

Minutes of a meeting of the Alcester Town Council held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 3 November 2009 at Globe House, Alcester

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DISCRETION OF MAYOR

Residents were invited to give their views and question the Town Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration, by the Mayor. A number of residents from Bidford were present to talk about the Warwickshire Fire Service Review, including Mr W Fleming, Mr C Moore, Mrs P Barry and Mrs J Houghton. The general consensus was to oppose the proposals outlined in the plan which kept Alcester, but suggested closing Bidford and Studley. Cllr Gough responded on behalf of the Town Council.

Present

M Gittus (Mayor), C Gough (Deputy Mayor), W Malin, Y Hine, J Bunting, P Crabtree, D Hancox, E Payne, N Dearling, S Adams, L Cumberbatch, R Leek, J Kenyon. C Wright (Clerk) and A Tugwell (Press Officer) were also present.

Acceptance of Office 01/11/09

The newly appointed Co-opted Member Mr J Kenyon formally accepted office and signed the declaration, which was countersigned by the Clerk. The Clerk also handed Cllr Kenyon a Declaration of Interests form to be completed.

Apologies 02/11/09

Apologies and reasons for absence had been received from Cllrs Graham, Knapman and Carr.

Minutes of last meeting 05/10/09 (circulated) 03/11/09

The minutes of the last Town Council meeting held on the 5th October 2009, having been circulated were proposed to be accepted by Cllr Malin and seconded by Cllr Payne and accepted by Council.

Declarations of Interest 04/11/09

Cllr Kenyon declared an interest on the proposal to Council being made by the Recreation Committee, as he was Deputy Chairman of the Alcester Town Football Club.

Mayor's Report 05/11/09

The Mayor gave a report on recent activities which he had undertaken on behalf of the Council. He explained a full list was available in Councillors Packs, but highlighted the Alcester Mop Fair Celebrations and the AGM of the Carers Support Service.

Notes on Forum Meetings 06/11/09

The notes of the Forum meeting held on 12 October 2009, having been placed in Councillors Packs were approved. The Mayor commented the visit by Inspector Devereux with Sgt. Wild was very welcome and asked the Clerk to send a letter of thanks. Cllrs showed interest in a visit to the CCTV Control Room and Cllr Payne and Adams were asked to arrange this on behalf of Council.

Alcester Emergency Plan, Flooding and Drainage 07/11/09

Councillor Gittus gave an update on the Flood Relief Pumps position, which he stated was still moving forward. He also stated the Town Drain had shown problems and that work had started to clear it but had ceased and would start again during November. He also stated that the Drainage on the Old Brooklyn site had been started by Waitrose but was waiting for a decision by Warwickshire Archaeology, whom he had contacted asking them to move forward swiftly.

Alcester Area Health Reforms 08/11/09

Councillor Cumberbatch gave an update on the Integrated Health and Social Care Team which were now in place at the Hospital, but it was only their second day. He also stated that Bidford and Studley GPs were also being invited onto the various advisory groups including both the Stakeholder and Project Team to ensure their input is heard. It was also stated there had been a study day at the Town Hall and the GPs from all practices in the area appeared happy with progress. Concerns were also raised by councillors which included the timing of the integrated team moving to the Old Primary School and the integration of Hospital staff into the team.

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Youth Provision 09/11/09

The Clerk gave an update on Youth Projects, including the progress with the MUGA and the Alcester Town Youth Council, which was due to meet the following day, stating that good progress was being made and further updates would continue.

Planning Committee 10/11/09

A report was received from Cllr Gough on behalf of the Planning Committee Chairman stating firstly the notes on the meetings were available in councillors' packs and there was only one issue to bring before Council, which related to the temporary car park Waitrose had applied for regarding the flow of traffic. Cllr Payne reminded Council this was only considered temporary and further plans should be put forward in the next two years. No proposals were made to Council at present.

Amenities Committee 11/11/09

A report was received from the Amenities Committee Chairman Cllr Dearling stating there had been progress with an Allotment Association and this would be reported to council in due course. There was also some significant tree work to be done at the cemetery, which had been ordered. Councillor Adams asked about further tree work at Springfield Road and Allotment waiting times. The tree work that had been done at Springfield Road had been inspected by Committee Members and was considered satisfactory and people on the allotment waiting list would be informed of their position in November when the reminders go out. No proposals were made to Council at present.

