**MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.**

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 6th August 2018 in The Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall commencing at 7.15pm.

**Present** Councillor J French Town Mayor

CC Owen Deputy Town Mayor

Councillors AR Donnelly MEC Field

ML George JW Gowing

A Pugh MW Purser

Town Clerk C Lemmon

Public One

**68 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Court, K French, Harris and Skoulding.

**69 Police Update**

No police were in attendance, but their report was circulated to all Councillors earlier in the day.

**70 Planning Applications**

It was noted that due to his involvement in the building industry, Councillor Purser would not take part in any discussions relating to planning issues.

Councillors Purser left the debating table for the entirety of this agenda item.

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

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

*Number and recommendation of March Town Council*

F/YR18/0645/F Mr Marcel Cooper, James Development Co Ltd, 123 Victoria Road, Romford.

Erection of 2 x 2-storey 4-bed dwellings with garages involving demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings at 11 Jobs Lane, March.

Received: 17 July 2018.

Reply by: 7 August 2018.

Recommend approval.

F/YR18/0663/TRCA Mr L Brownlow, 97 High Street, Match.

Removal of conifer hedge on north and west boundaries within a Conservation Area at 97 High Street, March.

Received: 18 July 2018.

Reply by: 8 August 2018.

Recommend approval.

F/YR18/0671/F Mr & Mrs Knight, 27 The Avenue, March.

Conversion of garage to living accommodation and erection of single-storey rear and side extensions to existing dwelling at 27 The Avenue, March.

Received: 23 July 2018.

Reply by: 10 August 2018.

Recommend approval.

F/YR18/0676/F Mr R Smith, 15 Hillside Road, March.

Conversion of loft space to living accommodation and erection of a single-storey side extension to existing dwelling involving demolition of existing garage at 15

Hillside Road, March.

Received: 23 July 2018.

Reply by: 13 August 2018.

Recommend approval.

F/YR18/0455/F Withdrawn

Erection of 94 x dwellings comprising of: 17 x 2-storey 3-bed, 63 x 2-storey 2-bed, 4 x 2-storey blocks of flats (consisting of 14 x 2-bed flats), and the installation of a

pumping station and substation at Land East Of York Lodge, Gaul Road, March.

Withdrawal noted.

F/YR18/0658/F Mrs N Davis, 17 Gordon Avenue, March.

Erection of a first-floor side extension to existing dwelling at 17 Gordon Avenue, March.

Received: 24 July 2018.

Reply by: 14 August 2018.

Since he is the friend of a person who has objected to this application, Councillor Gowing declared a personal interest and took no part in the discussions relating to this application.

Recommend approval.

F/YR18/0684/LB Mr Samuel Gentry, Orchards Day Nursery, 50 Knights End Road, March.

Works to a Listed Building to replace roof tiles with natural slate; remedial works to roof trusses as required; works to chimneys as required and replace roof light to rear at 50 Knights End Road, March.

Received: 30 July 2018.

Reply by: 20 August 2018.

Recommend approval.

F/YR18/0685/CERTLU Mr & Mrs Andrew Schofield, Westry Hall, 351 Wisbech Road, Westry, March.

Certificate of lawfulness (Existing): Erection of a dwelling (dwelling not built in accordance with approved plans on planning permissions F/YR03/1403/O and F/YR04/4114RM) at Westry Hall, 351 Wisbech Road, Westry, March.

Received: 26 July 2018.

Reply by: 16 August 2018.

Lawfulness accepted - recommend approval.

F/YR18/0690/TRTPO Mr Alan Day, 23 Jobs Lane, March.

Fell 2 x Pine and 1 x Sycamore and works to 1 x Beech covered by TPO M/2/465/17 at Treetops, 23 Jobs Lane, March.

Received: 27 July 2018.

Reply by: 17 August 2018.

Recommend approval.

F/YR18/0691/F Mr & Mrs Agland, Crisp Farm, Whitemoor Road, March.

Erection of a single-storey side extension and single-storey and 2-storey extensions to front and rear of existing dwelling at Crisp Farm, Whitemoor Road, March.

Received: 31 July 2018.

Reply by: 21 August 2018.

Recommend approval.

F/YR18/0706/F Mr & Mrs P Kowbas, 1 Mallard Way, March.

