**MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.**

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 7th November 2016 in The Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall commencing at 7.15pm.

**Present** Councillor AR Donnelly Town Mayor

K French Deputy Town Mayor

 Councillors SR Court MEC Field

 J French ML George

 JW Gowing CC Owen

 A Pugh MW Purser

 RF Skoulding

 Police Inspector Will Davis

 PC Kurt Allen

 Town Clerk C Lemmon

 Asst. Town Clerk GSD Wilkinson

 Public Nil

**108 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Harris.

**109 Police Update**

A written update from PCSO Shane Green had been circulated on 31st October 2016.

Inspector Will Davis gave a presentation to Councillors which included the following facts:

1. Details relating to the Overall Police Mission Statement and the Local Priorities.
2. Front-line policing has not been reduced over the past twelve months, but the Police are under continuing financial scrutiny.
3. Managing demand for the available resources is an important factor to consider with an ever increasing cross-section of crimes needing to be investigated.

A question and answer session ensued to allow Councillors the opportunity to raise any areas of policing concerns that they had.

Following his presentation, both Inspector Will Smith and PC Kurt Allen were thanked by the Mayor and left the meeting at 7.48pm.

**110 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 both left the debating table for the entirety of this agenda item.

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

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

*Number and recommendation of March Town Council*

F/YR16/0896/F Mr Chan, 40 Dartford Road, March.

 Erection of a first floor rear extension to form ensuite to living accommodation and storage area to existing chip shop.

 S/a.

Received: 19 October 2016.

 Reply by: 7 November 2016.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0904/F Mr M Smith, Marley Road, St Ives.

Erection of a single-storey 3-bed dwelling and garage involving the demolition of existing fire damaged dwelling.

 12 The Shires March.

Received: 24 October 2016.

 Reply by: 8 November 2016.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0912/F Mrs C Williams, 80 Landau Way, March.

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

 S/a.

Received: 24 October 2016.

 Reply by: 10 November 2016.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0913/F Mr Ebrahim, 367 Eastrea Road, Peterborough.

 Variation of Condition 9 relating to planning permission F/YR11/0424/EXTIME) (Erection of 3 detached dwellings and garages and formation of vehicular accesses) alterations to floor levels to comply with Environment Agency requirements.

 Land South of 710 Whittlesey Road, March.

 Received: 24 October 2016.

 Reply by: 10 November 2016.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0914/F Mr John Spindlow, 57 Churchgate Street, Old Harlow, Essex.

 Erection of 2 x single-storey units (A1 and B2 Use) and 1 x 2-storey unit (B2 Use).

 Land North of 305 Wisbech Road, March.

Received: 24 October 2016.

 Reply by: 10 November 2016.

 Since they live close to the application site, Councillors J & K French declared personal interests and took no part in the discussions relating to this application.

 Recommend approval, but some concerns were expressed regarding the increase in traffic accessing and egressing theA141.

F/YR16/0925/F Mr K O’Brien, 97 Small Lode, Upwell.

 Formation of a dropped kerb to existing dwelling.

 68 Creek Road, March.

 Received: 31 October 2016.

 Reply by: 15 November 2016.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0926/F Mr Smith, Radnor Farm, Goosetree Road, Rings End, Wisbech.

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

 S/a.

Received: 31 October 2016.

 Reply by: 16 November 2016.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0928/F Mr J Jupp, 19C Longhill Road, March.

 Erection of a lean-to extension to side of existing workshop.

 19A Longhill Road, March.

Received: 31 October 2016.

 Reply by: 15 November 2016.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0896/F Erection of first floor rear extension to form ensuite to living accommodation and storage area to existing chip shop at 40 Dartford Road March.

 Revised Proposals

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0937/F Mr & Mrs Holder, 16 Whittlesey Road, March.

 Erection of a garage/workshop to incorporate existing air raid shelter including demolition of existing garage.

 S/a.

Received: 2 November 2016.

