

## MARCH TOWN COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Meeting of March Town Council held on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 held via “Zoom” commencing at 7.15pm.

<b>Present</b>	Councillor	K French R Jack	Town Mayor Deputy Town Mayor
	Councillors	SR Court CK Elkin R Johnson RF Skoulding RW White	AR Donnelly J French MW Purser G Tustin
	County Councillor		J Gowing
	Town Clerk		C Lemmon

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 6<sup>th</sup> April 2020 Main Council Meeting, Standing Orders are suspended until such time as the coronavirus epidemic abates.

### **89 Apologies**

No apologies were received.

### **90 Police Update**

No police were in attendance and no written report had been circulated. However, on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 the Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended a Police on-line update meeting which, in future, will be held on a monthly basis.

It was noted that the Mayor would circulate minutes from this Police meeting after certain items had been redacted because of confidentiality concerns.

It was also agreed that Sergeant Lugg should be requested to continue with the Police written report so that all Councillors are directly involved with this important channel of information.

### **91 Planning Applications**

Because of their positions 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 and J French declare a permanent personal interest and take no part in 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.

The afore-mentioned Councillors remained visible during this agenda item but all other members observed that their microphones were muted for the entire time.

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

*Application  
Number*

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

F/YR19/1106/F

Mr Green, Ely Diocesan Board of Finance c/o Agent (Howard Sharp & Partners LLP).  
Erect 9 x dwellings (8 x 2-storey 2-bed and 1 x 2-storey 3-bed) and associated works at Land East of St Marys Church Hall, Wisbech Road, Westry.  
Revised proposals have been received in respect of the above.  
The revision is: Amended drawings – 1752/33 Hard Landscaping; 1752/10/34A Refuse vehicle tracking; 1752/10/32 and 31 Street Elevations; 1752/10/30 Garage Bins Bikes; 1752/10/29 and 28 Block B elevations; 1752/10/27 Block B floorplans; 1752/10/26 and 25 Block A elevations; 1752/10/24 Block A floorplans; 1752/10/23A Site layout; 1752/10/22 Site Block Plan; Heritage Statement May 2020; Design and Access Statement May 2020; Biodiversity checklist; Flood Risk and Drainage Strategy August 2020 and Arboricultural Impact Assessment August 2020.  
Received: 23 September 2020.  
Reply by: 7 October 2020.  
Recommend approval.

F/YR19/1106/F

Mr Green, Ely Diocesan Board of Finance c/o Agent (Howard Sharp & Partners LLP).  
Erect 6 x dwellings (4 x 2-storey 2-bed and 2 x 2-storey 3-bed) and associated works at Land East of St Marys Church Hall, Wisbech Road, Westry.  
Revised proposals have been received in respect of the above.  
The revision is: Reduction in dwellings and amended drawings – 1752/33 Hard Landscaping; 1752/10/34A Refuse vehicle tracking; 1752/10/32 and 31 Street Elevations; 1752/10/30 Garage Bins Bikes; 1752/10/29 and 28 Block B elevations; 1752/10/27 Block B floorplans; 1752/10/26 and 25 Block A elevations; 1752/10/24 Block A floorplans; 1752/10/23A Site layout; 1752/10/22 Site Block Plan; Heritage Statement May 2020; Design and Access Statement May 2020; Biodiversity checklist; Flood Risk and Drainage Strategy August 2020 and Arboricultural Impact Assessment August 2020.  
Received: 23 September 2020.  
Reply by: 7 October 2020.  
Recommend approval.

F/YR20/0370/O

Mr Ben Saxby, MJS Acquisitions (March) Ltd, MJS House, 425 Wisbech Road, March.

Erect 11 x 3-storey flats (6 x 3-bed and 5 x 2-bed) with part ground-floor retail / office (outline application with matters committed in respect of access, appearance, layout and scale involving demolition of existing building within a Conservation Area at 72-74 High Street, March.

Revised proposals have been received in respect of the above. The revision is: Reduction in number of proposed dwellings and associated design changes.

Received: 25 September 2020.

Reply by: 9 October 2020.

Recommend approval.

F/YR20/0858/CERTLU

Mr Jonathan Christmas, 51 Russell Avenue, March.

Certificate of lawfulness (Existing): Erect a single-storey side extension at 51 Russell Avenue, March.

An application for a certificate of lawful use has been received in respect of the existing use of the above site.

Received: 21 September 2020.

Reply by: 12 October 2020.

Recommend approval.

F/YR20/0867/VOC

Mr R Smith, 15 Hillside Road, March.

Variation of condition 5 (approved plans) relating to Planning permission F/YR18/0676/F (Conversion of loft space to living accommodation and erection of a single-storey side extension to existing dwelling involving demolition of existing garage) at 15 Hillside Road, March.

An application to vary or remove a condition has been received in respect of the above.

The changes are:

- a) Change from front and rear single-storey hips to gable ends.
- b) Change from French doors to bi-fold to the dining room.

Received: 23 September 2020.

Reply by: 14 October 2020.

Recommend approval.

F/YR20/0705/F

Mr & Mrs Batchelor, Aspen Grange, 6 Aspenwood Grove, March.

Erect a dwelling (2-storey 4-bed) at Land South of 89 Elwyn Road, March.

Application withdrawn.

Received: 2 October 2020.

Withdrawal noted.

F/YR20/0838/F Mr Jamie McGarvie, Ashewell Developments, Halfpenny Toll, Hook Road, Wimblington.  
Erect 1 x block of 4 x industrial units (Class E(g)(iii) – light industrial) involving the demolition of existing building, and the construction of an internal road access road to existing unit including the relocation of external door at Barn at Gravel House, Elm Road, March.  
Received: 2 October 2020.  
Reply by: 23 October 2020.  
Recommend approval.

F/YR20/0891/F T Holkham, Juventas Services Ltd, Head Office Suite 1, Abbey Lodge, Horsham St Faith, Norwich.  
Change of use from residential to children’s care home at Daneholme, Wimblington Road, March.  
Received: 30 September 2020.  
Reply by: 21 October 2020.  
Recommend approval.

**92 Public Participation**

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

**93 Minutes of Meetings**

The following Minutes were agreed:  
Main Council Meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020.  
Planning Sub-Committee Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020.  
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.

**94 Matters Arising**

Re Main Council Meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020:

- Minute 81/68/57: The new computer system has still not been installed.
- Minute 85(a): All the new play equipment for West End Park is now in Fenland District Council’s possession.

**95 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) This Land Ltd will now be selling the development sites that it owns in March.  
b) There have been one or two minor outbreaks of Covid-19 in local schools but, in general, infection levels in this area remain relatively low.

- c) Queries were raised as to whether the yellow-lining in Richards Close had been applied in a legally enforceable manner. Councillor Gowing agreed to investigate further.
- d) No physical Cambridgeshire County Council meetings will be held prior to May 2021.

**96 Fenland District Council Update**

Councillor J French reported as follows:

- a) Civil Parking Enforcement investigations are progressing to a more advanced stage with each of the Fenland towns willing to contribute £100,000 towards its introduction provided it has the backing of the Combined Authority.
- b) No physical Fenland District Council meetings will be held prior to May 2021.
- c) All the play equipment within the town’s parks is being inspected with a view to possible replacement subject to funding.
- d) The situation regarding the erection of a fence in Johnson Square is being investigated by Councillor J French to ascertain the ownership of the land within that immediate area. Efforts will also be made to ascertain whether or not Johnson Square is or could become a public right of way.

**97 Schedule of Accounts**

The Schedule of Accounts, as circulated, was agreed.

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

Councillor K French ..... 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020.  
 Mayor of March.