**MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.**

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 6th July 2015 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 MEC Field

 J French K French

 ML George JW Gowing

 NJ Harris CC Owen

 MW Purser

 Police PCSO Carol Holloway

 PCSO Beverley Johnston

 Town Clerk C Lemmon

 Asst. Town Clerk GSD Wilkinson

 Public Two

**54 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Pugh.

**55 Police Update**

PCSOs Carol Holloway and Beverley Johnston updated Councillors as follows:

During June 2015, the following offences were committed:

3 x Cycle thefts.

3 x Criminal damage to property.

1 x Criminal damage to a vehicle.

Queries were raised as to why certain crimes which had been reported in the press did not appear in the above figures. These included:

2 x Works tool thefts.

1 x Marquee theft.

1 x Assault.

Concern was also expressed at an apparent drug problem in March North, and it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the new sergeant (Richard Lugg) to as ask him to investigate the alleged drug trading problems at Riverdown. It was noted that the PCSOs were aware of the persons involved.

Following their presentation, PCSOs Holloway and Johnston were thanked by the Mayor and left the meeting at 7.37 pm.

**56 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 five additional planning applications would be discussed.

Councillor J French took the chair for this agenda item only.

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

*Number and recommendation of March Town Council*

F/YR15/0449/F Mr & Mrs DA Harrison, Sunset Farm, Wisbech Road, Coates.

Erection of a single-storey 3-bed dwelling with integral garage involving demolition of existing dwelling.

89 Upwell Road, March.

Received: 17 June 2015.

Reply By: 6 July 2015.

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0458/F Mr & Mrs Alec Revell, 9 Steeple View, March.

Erection of a single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling.

S/a.

Received: 22 June 2015.

Reply By: 8 July 2015.

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0464/F St Lawrence Hall Farms Ltd, Ilketshall Hall, Ilketshall St Lawrence, Beccles.

Variation of condition 3 of planning permission F/YR14/0204/F, to enable installation of roof mounted solar panels, individual bio-mass boilers and additional windows to each poultry barn.

The Bungalow, Hook Drove, Wimblington.

Received: 19 June 2015.

Reply By: 8 July 2015.

Recommend approval but trust that this will not cause any increase in traffic movements for adjacent residential properties.

F/YR15/0466/F Fraser Dawbarns Wealth Management Ltd, 1-3 York Row, Wisbech.

Formation of new entrance (involving removal of existing shop front) and replacement windows to front elevation.

62 High Street, March.

Received: 19 June 2015.

Reply By: 8 July 2015.

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0469/F Mrs P Webb, 187 Norwood Road, March.

Installation of external wall insulation to existing dwelling.

S/a.

Received: 19 June 2015.

Reply By: 8 July 2015.

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0475/F Mr & Mrs Bayes, 16 Station Road, Manea, March.

Erection of a tractor and agricultural machinery store.

Land South East Of Clevely Burrowmoor Road March.

Received: 22 June 2015.

Reply By: 9 July 2015.

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0485/F Mrs E Graham, Neale Wade Community Academy, Wimblington Road, March.

Erection of a single-storey extension to front of existing building (for use as a refectory)

S/a.

Received: 26 June 2015.

Reply By: 13 July 2015.

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0490/O Miss J Riches, 91A Grand Parade, Leigh-On-Sea, Essex.

Erection of 2 x dwellings (max) involving the demolition of existing garage.

Land East Of 25 – 27 Russell Avenue, March.

Received: 26 June 2015.

Reply By: 13 July 2015.

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0498/F Mr J Walter, 5 Marina Drive, March.

Erection of single-storey side and rear extension to existing dwelling involving raising the height of the roof and removal of chimneys.

115 Elm Road, March.

Received: 29 June 2015.

Reply By: 16 July 2015.

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0501/O Mrs M Chapman, 27 Harvester Close, March.

Erection of a dwelling.

Land North Of 68 March Road Wimblington.

Received: 29 June 2015.

Reply By: 16 July 2015.

Recommend approval.

F/2005/15.CW Change of use to create an extension to the existing Lodge Farm Waste Transfer & Treatment Facility.

Lodge Farm, Floods Ferry, March.

