YR26/0454/F	Mr and Mrs Kirby Erect a building for hair and beauty use involving demolition of existing building at Land West of 132 Elm Road, access via Marwick Road. Received: 22 June 2026 Reply by: 13 July 2026 Recommendation; Approval
F/YR26/0471/F	Mr K Rugg Single-storey rear extension involving the demolition of existing single-storey side and rear extension and raise roof height to form first floor at 23 Knights End Road. Received: 30 June 2026 Reply by: 21 July 2026 Recommendation; Approval subject to concerns about potential overlooking and loss of light to neighbouring properties.
F/YR26/0482/F	Mr and Mrs J White Erect 2 dwellings and the formation of an access involving the demolition of 2 agricultural buildings at Land West of Propsect House Farm Whittlesey Road. Received: 30 June 2026 Reply by: 21 July 2026 Recommendation; Approval

56 Public Participation

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

57 Minutes of Meetings

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Main Meeting: 1 June 2026

Planning Sub-Committee: 15 June 2026

58 Matters Arising

Cllr Field still has some issues and asked why his statement about “resigning” from the Christmas Lights Committee had not been minuted.

[His view/understanding is neither factually accurate nor shared].

The Mayor reiterated that this continued, pointless dialogue will not be tolerated and if Cllr Field wished to lodge a complaint about the Mayor, he could.

59 Clerk’s report on office move

The Clerk reported that the office move had been successful and the new accommodation is comfortable and spacious. She shared with Councillors a breakdown of office move-related expenditure to date.

60 Christmas Lights Bank Account Update (requested by G Christy)

Cllr Christy did not attend the meeting.

Cllr Skoulding advised that the Friends of March Christmas Lights bank account had been transferred to the new committee and new signatories added. He is in possession of the card, although not the card reader.

With this having been addressed, this item will not require any future discussion.

61 Cambridgeshire County Council Update

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

Cllr J French stated that Norwood Road works would commence this month.

Cllr Skoulding expressed his gratitude to the County Council Highways Team who had cut the trees on Upwell Road and stated that the hedge was encroaching the pavement on Robingoodfellows Lane causing pedestrians to have to walk on the road.

It was suggested that this information be passed to Cllr Galbraith.

62 Fenland District Council Update

The Clerk reported that all emails are being circulated on a daily as-and-when-received basis.

Cllr J French reported that March would be receiving £250,000 of a government grant for play equipment.

After yet further delays and complications, Barclays and the new toilets would be completed this month.

The Clerk had circulated an email from Members Services on behalf of the Monitoring Officer at FDC regarding disclosure of councillors home addresses on the public register of interest following recent legislative changes. This was discussed

63 Payments List

The Payments List, as circulated, was agreed.

However, it was noted that the Clerk had omitted to include the Mayor's allowance. It was agreed that she could arrange for this payment to be made rather than waiting until August.

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

Councillor A Woollard3 August 2026
Mayor of March.