 Reply by: 21 November 2016.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0943/F Mr S Rutterford & Ms T Hudson, 63 Elwyn Road, March.

 Erection of a detached single-storey Study/Gym to existing dwelling.

 S/a.

Received: 4 November 2016.

 Reply by: 22 November 2016.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0945/F Mr M Griffin, Fenn Lodge, 37 Whittlesey Road, March.

 Erection of an agricultural storage building including the formation of hardstanding and the widening of existing access.

 Land South Of Prospect House, Burrowmoor Road, March.

Received: 4 November 2016.

 Reply by: 22 November 2016.

 Strongly recommend approval.

F/YR16/0957/F Mrs J Hayes, 28 Queens Street, March.

 Erection of a conservatory and single-storey rear extension to form annexe to existing dwelling.

 S/a.

Received: 4 November 2016.

 Reply by: 23 November 2016.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0958/O Mrs Elizabeth Wilkinson, 8 Steeple View, March.

Erection of 6 dwellings (max) (Outline application with all matters reserved)

Highfield House, Elm Road, March.

Received: 7 November 2016.

 Reply by: 24 November 2016.

 Since he is the spouse of the applicant, The Assistant Town Clerk (GSD Wilkinson) declared a prejudicial interest and left the debating table for the entirety of the discussions relating to this application.

 Recommend approval.

F/YR16/0960/PNC01 Change of use from office (B1) to 12 x flats (comprising of 5 x 2-bed and 7 x 1-bed) and 2 x 1-bed houses (C3) at The Resource Centre, March Business Centre, Dartford Road, March.

Received: 7 November 2016.

 Reply by: 25 November 2016.

 Recommend approval.

111 **Public Participation**

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

**112 Minutes of Meetings**

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Main Council Meeting of 3rd October 2016.

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 17th October 2016.

Christmas Lights Working Party Meeting of 17th October 2016.

**113 Matters Arising**

Re Main Council Meeting of 7th October 2016:

Minute 104: It has now been agreed that Fenland District Council will charge for brown bins with effect from 1st April 2017.

**114 Neale-Wade Academy Safety Issues**

The Town Clerk reported that an e-mail had been received from PC Janine Hagger on 26th

October 2016 stating that she had held a meeting with representatives of the Neale-Wade student

body. The biggest issue arising from this meeting was that “road safety outside the front of the

school is non-existent and students fear for their lives trying to cross the road”.

The following points were raised:

1. It was felt that the language used was highly emotive and not particularly accurate or professional.
2. A new 30mph speed limit has just been implemented in Wimblington Road.
3. There are already traffic lights installed outside the Neale-Wade to facilitate safe crossing.
4. There is a further set of traffic lights close to The Avenue Recreation Ground to allow students living in the north of the town to cross the road safely.
5. March Town Council has traditionally opposed the use of speed bumps.
6. The Police, in general, do not enforce any motoring concerns.
7. The 2017 / 2018 LHI (Local Highway Improvements) application has already been made.
8. Since this is a secondary school, the students should be old enough to observe simple safety issues such as “The Green Cross Code”.
9. The main problem seems to arise from pupils wishing to visit the garage across the road to buy sweets, drinks and cigarettes and not being prepared to use the safety features already in situ.
10. In the first instance, The Cambs County Council Highways Department had not been contacted by PC Hagger as is the correct procedure.
11. The afore-mentioned Authority is the one responsible for road safety and highway issues.
12. March Town Council has no budget, and the least funds available, to implement this type of project.

Following lengthy discussions, it was agreed that no further action could be taken.

**115 Flooding Update**

An update from Trevor Watson was e-mailed to all Councillors earlier in the day.

**116 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.

**117 Fenland District Council Update**

Councillor Owen reported as follows:

1. It had been announced earlier in the day that Norfolk and Suffolk would not be accepting devolution. It was not known whether this would affect the Cambridgeshire / Peterborough discussions.

**118 Schedule of Accounts**

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40pm

Councillor AR Donnelly…………………………………………….. 5th December 2016.

Mayor of March.