Received: 1 July 2015.

Reply By: 22 July 2015.

 Recommend refusal. Inadequate and sub-standard road access.

F/YR15/0516/F Mr & Mrs D & T Wilson, 6 Gordon Avenue, March.

Erection of part 2-storey/single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling involving demolition of detached garage.

S/a.

Received: 3 July 2015.

Reply By: 20 July 2015*.*

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0517/F Mr & Mrs Gary Harradine, 17 The Avenue, March.

Erection of a 2-storey rear extension to existing detached garage.

S/a.

Received: 3 July 2015.

Reply By: 21 July 2015*.*

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0527/F Mr M Grounds c/o agent.

Erection of a 2-storey rear extension to existing dwelling.

75 Wisbech Road, March.

Received: 6 July 2015.

Reply By: 23 July 2015*.*

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0533/F Mr A Heather, 5 The Shires, March.

Erection of a single-storey timber outbuilding to rear of existing dwelling (retrospective).

S/a.

Received: 6 July 2015.

Reply By: 24 July 2015*.*

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/0537/F Mr G Savas, 38 Regent Avenue, March.

Erection of a part 2-storey, part single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling and single-storey extension to front of existing garage.

S/a.

Received: 6 July 2015.

Reply By: 24 July 2015*.*

Recommend approval.

**57 Public Participation**

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

**58 Minutes of Meetings**

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Main Council Meeting of 1st June 2015.

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 15th June 2015.

Christmas Lights Working Party Meeting of 15th June 2015.

**59 Matters Arising**

Re Main Council Meeting of 1st June 2015:

Minute 43 / 35: The Clerk reported that:

1. The draft lease was received from Cambs County Council c10th June 2015. Although there are no apparent problems attached thereto, legalities have not yet been completed. It is hoped that the lease will eventually be signed by Kit Owen and Clive Lemmon within the next two weeks.
2. Councillor Owen and Clive Lemmon met with Joe Goude of Cambridgeshire Football Association on 9th June 2015. Discussions are on-going.
3. A public meeting will be called as soon as the lease has been finalised.

Minute 45: It was reported that the band concert of 5th July 2015 had been held at Trinity Church due to inclement weather.

General: The Clerk reported that problems were still being encountered in getting Britannia illuminated.

**60 Internal Audit Review for Year Ending 31st March 2015 and Re-appointment of Internal Auditors**

Whiting and Partners, in a letter dated 1st June 2015, stated the following:

1. There are no material items on which they need to report.
2. They have reviewed the expenses supplied by the Mayor and these indicate that the Mayor’s Allowance has been fully expended.

Following the proposition of Councillor J French, seconded by Councillor Purser, it was unanimously agreed that Whiting and Partners be re-appointed as the Council’s Internal Auditors for year ending 31st March 2016.

**61 Outpatient Services**

Councillor Owen reported that Outpatient Services at Doddington, Wisbech and Ely will continue after April 2016. He had been given assurances by Maureen Donnelly, Chairman of the Cambridgeshire Commissioning Group, that although Cambridgeshire Community Services had given a year’s notice to withdraw from running these services due to a reduction in funding, discussions are ongoing with other service providers. It was hoped that this will enhance Outpatient Services as opposed to reducing them.

Discussions ensued regarding the National Health Service in general, and it was noted that the town of March was populated by 30% more people in the 65+ age group than the national average.

**62 Flooding Update**

Trevor Watson’s update was circulated to Councillors earlier in the day, and its contents were noted.

It was agreed that this document had become a very useful source of information.

**63 Cambridgeshire County Council Update**

Since no County Councillors were in attendance, no update was provided.

**64 Fenland District Council Update**

Councillor Owen reported as follows:

1. Talks were currently underway to discuss transferring the FDC Planning Services to Peterborough whilst, at the same time, Peterborough were discussing amalgamating with Lincolnshire.
2. A contribution towards a three-way funding deal for Wimblington Road street lighting was due to be discussed in the near future.
3. The “Four Seasons Events” were also due to be reviewed.

**65 Schedule of Accounts**

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

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

Councillor RF Skoulding ……………………………………….. 3rd August 2015.

Mayor of March.