

MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 12th April 2021 held via “Zoom” commencing at 7.15pm.

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|----------------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Present | Councillor | K French | Town Mayor |
| | | R Jack | Deputy Town Mayor |
| | Councillors | SR Court | AR Donnelly |
| | | CK Elkin | J French |
| | | R Johnson | MW Purser |
| | | G Tustin | RW White |
| | County Councillor | | J Gowing |
| | Town Clerk | | C Lemmon |
| | Asst. Town Clerk | | GSD Wilkinson |

Public / Press No members of the public or press (although it was offered within the agenda notice) had requested permission to access the MTC “Zoom” group to witness proceedings.

To allow the meeting to take place via “Zoom”, and as agreed at the 6th April 2020 Main Council Meeting, Standing Orders are suspended until such time as the coronavirus epidemic abates.

Prior to the meeting commencing, the Mayor expressed sadness at the death of HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, and all Councillors observed one minute’s silence.

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Connor and Skoulding.

2 Police Update

No police were in attendance but a written report had been circulated earlier in the day.

3 Planning Applications

Because of their position on the Fenland District Council Planning and Development Committee and their commitment to Paragraph 28 of the Fenland District Council Code of Conduct, Councillors Connor, J French and Purser declare a permanent personal interest and takes no part in discussions relating to planning matters.

It is also noted that, due to his involvement in the building industry, Councillor Skoulding does not take part in any discussions relating to planning issues.

The afore-mentioned Councillors always remain visible during this agenda item but all other members observe that their microphones are muted for the entire time.

(Neither Councillor Connor nor Councillor Skoulding were in attendance at this particular meeting).

It was agreed that one additional planning application would be discussed.

*Application
Number*

*Name and address of applicant, details of application,
and recommendation of March Town Council*

F/YR21/0164/O

Mr Braam, 6 Knights End Road, March.

Erect a dwelling involving the demolition of existing outbuildings (outline application with matters committed in respect of access) at Land North of 6 Knights End Road, March.

Revised proposals have been received in respect of the above. The revision is: Revised indicative site plan.

Prior to discussions commencing, the Clerk notified Councillors that he could not advise on this application because it was located adjacent to where he lived. As such, it was advisable that he declared a personal interest and refrained from discussions thereon.

Received: 25 March 2021.

Reply by: 8 April 2021.

Recommend refusal unless certain conditions could be satisfied.

It was noted that this was contrary to a previous decision taken for the following reasons:

- a) March Town Councillors had previously expressed concern about this development even though they had not recommended refusal.
- b) March Town Councillors subsequently agreed with, and gave more weight to, the views expressed by the FDC Planning Officer attached to this case.
- c) A further MTC site inspection confirmed earlier concerns. In reaching its decision, MTC made the following comments:
 - a) The proposed property should be a maximum 2-bed development.
 - b) The proposed property should be moved further away from the eastern boundary to allow for adequate and easily-usable parking/turning.
 - c) The single-storey brick shed on the western boundary should be demolished to allow more amenity space for the proposed dwelling and alleviate over-development concerns.
 - d) If the development were to be allowed, there should be an insistence that all construction vehicles should park off-road and on-site during the entire construction process.

F/YR21/0250/RM Mr Pranas Preidzius, Best Corporation Ltd, c/o 74 Elwyn Road, March.
Reserved Matters application relating to the detailed matter of landscaping pursuant to outline permission F/YR15/0176/O (Erection of 7 x 2-storey 2-bed dwellings with bin and cycle stores) at Land Rear of 36 High Street, March.
Received: 17 March 2021.
Reply by: 7 April 2021.
Recommend approval.

F/YR21/0263/VOC Mr Ben Skoulding, Snowmountain Enterprises Ltd, Marwick House, Station Road, March.
Variation of condition 15 to enable amendment to approved plans of planning permission F/YR18/0165/F (Erection of a single-storey retirement complex block comprising of 13 x 1-bed units with communal facilities, and a 1.1m high [max height] railings to front boundary involving demolition of existing dwelling) at Land North and West of Elliott Lodge, Elliott Road, March.
Received: 19 March 2021.
Reply by: 9 April 2021.
Recommend approval.

F/YR21/0284/F Mr Phippen, The Glenholme Group, 79 High Street, Eton, Windsor.
Erect a care home (2-storey 56 x bed) and associated works, involving the demolition of existing factory at WH Feltham and Son Limited, Estover Road, March.
Received: 24 March 2021.
Reply by: 14 April 2021.
Recommend approval.

