

MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 2nd November 2020 held via “Zoom” commencing at 7.15pm.

Present	Councillor	K French	Town Mayor
		R Jack	Deputy Town Mayor
	Councillors	DW Connor	SR Court
		AR Donnelly	CK Elkin
		J French	R Johnson
		MW Purser	RF Skoulding
		RW White	
	County Councillor		J Gowing
	Town Clerk		C Lemmon
	Asst. Town Clerk		GSD Wilkinson

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.

102 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Tustin.

103 Police Update

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

104 Planning Applications

Because of their positions on the Fenland District Council Planning and Development Committee and their commitment to Paragraph 28 of the Fenland District Council Code of Conduct, Councillors Connor and J French declare a permanent personal interest and take 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.

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 one additional planning application would be discussed.

*Application
Number*

*Name and address of applicant, details of application,
and recommendation of March Town Council*

- F/YR20/0926/F Mr & Mrs Hawksley, 7 Westwood Avenue, March.
Erect a single-storey side / rear extension to existing dwelling involving the demolition of existing garage at 7 Westwood Avenue, March.
Received: 21 October 2020.
Reply by: 11 November 2020.
Recommend approval.
- F/YR20/0929/F Mr Ryan Speed, 157A Creek Road, March.
Erect a 2-storey side extension to existing dwelling at 157A Creek Road, March.
Received: 21 October 2020.
Reply by: 11 November 2020.
Recommend approval.
- F/YR20/0969/VOC Mr Derek Moore, Seymours Lodge, Whitemoor Road, March.
Removal of Condition 2 relating to planning permission F/YR14/0656/F (Erection of a 2-storey 3-bed dwelling for supported living with attached 1-bed annexe for carers accommodation etc) relating to sole occupancy at Land East of Threeacres, Whitemoor Road, March.
Received: 23 October 2020.
Reply by: 13 November 2020.
Insufficient information to provide comment.
March Town Council will defer to the Fenland District Council decision-making process
- F/YR20/0971/F Mrs Kim Furness, 30 St Peters Road, March.
Extend dropped kerb to existing dwelling at 30 St Peters Road, March.
Received: 23 October 2020.
Reply by: 13 November 2020.
Recommend approval.
- F/YR20/0976/F Mr Martin Green, 15 St Johns Road, March.
Erect 2 x 2-storey 3-bed dwellings involving demolition of existing dwelling at 15 St Johns Road, March.
Received: 26 October 2020.
Reply by: 16 November 2020.
Recommend approval.
- F/R20/0977/F Mr Martin Reynolds, MRC, 183 The Drove, Barroway Drove, Downham Market.
Erect a 2-storey 4-bed dwelling (workplace home) and detached light industrial unit at Land North of Old Dairy, Grange Road, March.
Received: 26 October 2020.
Reply by: 16 November 2020.
Recommend approval.

F/YR20/0991/TRTPO John Satish, 29 Stonecross Way, March.
Works to 1 x Ash Tree covered by TPO 19/1986 at 29
Stonecross Way, March.
Received: 23 October 2020.
Reply by: 13 November 2020.
Recommend approval.

F/YR20/0979/F A & S Butt & Vawser, 105 Nene Parade, March.
Alterations to 1 x 2-bed holiday let to form a 4-bed dwelling
including the erection of a 2-storey extension and demolition of
1 x 1-bed holiday let at Holiday Let 1, 105 Nene Parade,
March.
Received: 28 October 2020.
Reply by: 18 November 2020.
Recommend approval.

105 Public Participation

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

106 Minutes of Meetings

The following Minutes were agreed:
Main Council Meeting of 5th October 2020.
Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 19th October 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.

107 Matters Arising

Re Main Council Meeting of 5th October 2020:

Minute 94/81/68/57: The new computer system was installed on 30th October 2020.

Minute 96: Councillor J French is still investigating the situation regarding
Johnson Square.

108 Grants and Donations

Prior to discussions commencing, the Clerk advised Councillors that £2,000 had been included in the 2020/2021 budget for this agenda item. Councillors could determine whether this amount should be viewed as £500 per quarter or a lump sum to be spent as and when required.

It was noted that £1,500 had already been spent during this financial year.

One application for funding had been received as follows:

Name: FACT Community Transport.
Amount requested: £1,000.
Details of project: To support the free delivery of prescriptions to members of the local community who, in general, are over 75 years of age.

It was agreed that the application met the necessary criteria.

Prior to discussions commencing, Councillors Jack and Skoulding declared personal interests because of their volunteering activities within this organization.

Following discussions, it was unanimously agreed to award £1,000.

It was also agreed that, for future years, £500 per annum should be included within the “Specific Donations” budget heading.

109 Cambridgeshire County Council Update

The Clerk reported that all email updates are being circulated on a daily basis.

Councillors J French and Gowing then reported as follows:

- a) In the not-too-distant future, a pedestrian crossing will be installed in St Peters Road. It will be located in the vicinity of the general store and will cross over to Eastwood Avenue.
- b) Where possible, energy-saving equipment is now being installed into schools.

110 Fenland District Council Update

Councillor J French reported as follows:

- a) Financial provisions from Government regarding the current lockdown are still awaited.

111 Schedule of Accounts

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.50pm

Councillor K French
Mayor of March.

7th December 2020.