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WISBECH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Annual Town Assembly held on Monday 16 April 2007, at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber.

Present: The Town Mayor Councillor D. Oliver, Deputy Mayor Councillor Miss E.A. Carlisle, and Councillors Mrs C.R. Cox, J.R. Farmer, L. Forster, A.R. Green, M. Hill, S. King, P.B. O'Dell, Mrs A.R. Purt, L.W. Purt, L. Sims, H.B. Wegg and T. Wright.

In attendance: Gary Garford, Liaison Officer from Fenland District Council, Peter Clayton MBE Chairman of the Octavia Hill Birthplace Museum Trust and 7 parishioners.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs Y Lawrence (illness), P. Clapp, E. Penn (illness) and M. Willets (illness).

2. Mayor's Welcome

The Mayor welcomed all those present at the Annual Town Assembly.

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Annual Town Assembly held in the Council Chamber on Monday 10 April 2006 at 7.30pm, having been circulated, were amended to include Councillor Forster 'as present' at the meeting and to change item 9 to read Larksfield not Larks Hill. The minutes were then taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

4. Matters Arising

There were none.

5. Mayor's Report

The Mayor gave an interesting report which is attached to the minutes in the minute book (Appendix 1)

6. Leader's Report

The Leader of the Council, Councillor R. Green gave his report on what has been achieved during the past year and what is hoped to achieve in the coming year. This report is attached to the minutes in the minute book (Appendix 2)

7. Public Forum

Local Electors were concerned that the problems with the Market Place were still ongoing.

The main question from an elector being: "What is the Town Council's stance on the situation?" A lively debate took place between both electors of the parish and members of the council and all the points raised were discussed at length.

8. Octavia Hill's Birthplace House Reunification Project.

Peter Clayton MBE, Chairman of Octavia Hill's Birthplace Museum Trust outlined the details of the ambitious plan to extend the museum. Large grants had been received from the National Heritage Lottery and the European Regional Development Fund after the £1.3million Appeal was launched last year. This time next year there will be displays to mark the great daughter of Wisbech, Octavia Hill, and to reflect her life.

Inside the building will be rooms which will reflect all aspects of Octavia's social reform and community care.

The Town will then have one of the finest Grade 2 listed buildings in the country.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Town Mayor 

Date. 14 / APR / 08