

Alcester Town Council Annual Report from the Planning Committee 2016-17

Membership: The standing members were Cllrs, Clive Neal-Sturgess (Chairman), Mark Cargill, Mike Gittus, Chris Brannigan (Mayor), Jim Kenyon and John Bunting. Cllr Mary Nash resigned from the Council, and was replaced on the Planning Committee by Cllr Catherine Cargill; Cllr Alison Brown joined later.

Alcester Neighbourhood Plan

The neighbourhood Plan group met 5 times during the year and it was decided that plan will focus on four main areas: Health and Wellbeing, Economic, Community and Education. Parking was also an important consideration which will be a subsection of the Community Topic. Some progress was made on the draft report, now version 16, and is under review.

Meetings: The Planning committee met approximately every two weeks, barring holidays, and 28 Planning applications were dealt with, all of which are minuted. Objections were made on 6 occasions. Site visits were conducted on 6 occasions. Applications of significance were:

- Broadband cabinets: CSW Broadband plans for three broadband cabinets in the Town, one adjacent to St Nicolas Church, one in Malt Mill Lane and one near the post Office. Site meetings were held with CSW Broadband on all the applications and, after considerable technical details had been agreed, suitable sites were approved.
- Churchill Properties: outline planning permission had been sought for 27 retirement apartments on Priory Road, this was objected to by the Planning Committee, and the SDC West Area Planning Committee. The decision was appealed, and it was opposed by SDC Ward Members and members of the Planning Committee; the appeal was refused.
- White Lion; outline planning permission was sought for conversion of the former public House to two 3 bedroom semi-detached dwellings, and the construction of 3 three-bedroom houses on the old car park. The was objected to by the Planning Committee and subsequently by the SDC West Area Planning Committee; this application may still be appealed.
- Arden Forest Industrial Estate; at long last Stansgate Properties applied for outline Planning permission for the proposed addition to the Industrial Estate under SDC's Core Strategy, for terra-works and access. This was supported by the ATC Planning Committee with concerns. The SDC West Area Planning Committee granted approval with 23 conditions.
- Allimore Lane: after nearly a three-year delay, Frampton's, on behalf of Bloor's and Gallagher's applied for detailed Planning Permission on the Allimore development. Outline Planning permission had already been granted in 2014 for up to 350 homes. The Planning Committee met with the applicants on two occasions, supplied them with estimates of the housing mix thought appropriate, and held a public consultation in the Jubilee Centre on Saturday 29th April, a reply is need by the 22nd of May; discussions at the Planning Committee are still proceeding.

Chairman Professor Cllr Clive Neal-Sturgess