

MARCH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on
1 June 2026 held in The Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall
commencing at 7.15pm.

Present	Councillor	A Woollard N Spencer	Town Mayor Deputy Town Mayor
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Councillors	S Court J French J Lawler M Purser R Skoulding	M Field K French H Orbell T Taylor G Christy
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Town Clerk	S Lemmon
Assistant Town Clerk	S Farmer

County Councillor	C Thornill
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Public	0
Press	0

39 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr K French, G Christy, Cambridgeshire County Councillors S Fisher and C Galbraith.

40 Police Update

A “homeless” individual who is the subject of various orders has been causing a nuisance in town once again and had also been reported on one of the Town Council’s allotments. FDC and police have taken necessary action in immediate response.

Whilst not a police priority, Neighbourhood Officers had been tackling ongoing parking issues.

Pleasingly, arrests had been made and successful prosecutions have been brought against flytippers, many of whom were traced to Peterborough.

Action is being taken by FDC Planning and Enforcement to deal with the unauthorised “graffiti” signage on the Turkish restaurant [criminal damage], a Local Heritage Asset in a Conservation area.

41 Planning Applications

Because of their position on the Fenland District Council Planning and Development Committee and her commitment to Paragraph 28 of the Fenland District Council Code of Conduct, Councillor J French and Cllr Purser declare a permanent personal interest and take no part in discussions relating to planning matters.

Application

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

It was agreed that 3 additional planning applications would be discussed at tonight's meeting.

F/YR25/0852/F

Mr Page, Chloes Jewelry
Installation of external shutters to existing shop front (retrospective) at 39 Broad Street March.
Revised Proposals; Amended Plan – change in design of shutters.
Received: 21 May 2026
Reply by: 4 June 2026
Recommendation; Approval

F/YR26/0327/TRCA

Mr and Mrs Peck, Limetree Cottage
Works to 1 x Willow Tree within a conservation area at land south of 44 West End.
Received 12 May 2026
Reply by 2 June 2026
Recommendation: Approval

F/YR26/0342/VOC

Mr M Wimbleton
Removal of Condition 3 relation to permission M/67/108/D (erection of an agricultural bungalow) – to enable the removal of agricultural occupancy tie at Wimbleton Farm, Coleseed Road.
Received 18 May 2026
Reply by 8 June 2026
Recommendation; Approval

F/YR26/0347/F

Mr Collins
The siting of 1 x (additional) mobile home, erection of 1 x day room, a 2.3m high gate and 1.8m high fence (max height) and relocation of existing dayroom to existing travellers' site (retrospective) at Land Between Hampton House and Stonea House Middle Road.
Received 18 May 2026
Reply by 8 June 2026
Recommendation; Approval

F/YR26/0362/VOC

ILC (Wisbech Road) Ltd
Variation of condition 01 (Time Limit), 02 (Surface Water Drainage Strategy), 08 (Cycle Parking), 12 (Boundary Treatment), 15 (Materials), 16 (Refuse Collection) and 23 (Approved Plans) relating to planning permission F/YR24/0308/F (as amended by F/YR25/0880/NONMAT) (Residential development with associated access, parking, landscaping and surface water attenuation) to allow for house type changes to plots 10-15 changing dwellings from 15 to 14

dwellings and rewording of conditions to development in accordance with submitted details at Land North of 147-159 Wisbech Road.

Received; 20 May 2026

Reply by 10 June 2026

Recommendation; Approval. However, LPA to consider the new MLCC SO (9m maintenance strip) to ensure this is not breached.

F/YR26/0361/TRTPO

Mrs C Henshaw

Fell 1 x Lime Tree covered by TPO 02/1984 at 5 Millfield Close.

Received: 21 May 2026

Reply by: 11 June 2026

Recommendation: Approval (although MTC considers the application to be poorly supported by evidence)

F/YR26/0364/F

Lisa Bulbrook

Erect single storey front and rear extensions to existing dwelling at 6 Berryfield.

Received: 26 May 2026

Reply by: 16 June 2026

Recommendation; Approval

F/YR26/0366/F

Andy Munden

Erect a single storey rear extension to existing dwelling involving demolition of existing outbuilding at 73 Estover Road.

Received: 27 May 2026

Reply by; 17 June 2026

*Cllr Orbell declared an interest in this application.

Recommendation; Approval

F/YR26/0380/F

Mr & Mrs M Griffin, Griffin Roses

Erect 1 self-build/custom build dwelling and erect 1.8m high max fence at Land South of Enfield, Burrowmoor Road.

Received: 29 May 2026

Reply by: 19 June 2026

Recommendation; Approval

F/YR26/0383/TRTPO

Mr G Stevens

Fell 1x Yew Tree covered by TPO 01/2019 at Land South of 2 West End.

Received: 29 May 2026

Reply by: 19 June 2026

Recommendation: Objection – there is insufficient information, lack of evidence justifying felling of this established tree versus reducing. No provision for any replacement offered either.

42 Public Participation

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

43 Minutes of Meetings

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Annual Meeting – 11 May 2026

44 Matters Arising

None.

45 Allotments Report and Bee Policy

The draft Bee Policy would be deferred to a later date following a consultation with allotment holders and further consideration by councillors as to whether bee-keeping would become a permitted activity on allotments at all.

46 Summer Band Concerts Rota

2 Councillors per concert are required to attend in order to comply with SAG.
The future of summer band concerts would be discussed at a later date.

47 Grants and Donations – Quarter 1 Applications

- March Can't Sing Choir was awarded £445.
- Mencap was awarded £500.
- Gary Tustin's application did not satisfy the requirements of the application process.
- It was determined that Ely Food Bank would not be awarded a grant on this occasion for various reasons.

48 Cambridgeshire County Council Update

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

Cllr Thornill updated Councillors on Stonea Bridge. He has written to HM Inspector of Railways and awaits a response.

49 Fenland District Council Update

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

Cllr J French reported that ARP were doing great work in relation to tackling Single Person Discount fraud.

In response to a query from Cllr Field, Cllr French confirmed that it would not be known until December or early 2027 how the District elections would be run.

It was a decision for Central Government when more information is known about the local government reorganisation.

Town and Parish elections will go ahead as normal.

When questioned about the Fruit and Veg stall in town and the previously discussed relocation of the main market to Broad Street, Cllrs French and Woollard advised that this was not a matter for FDC, a market has to be granted by Royal Charter.

Little to no promised progress has been made in relation to either Barclays Bank or the public toilets. Cllr French will follow this up.

Cllr French advised that 16 applications for the Burnthouse Farm Grants had been received and all had been considered for appropriate awards.

Most had been qualifying/successful.

The Assistant Clerk would share a list of applicants with councillors.

50 Payments List

The Payments List, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Councillor A Woollard6 July 2026
Mayor of March.