

## MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 in The Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall commencing at 7.15pm.

<b>Present</b>	Councillor	R Skoulding K French	Town Mayor Deputy Town Mayor
	Councillors	SR Court R Jack MW Purser	J French R Johnson G Tustin
	Cambs County Councillor		J Gowing
		Town Clerk Asst Town Clerk	C Lemmon GSD Wilkinson

### 53 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Connor, Donnelly, Goundry and White.

### 54 Police Update

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

### 55 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.

Councillor J French declared that she had been appointed as a substitute to Fenland District Council (FDC) Planning Committee. However, to ensure the Town Council has an appropriate level of expertise and experience she will not take up the FDC post until Town Councillors have had planning training.

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

Councillor K French took the chair for this one agenda item only.

<i>Application Number</i>	<i>Name and address of applicant, details of application, and recommendation of March Town Council</i>
F/YR19/0516/F	James Development Co Ltd, 123 Victoria Road, Romford. Erect 4 x dwellings (4 x 2-storey 1-bed) involving the demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings at 20 Deerfield Road, March. Received: 19 June 2019. Reply by: 10 July 2019. Recommend refusal: Over-development and car parking concerns.

F/YR19/0527/F

Mrs Gregory, 1 Orchard Road South, March.

Erection of a 2-storey side and single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling at 1 Orchard Road South, March.

Received: 24 June 2019.

Reply by: 15 July 2019.

Recommend approval.

Pre Application Consultation. Proposal by This Land Ltd at 34 Station Road, March -The Further Education Centre. The proposal is to change the use of the existing building to 9 x residential flats with associated bins stores, communal garden, bike store and parking. There will be 38 x other parking spaces retained for the existing building at the rear of the site. Morton & Hall would greatly appreciate any comments March Town Council have regarding this proposal.

March Town Council had no foreseeable objections to this proposal.

F/YR19/0423/VOC

Mr & Mrs J White, c/o Agent.

Variation of condition 4 to replace Rainwater Harvesting with Heat Recovery System relating to planning permission

F/YR17/0061/O (Erection of a dwelling (Outline with matters committed in respect of access)) at Land South Of 725

Whittlesey Road, March.

Received: 25 June 2019.

Reply by: 16 July 2019.

Recommend approval.

F/YR19/0532/F

Mr L Atwell, 70 Queens Road, Wisbech.

Change of use of laundrette and conversion of 2 x flats to form 3 dwellings (2 x 2-storey 2-bed and 1 x 2-storey 3-bed) at 120 High Street, March.

Received: 25 June 2019.

Reply by: 16 July 2019.

Recommend approval.

F/YR19/0529/F

Mr & Mrs Norton, 54 Shaftesbury Avenue, March.

Erection of a single-storey extension to side of existing dwelling involving demolition of existing side extension, formation of porch to front of existing dwelling and re-render external walls of dwelling, and convert existing garage to living accommodation and re-render external walls at Kismet, 54 Shaftesbury Avenue, March.

Received: 24 June 2019.

Reply by: 15 July 2019.

Recommend approval.

F/YR19/0533/F

Mr N Newton, 7 Norwood Road, March.

Erection of a 2-storey rear extension involving part demolition of existing dwelling at 7 Norwood Road, March.

Received: 25 June 2019.

Reply by: 16 July 2019.

Recommend approval.

- F/YR19/0539/F Ms S Fink, Allendale, Mill Hill Lane, March.  
Erect 1 dwelling (single-storey 3-bed) with attached garage at Plot at Land North of Allendale, Mill Hill Lane, March.  
Received: 26 June 2019.  
Reply by: 17 July 2019.  
Recommend approval.
- F/YR19/0543/F Mr Rowbotham, 11a Badgeney Road, March.  
Erect 1 dwelling (2-storey 3-bed) and 1.8 metre high close boarded fence at Land North of 68 Upwell Road, March.  
Received: 26 June 2019.  
Reply by: 17 July 2019.  
Recommend approval.
- F/YR19/0552/TRTPO Mr D Williams, 46 The Causeway, March.  
Felling of 2 x Sycamore trees and works to 2 x Sycamore and 1 x Horse Chestnut trees covered by TPO 7/1972 at 46 The Causeway, March.  
Received: 28 June 2019.  
Reply by: 19 July 2019.  
Recommend approval.
- F/YR19/0555/TRTPO Mr C Fryett, 11 College Gardens, March.  
Works to 1 x Horse Chestnut tree covered by TPO 04/1984 at 11 College Gardens, March.  
Received: 1 July 2019.  
Reply by: 22 July 2019.  
Recommend approval.

