

# Alcester Town Council



## *newsletter* **Issue 25 Summer 2011**

***In this edition: Celebration of Youth Event.....***

### ***Meet your new Mayor***



***Outgoing Mayor Chris Gough and new Mayor Lennox Cumberbatch***

The local elections seem a long time ago now but I am especially pleased that the Town Council has its full quota of 16 councillors, of which six of the new team are women, an increase of 100% from the pre election group of councillors.

I would like to thank the voters of Oversley ward for electing me as one of the councillors who represent the ward on the town council.

Kath and I have lived in the town for ten years and continue to enjoy the community spirit of the town. My background of working in local government and in the health services has presented good opportunities for involvement in local activities.

Alcester is in a good position to continue to develop as a market town and this is obvious from the many events during the year which are well supported by residents and visitors alike.

It is becoming clear that the Government is intent on freeing local government from many of the requirements imposed by Central Government, and to give local councils more freedom to deliver services in ways which suit local communities. We will be gauging the implications of these changes and the impact they will have on towns such as Alcester.

As the newly appointed mayor of Alcester I look forward to meeting as many local residents and business representatives as is possible, and as councillors we will work with other local organisations to continue to improve the quality of life for local residents by the encouragement of trade, tourists and leisure.

The 'Alcester Olympic Committee' is already in action, and will be planning events in 2012 with the many sporting organisations in and around the town. We will seek to improve the environment of the area in and around Alcester, liaise with our neighbouring parishes, and enhance the involvement of the community we serve.

As the previous Mayor said, "It takes a lot of love and care to make a town as special as Alcester – we should be proud of what we are achieving." Kath and I believe in this theme, and we will continue our involvement in the many community activities of Alcester.

***Lennox and Kath Cumberbatch***

## Clerk's Corner

New Town Councillors, a new Mayor and Deputy Mayor, new committees and new challenges. We are still feeling the pressure of the cuts taking place and none more so than at Globe House and maintaining the Roman Museum for the Town. Discussions with both Stratford District Council and Warwickshire County Council regarding the future of Globe House, the Police Station and the Library building are well underway. Work is well progressed at the Pavilion and this month steelwork and roofing should be starting to come together. We are still hopeful of completion for August, but the next two months are critical. The Town Council will be helping to promote the facility and volunteers for the various facilities that will be operating there will be most welcome. These include the café, the Depot Youth Centre, A Mums and Toddlers group, Lunch Clubs and more.

Other progress to report is the lease signing to enable Alcester Town Football Club to officially call the old golf range its new home. This will slowly become a wonderful asset for all the football lovers in the town and we are sure the club will now continue to go from strength to strength. We are working with a small group who are starting a Heritage Archiving project to ensure all the ancient records of Alcester and the local district are available in digital form for people to access. Watch this space.

**Chris Wright**

## Meet New Councillor Julie Styles



Julie was born in Evesham and has lived in Alcester for over 40 years. She works as a Civil Servant and is involved with the Alcester Junior Drama Group. Julie says what

she likes most about Alcester is its great community spirit. Julie stood for election to the Town Council as she wanted to give something back to the place she grew up in, and to help it stay a great place to live.

## Severn Trent Water Sewerage Works in Alcester

Severn Trent Water Limited is investing approximately £2 million to improve the sewerage system in Alcester. The system has been serving the community for many years but in order to alleviate flooding in the town (which affects numerous properties and highways) there are parts of the network that now need improving.

Morgan Sindall will carry out the works on behalf of Severn Trent.

The actual commencement and completion dates for the works will be dependent on a number of factors still under consideration but are currently anticipated to run from August 2011 to April 2012.

The work involves the construction of new sewers in Newport Drive, Bleachfield Street, Stratford Road, Gas House Lane, Malt Mill Lane and a length across the recreation ground between Gas House Lane and Stratford Road. In addition, a new below ground shaft tank storage facility will be constructed in the field adjacent to the existing pumping station on Stratford Road. This is to store the excess flows from the sewerage system during storm conditions.

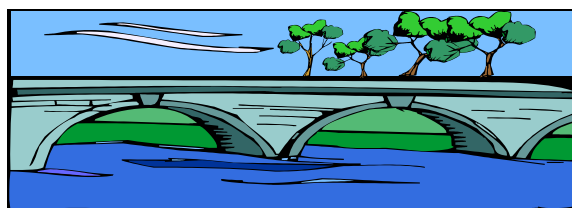
The majority of the work is located within the highway and it will be necessary to temporarily close some roads. Morgan Sindall will be working closely with the local authority, bus companies and the emergency services to ensure that effective traffic management plans are in place to minimise disruption and access to the front of homes and businesses will be maintained wherever possible.

Severn Trent will issue further updates when definitive dates are available and a public exhibition will be held in Globe House during July.

