**MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.**

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 8th January 2018 in The Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall commencing at 7.15pm.

**Present** Councillor K French Town Mayor

 J French Deputy Town Mayor

 Councillors MEC Field ML George

 JW Gowing NJ Harris

 A Pugh MW Purser

 RF Skoulding

 FDC Environmental Health Officer Justin Hanson

 Town Clerk C Lemmon

 Asst Town Clerk GSD Wilkinson

 Public One

**131 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Court and Owen.

**132 Presentation by Justin Hanson, FDC Environmental Health Officer**

Justin Hanson informed Councillors that the requests for his Department’s service calls, listed in volume order, were as follows:

Neighbourhood Noise Issues, Health & Safety Licensing, Food Hygiene Inspections, Unsavoury Odours, Miscellaneous, Smoke from Garden Fires, Pest & Vermin Problems and Illegal Waste Disposal.

Thereafter, a general discussion ensued during which Justin responded to Councillors’ queries and concerns.

Following his presentation, Justin Hanson was thanked by the Mayor and left the meeting at 7.40pm.

**133**  **Police Update**

No police were in attendance but a written report from PCSO Thomas Horwood had been circulated to all Councillors on 2nd January 2018.

**134 Planning Applications**

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

It was agreed that one additional planning application would be discussed.

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

*Number and recommendation of March Town Council*

F/YR17/0921/F Mrs G Dobson, c/o Agent.

 Erection of a 2-storey 4-bed dwelling involving demolition of existing outbuildings at Land South of 89 Elwyn Road, March.

 Revised proposals have been received in respect of the above.

 Revision is: Revised plans and documents provided including the retention of the tree to the front of the site.

 Received: 20 December 2017.

 Reply by: 3 January 2018.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR17/1190/F Mr Robert Dempsey, Willow House, 122 Duncombes Road, March.

 Erection of a single-storey orangery and 2-storey triple garage with games room above to side of existing dwelling involving demolition of outbuilding at Willow House, 122 Duncombes Road, March.

 Received: 19 December 2017.

 Reply by: 9 January 2018.

Recommend approval.

F/YR17/1192/F Mr & Mrs O Kilby, Norfleet, 409 Wisbech Road, Westry, March.

 Erection of a first-floor side extension involving reconfiguration of entrance porch to existing dwelling at Norfleet, 409 Wisbech Road, Westry, March.

 Received: 21 December 2017.

 Reply by: 11 January 2018.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR17/1230/F Mr D Upton, c/o Swann Edwards Architecture.

 Erection of 2 x 2-storey 4-bed dwellings with attached double garages involving demolition of existing outbuildings at The Piggeries, Flaggrass Hill Road, March.

 Received: 29 December 2017.

 Reply by: 19 January 2018.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR17/1207/F Miss A Ward, The OldVicarage, Ely Road, Hilgay.

 Erection of 2 x single-storey 4-bed dwellings with detached single garages (retrospective) at Land West of Greenacre, Elliott Road, March.

 Received: 3 January 2018.

 Reply by: 24 January 2018.

 Recommend refusal for the following reasons:

1. Backland development.
2. Flooding issues in this area.
3. Sewerage system already over-capacity.
4. Insufficient infrastructure.

**135 Public Participation**

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

**136 Minutes of Meetings**

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Main Council Meeting of 4th December 2017.

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 18th December 2017.

**137 Matters Arising**

Re Main Council Meeting of 4th December 2017:

Minute 124: It was noted that no financial changes were necessary to the 2018 / 2019 Local Highway Improvement applications although, at the feasibility stage, the Peas Hill Roundabout Scheme was not deemed suitable for consideration.

Minute 125: Fenland District Council estimates were unchanged in relation to our 2018 / 2019 budget. This matter will be covered under a separate agenda heading later in the meeting.

**138 Affirmation of 2018 / 2019 Budget**

The Clerk confirmed all details regarding the proposed budget and precept documents for 2018 / 2019.

The figures presented were confirmed as follows:

Budget figure £280,070.

Total funding required £275,621.

Support Grant payable by FDC £ 5,067.

Net Council Tax Base 6,484.

Balance obtained by precept £270,000.

Charge per property £41.64p.

Following a short discussion, the above figures were all unanimously ratified (proposer Councillor J French, seconder Councillor Skoulding).

Full details relating to the budgets and precept are attached as appendices 1, 2 and 3.

**139** **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.

In addition:

1. Councillor J French provided an update regarding potholes and the state of March’s roads.
2. Councillor Gowing reported that he had attended a Railway Project Seminar at which improvements for March Railway Station and its associated car parks were detailed.

**140 Fenland District Council Update**

Since Councillor Owen was not in attendance, no update was provided.

**141 Schedule of Accounts**

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm

Councillor K French ……………………………………………….. 5th February 2018.

Mayor of March.