

# MARCH TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **ANNUAL MEETING** of March Town Council held on 13 May 2024 in The Skoulding Suite at March Town Hall commencing at 7.15pm.

<b>Present</b>	Councillor	G Christy A Woollard	Town Mayor Deputy Mayor
	Councillors	S Court J French J Lawler M Purser T Taylor	M Field K French H Orbell N Spencer
	Town Clerk Assistant Town Clerk		S Lemmon S Taylor
	Public		38

## **24 Apologies for Absence**

No apologies were received.

## **25 Outgoing Mayors Cadet Presentation**

Following a Guard of Honour for the outgoing Mayor provided by the March Air Cadets, Cllr K French presented Corporal Faith Anders with a Mayor's Cadet badge and jewel by way of thanks for her 18 months' service to the Mayor during 2022 - 2024.

## **26 Declaration of Town Mayor 2024 / 2025**

As agreed at the Main Council Meeting on 4 March 2024, Cllr G Christy had been nominated as Mayor of March and formally accepted the post. Cllr Christy expressed his honour and gratitude at having been elected and expressed his passion for the community and volunteering and his deep commitment to the residents of March.

## **27 Declaration of Mayor's Cadet 2024 / 2025**

It was agreed that Sgt Lucy Thompson would serve as the Mayor's Cadet for the 2024 / 2025 term and Lucy was officially installed and presented with her badge by the new Mayor, Cllr Christy.

## **28 Declaration of Deputy Town Mayor 2024 / 2025**

As agreed at the Main Council Meeting on 4 March 2024, Cllr A Woollard had been nominated as Deputy Mayor of March and formally accepted the post.

The Mayor's guests then retired for refreshments and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor both signed their respective declarations of office.

## **29 Agreement of Mayor's Allowance**

Councillor Christy declared a prejudicial interest and left the room whilst the Mayor's allowance was discussed.

Councillor Woollard took the Chair for this agenda item only.

It was unanimously agreed that the following allowance would apply for 2024/2025:

£3,450.00p.

This amount coincides with that provided within this year's budget.

## **30 Dates of Council Meetings for 2024/2025**

The dates for the 2024/2025 meetings were agreed (See Appendix 1). \*The main meeting scheduled for 21 April 2025 would need to be moved to 28 April 2025.

## **31 Public Participation**

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

## **32 Minutes of Meetings**

The minutes of the following meetings were agreed and signed by the Mayor:

Main Meeting - 22 April 2024

Christmas Lights – 29 April 2024

## **33 Matters Arising**

Cllr Christy attended a Police Liaison meeting on 10 May. He highlighted the recent trend of scams on the elderly, with fraudsters visiting the vulnerable posing as landscape gardeners and other tradesmen.

## **34 Planning Applications**

Because of her position on the Fenland District Council Planning and Development Committee and her commitment to Paragraph 28 of the Fenland District Council Code of

Conduct, Councillor J French declared a personal interest and took no part in the discussions relating to planning matters.

Councillor J French left the debating table for the entirety of this agenda item.

*Application  
Number*

*Name & Address of Applicant, Details of Application,  
and Recommendation of March Town Council.*

Prior to any applications being discussed, Cllr Taylor advised that the drainage Commissioners had issued a statement confirming that all systems were at, or above, capacity.

F/YR23/0696/O

Barratt David Wilson Homes Cambs

Outline planning permission (all matters reserved except for access) for up to 425 dwellings (including affordable housing), formation of 2 x accesses, and a dropped kerb (for 38 Wimblington Road), safeguarded land for grass playing field, public open space, landscaping, community garden, community orchard, children's play areas, sustainable drainage infrastructure, retention of informal parking area, all other associated infrastructure and demolition of an existing dwelling (40 Wimblington Road) at Land South of Barkers Lane and East of Wimblington Road, March.

Received; 22 April 2024

Reply by: 6 May 2024

\*Cllr K French declared an interest in this matter and did not take part in any discussions or vote.

**Recommendation; Refusal – serious flooding and drainage concerns.**

F/YR23/0942/F

Eastwood RVL March Ltd

Erect 5 industrial units (B2/B8 use), the formation of a car park and cycle park and associated landscaping at Land South of March Trading Estate, Westry Avenue, March.

**Revised Proposals:** amended site plan, unit floor plans and updated assessments.

Received: 26 April 2024

Reply by: 10 May 2024

**Recommendation; Approval *subject to satisfactory drainage/attenuation measures.***

F/YR24/0232/O

Mrs Pauline Robertson, 115B West End, March

Erect up to 3 dwellings (outline application with matters committed in respect of access) involving demolition of existing dwelling and widening of West End at 115B West End, March.

**Revised Proposals:** The application site has been reduced in size and the location of the proposed accesses have been amended.

Received: 22 April 2024

Reply by: 6 May 2024

**Recommendation; Refusal – inappropriate development, incongruous to the riverside and character of the area. Concerns regarding light, access, infrastructure and traffic.**

F/YR24/0308/F

Inside Land Capital Ltd, Nottinghamshire  
Erect 17 dwellings (15 x 2-storey 3-bed and 2 x 2-storey 2-bed) with associated access, parking, landscaping and surface water attenuation at Land North of 147-159 Wisbech Road, March.