Erection of a single storey side and part 2-storey/ first floor side extensions and conversion of garage to living accommodation at 1 Mallard Way, March.

Received: 2 August 2018.

Reply by: 23 August 2018.

Recommend approval.

F/YR18/0708/F Cannon Kirk (UK) Ltd, c/o Agent (Mr Andrew Hodgson, Pegasus Planning Group).

Change of use of land to form Riverside Country Park at Land North of Bluebell Way, March.

Received: 3 August 2018.

Reply by: 24 August 2018.

Recommend approval.

**71 Public Participation**

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

**72 Minutes of Meetings**

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Main Council Meeting of 2nd July 2018.

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 16th July 2018.

Christmas Lights Working Party Meeting of 16th July 2018.

Prior to the signing of the Minutes of the Main Council Meeting of 2nd July 2018, Councillor Field questioned the accuracy of such Minutes, and stated that he believed comments he made regarding the City Road Toilets should have been contained therein. This challenging of the Minutes was defeated by a vote of seven to one, the one being Councillor Field.

**73 Matters Arising**

Re Main Council Meeting of 2nd July 2018:

Minute 61: Trevor Quince has indicated that he does not wish to continue in his role on the March Educational Foundation, so it will be necessary to appoint a replacement. It was, therefore, agreed to appoint Councillor Pugh to take his place.

Minute 62: Works on Estover Playing Field are now underway.

General: The Clerk explained in detail why it had been necessary to make urgent decisions regarding the closure of the City Road toilets.

Because of a Health & Safety issue, a decision was taken to facilitate such closure at the end of June 2018 following correspondence being circulated to all Councillors. Although the closure was regrettable, it was unavoidable in the circumstances that March Town Council faced. This course of action was wholly ratified by the Full Council Meeting of 6th August 2018 by a vote of seven to one, the one objector being Councillor Field.

It was also agreed that the money saved should be used for funding additional portable toilet facilities at such events as March Summer Festival.

**74 Remembrance Sunday**

The Clerk reported that on 1st August 2018 he had circulated details relating to this year’s

Remembrance Sunday Parade to all Councillors.

Since no future funding requirements had been received from the British Legion, it was

agreed that the Clerk should e-mail Nigel Spencer to stress the urgency of such information

being provided before the end of October 2018.

**75 Upwell Road Speed Cushions**

Councillors discussed the problems being caused in Upwell Road by the speed humps.

According to certain residents, they cause noise and vibration in the adjacent properties and Terence Vance of 92 Upwell Road has raised a petition to request their removal.

It is believed that Cambridgeshire County Council are prepared to remove them subject to March Town Council’s approval.

Following lengthy discussions supporting both sides of the argument, the following decisions were unanimously agreed:

1. March Town Council felt that it would be unnecessarily expensive to remove such speed humps and suggested retaining the status quo.
2. It was agreed that any decision would be challenged, with some requesting the removal of such speed humps and others immediately requesting alternative speed-calming measures.
3. Since the speed humps had been introduced under a Cambridgeshire County Council initiative (at CCC’s expense), it was felt that their removal, or otherwise, should be solely down to CCC’s discretion.

**76 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.

In addition, Councillors J French and Gowing provided the following updates:

1. The composting programme is continuing.
2. The Gaul Road junction works have now commenced.
3. Work to install the Norwoodside footpaths have also now commenced.
4. It was reported that a March Transport Committee will need to appoint two March Town Councillors to sit thereon. This will be an agenda item for the 3rd September 2018 Main Council Meeting.

Councillor Field stated that he thought This Land (the CCC building company) had issued circulars which did not appear to be wholly transparent as regards ownership.

Councillor Field also wanted to discuss the FACT situation. This was refused on two grounds as follows:

1. It was not a March Town Council agenda item, and only agenda items can be discussed at any particular meeting.
2. Councillor J French could not respond to any questions relating thereto in her role as a County Councillor because she is due to sit on the CCC committee overseeing the three month review of such organisation.

**77 Fenland District Council Update**

Councillor Owen reported on the following:

1. The Planning Advisory Service has concluded its investigations prior to the anticipated schedule, and will be forwarding its summary of recommendations in due course.

**78 Schedule of Accounts**

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm

Councillor J French ……………………………………….. 3rd September 2018.

Mayor of March.