If you have any concerns or would like further information please contact

Amanda Hales – Morgan Sindall 07831 878011

STW Customer Service Centre 0800 783 4444



### **Where friendship is your neighbour**

The national press has highlighted the disappointment of a number of retirees who moved to what they considered a perfect future home only to find that all was not well. This brought into doubt their plans. The main problem was loss of support from friends. Not so in Alcester. In conversation three couples who moved into the area in the last twelve months spoke of many new friendships made and how these had led to involvement in a variety of activities. Our town rightly has a reputation for friendship and a community spirit, well displayed on the Royal Wedding day! Life has its ups-and-downs and sometimes help from more than family or friends is needed. Alcester S.C.A.N. (Senior Citizens Action Network) with its bi monthly meetings at the Greig Centre has this year featured some of those resources. A first port of call for any information is the C.A.B. (Citizens Advice Bureau) 01789 261966. AGE UK are on 01926 458141. Advice on Housing and Care options for older residents is 0800 377 7070. The gateway to the County services is via their PHILLIS team on 01926 731142. For more information about SCAN ring John Hodges on 01789 766169 or Jan Roberts on 01789 260108.



### **Neighbourhood Watch Alcester**

**Smartwater** Earlier this year there was a large take up of Smartwater in Alcester, largely because of the reduced price of limited stock. Alcester now has a number of Smartwater Street Signs erected by the Police on Eclipse Road, Evesham Street, Meeting Lane and the bottom of Springfield Road, and a further one at Canada Barns on the road out to Gt Alne. In addition the Police in partnership with Warks CC, has put up Smartwater street signs at Jubilee Court. These street signs are a known further deterrent to burglars. Smartwater is still available through NHW for £15 - a real bargain. On line it costs over £50 and an annual fee. Buying through NHW it is £15 only and no ongoing fee. Contact Dorrie Manders, details below.

**Scams/Rogue traders** More and more scams are around these days and it is recommended that people should familiarise themselves with the Warwickshire Trading Standards Service. Its website is at

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/tradingstandards](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/tradingstandards).

This is a quick, simple and cost effective means by which Warwickshire Trading Standards can alert interested individuals, community organisations, businesses, charities and others to the latest Trading Standards issues/scams etc.

**Scrap Metal Merchants** In Alcester scrap metal thieves are becoming much more brazen by coming round streets in the daytime and picking up items, and on occasion looking for goods, putting them somewhere where they can be more easily collected, and then picking them up in the early hours of the morning. One householder on Priory Road has been a victim 3 times by them breaking locks/gates to gain entry in the space of 2 weeks. The message is to be extra vigilant and keep things secure as possible.

#### **Alcester Street Market Sunday 12 June**

People are required to help man the NHW Stand for one hour between the hours of noon and 6pm. Last year over 60 people signed up to NHW Please contact Ann Mattocks if you can help. 762882

#### **The next meeting of NHW Alcester will be held on Wednesday 7 September 2011 at 7.30pm**

at St Benedict's School in the Community Room. The meeting will include a Police/Incident Report, and the latest developments in Neighbourhood Watch. Everyone is welcome. Meetings last approximately one hour

**If you would like to find out more about NHW Alcester**, please email: [nhwalcester@aol.com](mailto:nhwalcester@aol.com) or telephone Dorrie Manders on 01789 762999

#### **Communicating with the Police**

Emergencies dial 999

Report a crime or serious incident 01926415000  
Stratford Police Station 01789 414111

Globe House (open 9am-5pm Mon-Fri) for Police public enquiry services (personal callers only)

Call **Crimestoppers** anonymously with information about crime on 0800 555 111. Crimestoppers is a charity who will pass on information to police without revealing any details of the caller.

#### **Alcester South Safer Neighbourhood Team**

Please feel free to contact the team direct:

Email:

[alcestersouth.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:alcestersouth.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)

To leave a Voice Mail (VM) message tel **01789 762207**

**PS 542 Bob Shaw** (Team Sergeant) **01789 444816**

**PC 781 Pete Essex** (Beat Manager) **VM: 10781 Mobile: 07979704373 or 07823 533488**

PCSO 6236 Andy Hyman VM: 16236 Mobile:  
07979704373  
PCSO 6206 Ally Streatfield VM: 16206 Mobile:  
07979704373  
PCSO Becky Morris VM: 16093 Mobile:  
07979704373

PCSO 6179 Pete Groom VM: 16179 Mobile:  
07823 533488

Contact **Warwickshire Trading Standards** for  
advice on scams and rogue traders on 0845  
4040 506. For access to latest information on  
scams go to

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/tradingstandards](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/tradingstandards)

**Alcester is a relatively crime free area. We  
work together to keep it that way.**

### ***Have you heard about Community Forums?***

Community Forums are public meetings led  
by the County Council and Stratford-on-  
Avon District Council to engage the public in  
council business. Warwickshire Police  
promote 'Safer Neighbourhoods' through  
the Community Forums. Additionally the  
Safer Neighbourhood Teams hold a surgery  
prior to the forum during which time  
tea/coffee is available.

