**MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.**

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 6th February 2017 in The Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall commencing at 7.15pm.

**Present** Councillor AR Donnelly Town Mayor

K French Deputy Town Mayor

 Councillors SR Court MEC Field

 J French ML George

 JW Gowing NJ Harris

 CC Owen A Pugh

 MW Purser RF Skoulding

 Town Clerk C Lemmon

 Asst. Town Clerk GSD Wilkinson

 Public Nil

**148 Apologies**

No apologies were received.

**149 Justin Hanson – Fenland District Council Environmental Health Officer**

Justin Hanson, the FDC Environmental Health Officer, introduced himself to Councillors and explained his role within the community.

A question and answer session ensued to clarify certain matters that had arisen and provide Councillors with further information.

Following his presentation, Justin Hanson was thanked by the Mayor and left the meeting at pm.

**150 Police Update**

No police were in attendance, but a written update from PCSO Dawn Rae had been circulated to all Councillors on 30th January 2017.

**151 Planning Applications**

It was 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.

Councillors Purser and Skoulding both left the debating table for the entirety of this agenda item.

It was agreed that additional planning application would be discussed.

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

*Number and recommendation of March Town Council*

**152 Public Participation**

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

**153 Minutes of Meetings**

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Main Council Meeting of 9th January 2017.

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 23rd January 2017.

Christmas Lights Working Party Meeting of 23rd January 2017.

Personnel and Administrative Sub-Committee Meeting of 24th January 2017.

**154 Matters Arising**

Re Main Council Meeting of 9th January 2017:

Minute 142: The Precept Request Form was forwarded to Fenland District Council on 10th January 2017.

Re Personnel and Administrative Sub-Committee Meeting of 24th January 2017:

Councillors ratified the findings of the above meeting.

**155 Gaul Road Proposed 40mph Speed Limit Order**

Councillors had previously been circulated with the details of the 40mph Speed Limit Order being proposed by Cambridgeshire County Council.

This proposal was fully supported, and it was agreed that the Clerk should notify Cambridgeshire County Council accordingly.

**156 Request for Funding from Cambs Citizens Advice Bureau**

Councillors discussed the e-mail received from Dr Batul Dungarwalla which had been circulated to them on 16th and 23rd January 2017.

Since minimal written response had been received, it was imperative that a consensus was achieved prior to a response being provided.

Although sympathy was expressed with their financial plight, no funds had been provided within our 2017 / 2018 budget to cover this request. The initial e-mail had been received on 12th January 2017 which was three days after the March Town Council budget had been finalised.

Concern was expressed that, yet again, March Town Council was expected to step in with support when other Councils step out.

Following discussions, it was agreed that the Clerk should inform Dr Dungarwalla that only another £xxx could be committed in addition to the £500 grant previously approved.

**157 Estover Playing Field 2015 CIC**

Councillor Owen and the Clerk displayed large-scale plans of the proposals for Estover Playing Field.

The full planning application has now been lodged with Fenland District Council and a response is anticipated by 17th April 2017.

**158 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.

**159 Fenland District Council Update**

Councillor Owen provided the following update:

**160 Schedule of Accounts**

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at pm

Councillor AR Donnelly…………………………………………….. 6th March 2017.

Mayor of March.