Received: 22 April 2024

Reply by: 13 May 2024

**Recommendation: Refusal. Concerns regarding flooding and drainage. Insufficient information provided re surface water run-off and attenuation.**

F/YR24/0310/F

Mr Joe Maskell, 9 Harvester Close, March  
Erect a 2-storey rear extension to existing dwelling at 10 Acacia Grove, March.

Received: 25 April 2024

Reply by: 16 May 2024

**Recommendation: Approval**

F./YR24/0323/F

Mr J Smith, 4 Meadowlands, March.  
The siting of a mobile home (annexe) to existing dwelling (retrospective) at 4 Meadowlands, March.

Received: 26 April 2024

Reply by: 17 May 2024

**Recommendation; Refusal - overdevelopment**

F/YR24/0337/RM

Mr Paul Hussey, Millfield Developments, March.  
Reserved Matters application relating to detailed matters of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to outline permission APP/D0515/W/22/3301398 relating to F/YR21/0819/FDL to erect 1 dwelling (single-storey, 2-bed) involving demolition of existing outbuildings and alterations to wall at access at Land South of Gillingham Lodge, The Chase, Gaul Road, March.

Received; 2 May 2024

Reply by: 23 May 2024

**Recommendation; Approval**

- F/YR24/0356/F Liaise c/o Gillings Planning, Winchester.  
Change of use of dwelling (C3) to assisted living units (C2) including rendering and alterations to front window and installation of solar panels to roof (front) of existing dwelling and installation of detached garden room at 28A Upwell Road, March.  
Received: 7 May 2024  
Reply by: 28 May 2024  
**Recommendation; Approval**
- F/YR24/0362/F Ms C Hayes, 24 Hundred Road, March.  
Erect a single-storey side extension to existing dwelling at 34 Hundred Road, March.  
Received: 26 April 2024  
Reply by: 17 May 2024  
**Recommendation: Approval**
- F/YR24/0367/F Mr R Mair, Lindwood Farm, March.  
Erect a detached single-storey annex ancillary to existing dwelling at Linwood Farm, Linwood Lane, March.  
Received: 1 May 2024  
Reply by: 22 May 2024  
**Recommendation; Approval**
- F/YR24/0369/F Mr Nigel Goude, 15 Burn Street, March.  
Erect a 2-storey extension to rear of existing dwelling, involving the demolition of existing conservatory at 15 Burn Street, March.  
Received: 29 April 2024  
Reply by: 20 May 2024  
**Recommendation: Approval**
- F/YR24/0372/F Mr Sean Brown, 3 New Woods Drive, Wimblington.  
Erect 1 dwelling (single-storey, 3-bed) and the formation of an access at Land East of 80 Upwell Road, March.  
Received: 10 May 2024  
Reply by: 31 May 2024  
**Recommendation: Approval *subject to satisfactory attenuation measures being implemented.***
- F/YR24/0373/F Jamie McGarvie, Ashewell Developments.  
Conversion of existing agricultural building (grain store) to 2 dwellings (2-storey, 4-bed) involving demolition of existing sheds at Land North of The Walnuts, Flaggrass Hill Road, March.  
Received: 9 May 2024

Reply by; 30 May 2024

**Recommendation; Approval *subject to satisfactory attenuation measures being implemented.***

F/YR24/0383/F

Mr Rugg, 70 Norwood Road, March

Erect a single-storey rear extension to existing dwelling at 70 Norwood Road, March.

Received; 10 May 2024

Reply by: 31 May 2024

**Recommendation; Approval**

F/YR24/0384/F

Mr P Crofts, 71 Knights End Road.

Erect a double garage to front of existing dwelling at 71 Knights End Road, March.

Received: 9 May 2024

Reply by: 30 May 2024

**Recommendation; Refusal – development incongruous and damaging to the street scene.**

F/YR24/0385/F

Dr A Chokshi, March Dental.

Erect a single-storey ground floor extension for use by existing dental surgery (Class E€ at 24 Broad Street, March.

Received: 10 May 2024

Reply by: 31 May 2024

\*Cllr Lawler declared an interest in this item and took no part in discussions or voting.

**Recommendation; Approval**

### **35 Payments List**

The Payments List, as circulated, was agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:10pm.

Councillor Gary Christy ..... 3 June 2024  
Mayor of March.

**Dates of March Town Council Meetings for 2024 / 2025  
to be held in The Skoulding Suite at the Town Hall, March,  
commencing at 7.15pm unless otherwise stated.**

**2024**

3rd & 17th June

1st & 15th July

5th & 19th August

2nd & 16th September

7th & 21st October

4th & 18th November

2nd & 16th December

**2025**

6th & 20th January

3rd & 17th February

3rd & 17th March

7th April

28th April \*

Main Meeting (formerly "Annual  
Assembly")

12th May \*

Annual Meeting (incl Planning)

Please note that, in general, the first Monday of the month is a Main Council Meeting and the third Monday of the month is a **Planning Committee Meeting**.

As an advance notice, the Annual Museum Liaison Meeting will be held on Monday **25th** November 2024 at 7.30pm at March Museum.