Your Community Forum's next meeting is  
scheduled to take place on Tuesday 21  
June at St Benedict's RC High School

If you have a specific concern or problem,  
then drop in to the local surgery from  
6.30pm to 7.00pm where you will be able to  
speak to your Safer Neighbourhoods  
Policing Team, Councillors and Officers  
from Warwickshire County Council and  
Stratford on Avon District Council.  
If you would like to suggest an issue for a  
future Community Forum meeting, or find  
out more, please contact Amanda Wilson-  
Patterson on 01789 260135 or email  
[amandawilsonpatterson@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:amandawilsonpatterson@warwickshire.gov.uk)

### ***Action for Market Towns National Award Scheme***

Conway Fields Youth and Community  
Project has won the Social and Community  
Category for the Action for Market Town  
Awards in the West zone and will be put  
forward for Overall Winner at a presentation  
on 12 July in Calne, Wiltshire. The Clerk  
and the Mayor will be attending the  
presentation. Watch this space.....



### ***Royal British Legion Alcester Branch 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations***

On Friday 3 June 2011, The Alcester  
Branch is officially 90 years old. We are the  
oldest branch in the Warwickshire legion  
area. To celebrate this special year we will  
be holding a number of events. We invite  
you ALL to join us.

#### **Saturday 25 June 2011**

Raising of Armed Forces Day Flag.

10.30am St Nicholas Church Green

This marks a week of national celebrations  
where we show our appreciation to  
Veterans and those serving in the Armed  
Forces. All are welcome.

#### **Saturday 6 August 2011**

Birthday Garden Party and Poppy Appeal  
launch

This popular annual event will take place at  
the Malt Mill Lane centre from 2pm till 4pm.

As well as many stalls the branch would  
also like to meet anyone interested in  
helping or joining the Branch.

Raffle, Tombola, Cakes and Bric-a-brac  
£1 entrance to include a drink and cake

The Branch are always looking for new  
members and volunteers and would  
especially like to make contact with ex-  
service or serving members of The Armed  
Forces in the Alcester area. Anyone  
interested can contact the Secretary on  
07902926850

### ***Celebration of Youth***



A summer outdoor music  
event to herald the opening  
of Alcester's first ever  
purpose-built youth centre,  
The DEPOT, is being  
planned to take place at

the Conway Fields on August Bank Holiday  
Monday.

An afternoon of live and local music on 29  
August which will feature performances  
from a mixture of talent ranging from school  
bands to professional musicians as well as  
a host of entertainment and stalls from local  
youth organisations.

The aim of the day will be to create a positive profile of young people living in Alcester by providing them with a platform to showcase their talents and to create awareness of The DEPOT, which is scheduled to open its doors in September.

Organisers hope that the family-friendly occasion entitled 'A Celebration of Youth' will be positively embraced by the Alcester community who are invited to come along with their picnics and participate in a day of musical celebration.

Robert McCluskey from Warwickshire Youth Services is keen to hear from any youth organisations or community groups from Alcester who would like to get involved on the day or any local businesses that would be willing to donate funds in the form of sponsorship.

For offers of help or to get involved please call Robert on 01527 852472/07795 236907 or email him at [robertmcccluskey@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:robertmcccluskey@warwickshire.gov.uk)

## Recreation Committee

### Achievements April 2010 to March 2011

Community Orchard and picnic area - our thanks to Julie Turner of Warwickshire Wildlife Trust for all her organisation and work and to all volunteers who came along and helped. The need now is for a group to supervise and look after this area and to work to improve the picnic facilities with items such as tables suitable for disabled people in wheelchairs and to keep the area cleared to encourage the wild flowers sown in the area.

The Multi Use Games Area was opened on 13 May 2010 and is used regularly by residents and the schools.

Improved fencing for the schools has been provided near the MUGA.

Construction has started on the youth building, The Depot, on Conway Fields. Completion should be by July/August 2011.

The Pavilion kitchen has been enlarged and upgraded.

A Natural Play Scheme grant of £54,000 has enabled the Town Council to enlarge the Conway Fields play area with new equipment.

A new path has been installed and trees will be planted when the weather is suitable.

### Future Projects

Residents have asked for the children's play area to be fenced and made dog-free. This is to include an area big enough for a junior

football pitch; a picnic section; a runabout space with seats and litter bins. The health of children must be a priority and this confined dog-free area will still leave plenty of space for dog exercising, and walkers.