F/YR21/0292/F Mr N Bowers, Gold Star Metal Traders Ltd, Lodge Farm, Knights End Road, March.
Erect a workshop for industrial use (B2) at 34 Thorby Avenue, March.
Received: 26 March 2021.
Reply by: 16 April 2021.
Recommend approval.

F/YR21/0298/F Mr Brad McGarvie, 12 Jordans Close, March.
Erect 2 x dwellings (2-storey, 1 x 2-bed and 1 x 3-bed) part-retrospective at Land South of March Rifle Club, Upwell Road, March.
Received: 23 March 2021.
Reply by: 13 April 2021.
Recommend approval.

- F/YR21/0299/VOC Mr N Barnes, c/o Peter Humphrey Associates, 31 Old Market, Wisbech.
Variation of condition 10 (approved plan) of planning permission F/YR19/0352/F (Erection of 3 x single-storey 3-bed dwellings with detached garages) - Plot 1 only – change of house type at Land West of 126-128 Elliott Road, March.
Received: 25 March 2021.
Reply by: 15 April 2021.
Recommend approval.
- F/YR21/0301/TRTPO Mr K Ogden, 95 Foxglove Way, March.
Fell 2 x Elm trees and works to 1 x Horse Chestnut tree covered by TPO 3/1967 at 95 Foxglove Way, March.
Received: 23 March 2021.
Reply by: 13 April 2021.
Recommend approval.
- F/YR21/0318/F Mrs Susan Allcom, 29 Landau Way, March.
Erect a single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling involving demolition of existing rear extension including render and replacement roof tiles to existing dwelling at 123 Estover Road, March.
Received: 25 March 2021.
Reply by: 15 April 2021.
Recommend approval.
- F/YR21/0325/F Mr Mark Shepherd, Long Meadows, 70 Elwyn Road, March.
Erect a first-floor extension to front of existing dwelling and alterations to window arrangements at Long Meadows, 70 Elwyn Road, March.
Received: 1 April 2021.
Reply by: 22 April 2021.
Recommend approval.
- F/YR21/0340/F Mr Timothy Philpott, Hereford House, 128 Upwell Road, March.
Erect a 2-storey side extension to existing dwelling at 171 Badgeney Road, March.
Received: 8 April 2021.
Reply by: 29 April 2021.
Recommend approval.

4 Public Participation

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

5 Minutes of Meetings

The following Minutes were agreed:

Main Council Meeting of 1st March 2021.

Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 15th March 2021.

Unlike the procedure normally adopted whereby the Mayor immediately endorses the minutes, it was agreed that the Clerk should sign the minutes on her behalf.

6 Matters Arising

Re Main Council Meeting of 1st March 2021:

Minute 157: All details and legal paperwork surrounding the 21 years March Museum lease extension have now been completed and passed back to the solicitors for finalisation.

Minute 159: The Clerk reported that he had notified Revitalise on 2nd March 2021 the reason for their unsuccessful grant application.

7 Local Business Recognition

Councillor Tustin outlined proposals to introduce a scheme which recognised the longevity of businesses operating within town.

Following discussions, the following points were agreed:

- a) There was agreement in principle to the idea but it was felt that it would be better to discuss in six months when, hopefully, the problems associated with coronavirus would have diminished considerably.
- b) It would be necessary to agree which type of businesses should be included in the scheme. Should it include, for example, nationals / multi-nationals, banks, building societies, agricultural businesses, farming enterprises and public houses?
- c) Once all criteria had been agreed, it may be necessary to approach each designated business individually to establish how long it had been operating since it is unlikely, due to data protection regulations, that third-parties would be allowed to supply information from their databases.
- d) Councillor Tustin was asked to report back at the appropriate time with more detail concerning such criteria before any such approaches were made.

8 Cambridgeshire County Council Update

The Clerk reported that all email updates are being circulated on a daily basis.

Councillors J French and Gowing then reported as follows:

- a) County Council elections are being held on 6th May 2021.
- b) Purdah has now commenced so no further updates can be provided until after 6th May 2021.

9 Fenland District Council Update

Councillor J French reported that, since purdah has now commenced, no further updates can be provided until after 6th May 2021.

10 Schedule of Accounts

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm

Councillor K French10th May 2021.
Mayor of March.