## **56 Public Participation**

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

## **57 Minutes of Meetings**

The following Minutes were agreed and signed by the Mayor:  
Main Council Meeting of 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019.  
Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

## **58 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **59 Internal Audit Review to Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 & Reappointment of Internal Auditors.**

Whiting and Partners, in a letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> June 2019, stated the following:

- a) "Based on our tests there are no material items in relation to which we need to report".

- b) “We have reviewed the expenses supplied by the Mayor which indicate that the Mayor’s Allowance has been expended”.

Following the proposition of Councillor Purser, seconded by Councillor Jack, it was unanimously agreed to accept the Internal Audit Review.

Following the proposition of Councillor J French, seconded by Councillor Skoulding, it was unanimously agreed that Whiting and Partners be re-appointed as the Council’s Internal Auditors for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

## **60 CCTV Control Room Visit**

Following a request to Aarron Locks, Councillors were requested to indicate whether they wished to visit the Wisbech CCTV Control Room prior to its closure.

The following Councillors evinced an interest, and it was agreed that the Town Clerk should arrange a suitable date:

Councillors Jack, Johnson, Skoulding, White, Purser, Tustin and Court.

## **61 Local Highway Improvement Bids 2020 / 2021**

Only one suggestion (Councillor J French) was put forward as follows:

To provide a footpath on the southern side of Norwood Avenue to compliment the improvements already undertaken on the northern side of the road. In addition, provide a streetlight on the corner of Norwood Avenue (northern side) and Station Road to eliminate the dark area that currently exists.

This suggestion was unanimously supported, and it was agreed that March Town Council should offer £3,000 towards the provision of this scheme.

The deadline for forwarding this bid is 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

## **62 Speedwatch**

Councillor Jack suggested that a Speedwatch Group be formed within the town.

He suggested that, initially, only Councillors should be part of this group, although this could be extended to include “external” volunteers at a later date.

The operating equipment needed to form such a group would commit the Council to expenditure of between £2,000 and £3,000. If the proposed group achieved fruition, it was agreed that March Town Council would support this cost. It was also agreed that Councillor Jack would become the chairman of any such group.

Councillor Jack stated that he, along with Councillors Skoulding and J French, would be attending a Speedwatch training day on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 at which further details and information would be obtained.

It was agreed that Councillor Jack should report back to the 5<sup>th</sup> August Main Council Meeting, at which time the names of further interested Councillors would be taken.

## **63 Redundant Allotment, Plot 1 West End Bypass**

Since Councillor White was not present to put forward his proposals to clear the overgrown allotment plot to the east of the bypass and re-plant with something more attractive, this agenda item could not be discussed.

The Mayor reported that, following discussions he had had with Councillor White, this agenda item would not be carried forward to the next meeting.

**64 Cambridgeshire County Council Update**

Councillors J French and Gowing provided the following updates:

- a) There is currently an ongoing judicial review into the proposed merger between the Police and Fire Authorities (JG).
- b) Councillor Gowing has recently visited the Fire Authority Control Room in Huntingdon. This is manned by six people and covers all of Cambridgeshire and Suffolk (JG).
- c) This Land Limited is a building / investment company that is wholly owned by Cambridgeshire County Council (JG).
- d) Several roads and footways within the town have now been resurfaced. A long list of other roads has also been produced for future resurfacing (JF).
- e) Many gullies within the town, in areas where flooding problems have occurred, are currently being cleared (JF).
- f) A complete March Transport Strategy is currently being produced, so it is hoped that everyone will study this document carefully once it goes out to consultation (JF).

**65 Fenland District Council Update**

Councillor Purser had nothing to report this month.

**66 Schedule of Accounts**

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm

Councillor RF Skoulding ..... 5<sup>th</sup> August 2019.  
Mayor of March.