**MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.**

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 1st February 2016 in The Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall commencing at 7.15pm.

**Present** Councillor RF Skoulding Town Mayor

AR Donnelly Deputy Town Mayor

 Councillors SR Court J French

 K French ML George

 JW Gowing NJ Harris

 CC Owen A Pugh

 MW Purser

 Town Clerk C Lemmon

 Assistant Town Clerk GSD Wilkinson

 Public None

**160 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Field.

**161 Presentation by Michael Holt, Fenland District Council Environmental Health Officer**

Although Michael Holt was due to give a presentation to the meeting, he did not attend or provide his previous apologies for non-attendance.

Councillors asked the Clerk to send an official complaint to Paul Medd (FDC Chief Executive).

**162 Police Update**

Since no police were in attendance, a report had been circulated to all Councillors earlier in the day.

**163 Planning Applications**

Because of his position on the Fenland District Council Planning and Development Committee and his commitment to Paragraph 28 of the Fenland District Council Code of Conduct, Councillor Owen declared a personal interest and took no part in the 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.

Councillors Owen, Purser and Skoulding left the debating table for the entirety of this agenda item.

It was agreed that three additional planning applications would be discussed.

Councillor J French took the Chair for this one agenda item only.

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

*Number and recommendation of March Town Council*

F/YR16/0031/F Sanctuary Group, c/o agent.

Variation of condition 25 of planning permission F/YR13/0574/F (Erection of 52no 2-storey dwellings comprising of 35 x 2-bed, 13 x 3-bed and 4 x 4-bed with landscaping and play area) to add plan showing easement for underground power cable.

Land North Of Electricity Substation, Gaul Road, March.

Received: 22 January 2016.

Reply By: 9 February 2016

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0034/F Mr Y I Cheung, 112 High Street, March.

Erection of a 2-storey, 2-bed dwelling (part retrospective).

S/a.

Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0035/LB Erection of a 2-storey, 2-bed dwelling.

S/a.

Received: 22 January 2016.

Reply By: 9 February 2016

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0045/A Mr Y I Cheung, 112 High Street, March.

Display of 1no externally illuminated individual letters fascia sign and 1no externally illuminated hanging sign.

S/a.

Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0044/LB Works to a Listed Building involving display of 1no externally illuminated letters fascia sign and 1no externally illuminated hanging sign and re-rendering of southern elevation.

S/a.

Received: 25 January 2016.

Reply By: 11 February 2016.

Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0057/F Mr & Mrs F Robertson, Oak House, 36 Station Road, March.

Erection of a 2-storey side extension involving demolition of existing single-storey to existing dwelling.

S/a.

Received: 1 February 2016.

Reply By: 18 February 2016.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR15/1074/F Withdrawn.

Erection of 2 x single-storey extensions on north and south side buildings to house compressor units at 1 – 14 Marwick Road, March.

S/a.

Received: 28 January 2016.

Reply By: 4 February 2016.

 Withdrawal noted.

Community Consultation GLW Engineering and Construction Ltd.

Exercise Proposed Industrial Unit.

 Creek Road Industrial Estate, Creek Fen Road, March.

 Received 1 February 2016.

Councillors raised no objections to this proposal at this location.

**164 Public Participation**

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

**165 Minutes of Meetings**

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Main Council Meeting of 4th January 2016.

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 18th January 2016.

**166 Matters Arising**

Re Main Council Meeting of 4th January 2016:

Minute 151 / 134 / 120 / 102: The Clerk reported that he had e-mailed Rob Bridge on 5th January 2016 to ascertain whether any further progress had been made regarding the former “Mike Ogden Office” in Acre Road. A response received the same day stated that he would forward the query to Nick Harding (Shared Head of Planning), who would forward a response once he had a chance to catch up on the issue.

 Since nothing had been heard from Nick Harding, it was agree that the Clerk should forward yet another reminder.

Minute 151 / 134 / 120 / 106 / 87 / 73 / 64: We are still awaiting budget figures from Matt Pickering in respect of the Wimblington Road replacement streetlights. A further reminder was forwarded on 26th January 2016

Minute152: The precept was forwarded to Fenland District Council on 5th January 2016.

Minute 153: The proposed beacon lighting in honour of the Queen’s 90th Birthday on 21st April 2016 appears as agenda item 167.

**167 Her Majesty the Queen – Birthday Celebrations**

Councillor J French presented details of information obtained to date, although a Committee Meeting had not yet been held.

1. MADAOS and Bondy would be available to provide entertainment if so required.
2. A local business would be prepared to sell refreshments. It was agreed that the sale of alcohol would not be allowed, and that a pre-paid contribution to Committee funds would be required in exchange for such concession.

**168 Flooding Update**

Trevor Watson’s update was circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, and its contents were noted.

**169 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.

**170 Fenland District Council Update**

Councillor Owen reported as follows:

1. The Comprehensive Spending Review was still being undertaken.
2. At this point in time, it has been agreed that “pay-parking” will not be instituted.
3. Charging for the Brown Bin Collection is still being considered.
4. Also, the licensing of Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMOs) is being considered.

**171 Schedule of Accounts**

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.45pm

Councillor RF Skoulding ……………………………………….. 7th March 2016.

Mayor of March.