*All dog owners must be reminded to pick up dog mess and place it in any bin for disposal. It has been noted that some dog owners have thrown the full plastic bags into the hedges. This is as illegal as failing to pick up dog mess in public areas and fines of up to £1000 are possible if convicted.*

## Alcester Youth Project's call for volunteers!



The DEPOT will be Alcester's long-awaited for dedicated youth building and work to construct it began at the beginning of April. It will form part of the existing community facility known as The Pavilion, which is already located on the Conway Fields. This landmark project is due to the success of the Alcester Youth Project, Alcester Town Council and Warwickshire Youth Services who together with the young people of Alcester managed to secure substantial funding from a number of sources including the Norton Foundation and Warwickshire County Council.

The DEPOT will consist of one main room that will be divided into three activity areas; a chill-out zone, games area and computer area. The building will also have a small café, its own toilets and storage space for equipment.

Although not vast in size, it will be a central place where young people can not only meet and do activities but where they can also access useful information on a wide range of topics including health, finance and employment.

The capital funding secured to date means that most of the building work will be paid for, but due to a reorganisation of youth services by Warwickshire County Council, the Alcester Youth Project is now looking for volunteers to come forward to work with the young people of Alcester and help the new

youth project flourish and reach its full potential.  
 Chairman Bill Bayley would like to hear from members of the Alcester community who are keen to get involved and to help supervise the various activities on offer. People need not have previous experience of working with young people as full training will be given.  
 For more information please contact Bill on 01789 762841 or via [jonathan.bayley@virgin.net](mailto:jonathan.bayley@virgin.net)

## Alcester 2012 Olympic Committee



Members of the Olympic committee have held meetings to continue the planning process for 2012. So far, publicity and some fund-raising have occurred at local events in the town, and the committee has set up a number of dates for future meetings. The co-ordinating group which is made up of several representatives from local sporting organisations has met on one occasion, and another meeting is scheduled for later in June. This group will be working on arrangements for a number of events leading up to and including the time of the games in 2012. More information will be made available through this newsletter and in the press, and the committee will be looking for volunteers from the community to help during 2012.



**Warwickshire Fostering services**

**Could you foster a child?**  
 We need people of all ages and backgrounds to become foster carers  
 Foster Carers are particularly needed for –

- Teenagers
- Brothers and sisters
- Permanent care for young people
- Children from different backgrounds

Interested?  
 Call Freephone  
 0800 408 1556  
[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fostering)



**A Plea .....**  
 Please have consideration for others and don't park your vehicles over dropped kerbs and fire hydrants (which usually have small metal covers painted yellow).

**WATCH THIS SPACE AND LOOK OUT FOR THE STAND AT ALL LOCAL EVENTS**

**A Selection of Pictures from Alcester's Celebration of the Royal Wedding Day on 29<sup>th</sup> April - A Great Day.....**



**All photos by Martin Parry**



*Councillors' contact details*

**Alcester Ward**

Mrs Alison Brown	07763 492821
John Bunting	766753
Mark Cargill	07988 485050
Mike Gittus	488027
Chris Gough	762307
Jim Kenyon	763975
Mrs Yvette Morrison	400460
Clive Neal-Sturgess	764416
Eric Payne	762577

**Oversley Ward**

Mrs Susan Adams	400371
Peter Carr	766473
Lennox Cumberbatch (Mayor)	766940
Mrs Yvonne Hine (Deputy Mayor)	07771 930002
Mrs Julie Styles	07813 120796
Bill Malin	763113

**Oversley Green Ward**

Mrs Nina Knapman	764319
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**Clerk**

Chris Wright 766084  
Email: [clerk@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@alcester-tc.gov.uk)

**Assistant Clerk**

Paula Haggerty 766084  
Email: [office@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:office@alcester-tc.gov.uk)

**Mayor**

Cllr Lennox Cumberbatch 766940  
Email: [mayor@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:mayor@alcester-tc.gov.uk)

Website [www.alcester-tc.gov.uk](http://www.alcester-tc.gov.uk)

## Town Council meetings

### Full Council Meetings

Tuesday 7 June, Tuesday 5 July, Tuesday 2 August, Tuesday 6 September, all at 7.00pm

All meetings are held in the Council Chamber, Globe House, Priory Road, Alcester (Seggs Lane entrance). Members of the public are welcome to attend any of the council meetings. Please see the agendas on the notice boards on Market Way and High Street from the Thursday before each meeting.

## Town Council Surgery

Town Council Surgery dates are on the following Saturdays: 2 July, 6 August, 3 September, 1 October, 5 November, 3 December from 10.00am to 12 noon at Church House, Butter Street. Councillors will be in attendance to answer your questions and a representative from the Police will attend. Please come along and enjoy FREE coffee/tea and biscuits

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Please let us have your comments and views

Name

Address

Comments