

March Town Council.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of March Town Council held on 9th May 2022 in the Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall commencing at 7.15pm.

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|----------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Present | Councillor | K French | Town Mayor |
| | Councillors | DW Connor J French MW Purser G Tustin | SR Court RM Johnson RF Skoulding RW White |
| | Cambs County Councillor | | J Gowing |
| | Town Clerk | | C Lemmon |
| | Town Clerk Elect | | SL Lemmon |
| | Assistant Town Clerk | | SA Taylor |
| | Public | | Nil |

24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Donnelly, Elkin and Jack.

25 Declaration of Town Mayor

As unanimously agreed at the Main Council Meeting of 7th March 2022, Councillor Kim French would remain as Mayor for a third term.

She formally accepted the post, gave a brief introductory speech of her aspirations and signed her “Declaration of Office”. She stated that she would do everything in her power to carry out her duties for the benefit of the people of March.

26 Declaration of Deputy Town Mayor

Also, as unanimously agreed at the Main Council Meeting of 7th March 2022, Councillor Kim French then declared Councillor Purser as Deputy Mayor of March.

Councillor Purser formally accepted the post, stated he would do all he could to assist the Mayor and signed his “Declaration of Office”.

27 Agreement of Mayor's Allowance

Councillor Kim French declared a prejudicial interest, left the debating table and took no part in discussions whilst the Mayor's allowances were being discussed.

Councillor Purser took the Chair for this agenda item only.

It was unanimously agreed that the following allowances would apply for 2022 / 2023:

£3,050.00 Basic Mayors allowance.

£ 400.00 Travelling allowance.

These amounts coincided with the amounts provided within this year's budget.

28 Dates of Council Meetings for 2022 / 2023

The dates for the 2022 / 2023 meetings were agreed as presented (See Appendix 1).

29 Appointment of Committee Members & Council Representatives

It was agreed to appoint Committee Members and Council Representatives in accordance with Appendix 2 (2 pages).

30 Public Participation

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

31 Minutes of Meetings

The minutes of the following meetings were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Sub-Committee Meeting of 4th April 2022.

Main Council Meeting of 4th April 2022.

Annual Assembly of 25th April 2022.

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 25th April 2022.

32 Matters Arising

Re Platinum Jubilee Meeting of 4th April 2022:

The tree trunks situated round the edge of the Suffolk Way / Breton Avenue grass area have been deliberately moved. In consequence, Councillor Skoulding agreed to arrange to have them fixed more firmly and concreted into position.

Re Main Council Meeting of 4th April 2022:

Minute 8:

The Clerk reported that he had emailed Paul Medd (and others) on 5th April 2022 regarding March Town Council's concerns regarding the regeneration of Broad Street and the Market Place.

In consequence, FDC Officers attended the 25th April 2022 Annual Assembly in an attempt to alleviate concerns.

Re Annual Assembly of 25th April 2022:

Minute 12: Since Councillors had not been impressed with the FDC presentation at the Annual Assembly, the Clerk reported that he had emailed Paul Medd and others on 26th April 2022 regarding March Town Council's continuing concerns regarding the proposed redevelopment of Broad Street and the Market Place. Councillors were circulated with a copy of the email on that same date.

Minute 12(o): Phil Hughes responded to the above-mentioned concerns by emailing the Town Clerk on 6th May 2022 but had still not provided the information requested. In consequence, the Clerk was requested to forward a letter of complaint on 10th May 2022. A lengthy discussion ensued whereby the contents thereof were debated in detail and unanimously agreed.

33 Planning Applications

Because of their position 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, J French and Purser declare a permanent personal interest and take no part in discussions relating to planning matters. It is also noted that, due to his involvement in the building industry, Councillor Skoulding does not take part in any discussions relating to planning issues. The afore-mentioned Councillors left the debating table for the entire time that planning applications were discussed.

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

*Application
Number*

*Name & Address of Applicant, Details of Application,
and Recommendation of March Town Council.*

F/YR21/0855/F

Mr Lee Russell, Cedarwoods, 72 Barton Road, Wisbech.
Erect 18 x dwellings with associated garages, parking and landscaping, and the formation of an access, involving the demolition of existing outbuildings at 7 Wisbech Road, March.

Revised proposals have been received in respect of the above.

The revision is: Revised Site Plan and further plans and details about FRA and Drainage Strategy and Plan, Highways works including access, tracking and bus stop relocation.

Received: 28 April 2022

Reply by: 12 May 2022

Recommend approval.

F/YR22/0234/F

Mr J Chandler & Miss S Yorke, 4 St Peters Road, March.
Erect 1 x dwelling (3-storey, 4-bed) and associated garden structures at Land North of 4 Causeway Close, March.

Revised proposals have been received in respect of the above.

The revision is: Revised site plan, elevations and floor plans.

Received: 3 May 2022

Reply by: 17 May 2022

Recommend approval.

F/YR22/0410/F

Mr & Mrs Harper, 4 Ingoldsby Close, March.
Erect first-floor side extension and insertion of dormer to rear elevation of existing dwelling at 4 Ingoldsby Close, March.

Received: 27 April 2022

Reply by: 18 May 2022

Recommend approval.

- F/YR22/0418/RM Mr C Grey, Grandford Homes Ltd, 137 Upwell Road, March
Reserved Matters application relating to detailed matters of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale (Plots 7 & 8 only) pursuant to outline planning permission F/YR19/0931/O, to erect 2 x dwellings (2-storey 4-bed) and associated works at Land South of 137 Upwell Road, March.
Received: 3 May 2022
Reply by: 24 May 2022
Recommend approval.
- F/YR22/0431/F Mr Thompson, 18 Cromwell Road, March
Erect 2-storey, part single-storey rear extension and insertion of first-floor side window to existing dwelling involving demolition of existing extension at 18 Cromwell Road, March.
Received: 27 April 2022
Reply by: 18 May 2022
Recommend approval.
- F/YR22/0478/F Mr John Tufts, Snowmountain Enterprises, Oliver Cromwell Hotel, High Street March.
Erect 6 x residential units (1 x 3-storey block of flats – 6 x 2-bed) with associated parking on Land South of 88-90 High Street, March.
Received: 3 May 2022
Reply by: 24 May 2022
Recommend approval.
- F/YR22/0463/A Mr A Brook, C&J Clark International Limited, 40 High Street, Somerset.
Display of 2 internally illuminated fascia signs and 1 non-illuminated double sided hanging sign at Clarks Shoes, White Hart Buildings, 1 Broad Street, March.
Received: 5 May 2022
Reply by: 26 May 2022
Recommend approval.

34 Schedule of Accounts

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Councillor K French..... 6th June 2022.
Mayor of March.