**MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.**

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 7th March 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 MEC Field

 J French K French

 ML George JW Gowing

 NJ Harris A Pugh

 MW Purser

 Town Clerk C Lemmon

 Public None

**174 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Owen.

**175 Presentation by Donna Barnes, Cambridgeshire County Council Youth and Community Coordinator**

Although Donna Barnes was due to give a presentation to the meeting, she did not attend or provide her previous apologies for non-attendance.

It was agreed that the Clerk should forward an e-mail requesting an explanation.

**176 Police Update**

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

**177 Planning Applications**

It was 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 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/YR15/0668/O Revised Proposals from St Johns College, Cambridge.

 Outline with matter committed detailed as access in relation to 95 dwellings (max) with associated landscaping, drainage and open spaces.

 The revision is: A revised Transport Assessment has been received.

Land North of 75 – 127 Estover Road, March.

Received: 26 February 2016.

Reply By: 11 March 2016.

 March Town Council strongly recommends refusal of this application on exactly the same grounds as detailed in its response of 8th September 2015.

F/YR16/0104/F Mr A Boyraz, c/o Agent.

Change of use of land to hand car wash, involving siting of a portacabin for use as office and erection of carwash bay and storage structure.

Dave Negus Cars Limited, High Street, March

Received: 22 February 2016.

Reply By: 10 March 2016.

Recommend refusal due to inadequate access and egress. Concerns also raised regarding possible highway issues.

F/YR16/0106/F Mr K Moon, 27 Badgeney Road, March.

Erection of a 2-storey 2-bed dwelling involving demolition of existing outbuildings.

Land South of 27 Badgeney Road, Fronting Green Street, March.

Received: 22 February 2016.

Reply By: 8 March 2016.

Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0109/F Mr D Parkinson, 81 High Street, March.

Change of use of ground floor from Electrical Sales (A1) to a Milk Bar (A3) including the insertion of an extractor fan.

 S/a.

Received: 22 February 2016.

Reply By: 9 March 2016.

Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0110/LB Mr D Parkinson, 81 High Street, March.

External alterations to a Listed Building including the insertion of an extractor fan and alterations to shop frontage to enable the change of use of ground floor from Electrical Sales (A1) to a Milk Bar (A3).

S/a.

Received: 22 February 2016.

Reply By: 9 March 2016.

Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0113/O Mr T Hollyoak, 6 St Peters Road, March.

Erection of a dwelling (Outline application with all matters reserved).

Land East of 6 St Peters Road, March.

Received: 22 February 2016.

Reply By: 10 March 2016.

Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0114/F Mr F Roper, 118 Robingoodfellows Lane, March.

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

S/a.

Received: 22 February 2016.

Reply By: 10 March 2016.

Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0119/F Mr T Monk, 45 Highfield Road, March.

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

S/a.

Received: 2 March 2016.

Reply By: 21 March 2016.

Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0122/F Mr R Compton, EMC Land.

Creation of 3 x dwellings involving: erection of a 3-storey 4-bed and a 2-storey 3-bed dwelling, and the conversion of existing coach house to a 2-storey 3-bed dwelling.

Land West Of The Old Rectory, The Walnuts, Fronting Elwyn Court, March.

Received: 2 March 2016.

Reply By: 21 March 2016.

Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0134/F Tradelink Direct Ltd. 1 – 14 Marwick Road, March.

Erection of 2 x single-storey extensions on north and south side buildings to house compressor units.

S/a.

Received: 4 March 2016.

Reply By: 22 March 2016.

Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0141/F Mr Timothy Philpott, Hereford House, 128 Upwell Road, March.

Erection of a single storey rear extension to existing dwelling to form swimming pool enclosure and plant room and change of use of agricultural land to garden land (retrospective).

S/a.

Received: 7 March 2016.

Reply By: 23March 2016.

Recommend approval.

F/YR15/1001/F Withdrawn

Erection of 1 x 4-bed and 3 x 3-bed single storey dwellings with garages at Land West of 126 – 128 Elliott Road, March.

Withdrawal noted.

**178 Public Participation**

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

**179 Minutes of Meetings**

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Main Council Meeting of 1st February 2016.

Personnel and Administrative Sub-Committee Meeting of 15th February 2016.

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 15th February 2016.

Christmas Lights Working Party Meeting of 15th February 2016.

**180 Matters Arising**

Re Main Council Meeting of 1st February 2016:

Minute 161: The Clerk reported that he had e-mailed Paul Medd on 2nd February 2016 in relation to Michael Holt’s non-appearance. Two responses dated 3rd February 2016 were received as follows:

1. Paul Medd stated that he would get others to investigate and respond as soon as possible.
2. Annabel Tighe forwarded her apologies, but stated that Michael Holt had left FDC’s employment without the meeting being confirmed in his diary. His interim replacement, Simon Swanton, would commence employment on 8th February 2016.

Minute 166 / 151 / 134 / 120 / 102: The Clerk reported that he had e-mailed Rob Bridge again on 2nd February 2016 to request an urgent response regarding the former “Mike Ogden Office” in Acre Road. A verbal response received the same day from Nick Harding (Shared Head of Planning), stated that permission had been given for the premises to be demolished and it was now dependent upon the speed with which the developers / owners were prepared to act.

Minute 166 / 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 had been forwarded on 2nd March 2016.

It has recently been minuted by FDC that £10,000 is still available as a contribution to this project.

Minute 167: Councillor J French provided an update regarding the proposed beacon lighting in honour of the Queen’s 90th

 Birthday on 21st April 2016.

 Entertainment had been provisionally booked, risk assessments completed and safe lighting procedures agreed. A lighting-up time was now awaited so that a firm schedule of events could be finalised.

Re Personnel and Administrative Sub-Committee Meeting of 15th February 2016:

Councillors ratified the findings of the above Sub-Committee following a presentation by Councillor Pugh.

The Town Clerk, Clive Lemmon, was thanked for all his efforts and the Assistant Town Clerk, Geoff Wilkinson, was wished a speedy return to full health following his recent illness.

**181 Grants and Donations**

Prior to discussions commencing, the Clerk advised Councillors that there was only £300.00p remaining under this Budget Heading for 2015 / 2016.

Three applications for funding had been received as follows:

Name: Molly Darwood.

Amount requested: £500.00p.

Purpose of request: Contribution towards furtherance of personal dance training.

Name: 1st Doddington Guides.

Amount requested: c£100.00p.

Purpose of request: Replacement gazebo.

Name: March District Guides.

Amount requested: Unspecified.

Purpose of request: Contribution towards Switzerland adventure holiday.

The Clerk stated that he did not believe that the first two applications (Molly Darwood and 1st Doddington Guides) met the necessary criteria.

Following discussions, it was unanimously agreed that £300.00p be awarded to March District Guides.

**182 Flooding Update**

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

**183 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.

**184 Fenland District Council Update**

Since Councillor Owen was not in attendance, Councillor J French provided an update as follows:

1. A Comprehensive Spending Review is currently being undertaken.
2. Devolution is being discussed throughout the East of England, and Fenland District Councillors have been called to a presentation on the subject on Wednesday 10th March 2016.

**185 Schedule of Accounts**

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.05pm

Councillor RF Skoulding ……………………………………….. 4th April 2016.

Mayor of March.