Recreation Committee 12/11/09

A report was received from the Recreation Committee Chairman Cllr Bunting stating the notes were in councillors packs, but added there had been plans done for the Natural Play design at Conway Fields and this was being sent to different venues for consultation and following the movement of the football storage containers they were still awaiting painting. Cllr Dearling, chairman of Vision for Alcester gave a report regarding their projects, stating that work on the riverside walk should start soon but was held up in its entirety by Warwickshire County Council on the Diversion from the original AL47 path.

The Clerk gave a report regarding Alcester Opportunities, stating that the organisation had been dissolved by Companies House and he would answer any questions councillors wished to ask in a closed session after this council meeting if necessary. None were forthcoming. The Proposal to Council 'To approve a formal approach to C. Corbett regarding a lease for using the site now occupied by the Golf Driving Range for a continuing recreational facility for Alcester' was proposed to be accepted by Cllr Knapman and seconded by Cllr Dearling.

Community Committee 13/11/09

The Community Committee Chairman Cllr Payne gave a report stating the notes on the last meeting was in councillors packs and added that further visits had been made with PCSO's in the Police Mobile Surgery, and there had also been disturbances in the town during the weekend. The Town Development Working Group (TDWG) had met with Waitrose who had shown remarkable support.

The Communication sub-committee Chairman Cllr Malin stated the next Council Surgery was next Saturday, 7th November, and urged councillors to put forward articles for the next Newsletter as the deadline is November 20th. He also stated they had agreed the Press Officers terms of reference.

The Proposal to Council 'To seek approval on Alcester Fire Station consultation' was considered and following discussion changes were agreed to reflect an individual's reply. This was proposed for approval by Cllr Cumberbatch, seconded by Cllr Malin and approved by council.

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Scrutiny Committee 14/11/09

The Scrutiny Committee Chairman stated there had not been a meeting and there were no proposals to council at present.

Presidium 15/11/09

The Presidium Committee Chairman stated there had not been a meeting of the committee, due to the pressure on the clerk following the collapse of Alcester Opportunity.

The Clerk gave a report regarding the financial position of the Greig Centre stating that a meeting had now taken place with the portfolio holder of Stratford District Council, and officers, the Deputy Chairman and Director of the Greig Centre and Cllr Gough.

Complaints and Community Forum requests 16/11/09

The Clerk reminded councillors the next Alcester Forum was to take place 25th November

Payment of Accounts 17/11/09

Councillors received a report from the Clerk who asked for approval by Council on Payment of Accounts. This was proposed by Cllr Adams and seconded by Cllr Cumberbatch and approved.

Correspondence 18/11/09

The Following correspondence had been received and was presented to council and noted. Publications were distributed to various councillors

- a) Action for Market Towns – September Review
- b) Stratford on Avon District Council – Independent Inspection of Play Areas
- c) NALC – LCR Publication
- d) Warwickshire County Council – ‘Have Your Say’ on Transport
- e) Stratford on Avon District Council – Remembrance Day Road Closure
- f) Warwickshire County Council – Alcester Bidford Community Forums

District and County Councillors’ Reports 19/11/09

Reports were received from the following Ward District and County Councillors.

Cllr Adams confirmed the green waste would continue to be collected throughout the winter. Cllr Adams also reported on the Daffodil Cross, Alcester’s Christmas Lights, and the Remembrance Sunday Parade.

Cllr Payne reported on attendance at meetings with the Adult Health and Social Care Group, SDC Civic Service, Cllr Vince Seaman’s Funeral, the Orbit MUGA Cheque Presentation, the VFA MUGA meeting, Alcester Firefighters, TDWG and Alcester Flood Forum.

Cllr Gittus had put a report with the councillors’ packs but also commented in particular on the Birch Abbey consultation and the Fire and rescue Service Review meetings.

Notification of Future Visitors 20/11/09

Councillors were reminded of the Forum meeting Monday 9 November when Peter Falcini, Manager of Waitrose would make a presentation.

Notification of any further business for future meetings 21/11/09

A request was made to Councillors for agenda items to be received no later than 7 days prior to next meeting.

Dates of future meetings 22/11/09

Forum Meeting Monday 9 November at 7.30pm

Recreation Committee Monday 23 November at 7.00pm

Amenities Committee Monday 23 November at 8.00pm

Community Committee Monday 23 November at 8.00pm

Planning Committee Mon 9 Nov at 6.30pm & Mon 23 Nov at 7.00pm

Presidium Meeting TBA

Scrutiny Committee 14th January, 2010 at 10am

Full Council 1st December at 7.00 pm.

All the above meetings are to be held at Globe House