

Minutes of a meeting of the Alcester Town Council held on Tuesday 8 January 2013 at Globe House, Alcester

Present

Councillors L Cumberbatch (Mayor), M Cargill (Deputy Mayor), E Payne, A Brown, M Gittus, Y Morrison, N Knapman and Town Clerk C Wright.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DISCRETION OF MAYOR

The Mayor invited residents to give their views and question the Town Council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at his discretion.

Mr Owens of 49 Oversley Mill Park spoke about how worried the residents are about overflowing from the town as the pump station is upstream from Oversley Mill, and that they were not consulted when the pump station was put in. He also stated that they still cannot get insurance.

Cllr Gittus replied regarding the flooding. The fields which flooded are identified as part of the flood plain. There was some concern over erosion of the river in that area when the flood pumps were installed, however the pumps did not activate during the floods particularly at the time no 65 was inaccessible. The pumps operate when flood plains are flooded and the river is 200m wide and a metre deep in the fields. Additional water from the pump is very small in comparison but they are conscious of the issues. Vehicles were damaged were in the flood plain area. It was agreed that we as a council need to make representation as on the community's behalf on Flooding of the Mill Park area and to Insurance companies on behalf of the owners.

Mr Paul Harvey, a local property developer, who is currently doing barn conversions in Ardens Grafton, spoke about a future development at Oversley Castle, and would like to do a presentation to the Alcester Town Council Planning Committee as well as doing a public presentation at Wixford. It was agreed that a presentation would also be possible in Globe House and Alcester Town Council will also be consultees as it lies within the Alcester Parish boundary.

Mr Weaver, a resident of Evesham Street, asked when resurfacing of Stratford road would take place, reminding Council that it is 1 year since the big tank went in. It was agreed that the condition of the road is unsatisfactory but it is in the hands of the highways department and that a complaint has been made.

District and County Councillors' Reports

Cllr Payne spoke about how SDC is one of the top recycling councils, with 60% of waste being recycled. SDC cabinet have agreed contracts with Biffa Waste until 2022 and more items will be included in a new scheme starting April 2013 with budget savings.

Cllr Gittus spoke on 3 items:

- a) The New Homes Bonus grants proposal to council to be able to bid as a town council
- b) Going for Growth grants provide opportunities to improve footfall. Application to be made by interested parties or groups and designed to bring events into the town.
- c) Transport seminar grant - re road safety in the town. ½ the money for Alcester High Street. We have been lucky for last 3 years. Will now consult with residents on what type of projects it may be possible to get funding for in the future.

Apologies - 010213

Apologies with reasons for absence were received from Councillors J Bunting, C Neal-Sturgess, J Kenyon, Y Hine, S Adams, C Gough, J Styles and invited District Councillor S Juned

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Minutes of Council meeting held on 8th January 2013 - 020213

Cllr Knapman proposed and Cllr Brown seconded the approval of the minutes of the Council meeting held on 4 December 2012.

Declarations of Interest - 030213

Members are asked to declare personal interests in any item on the agenda. No interests were declared.

Mayor's Report - 040213

The Mayor reported he went on a train journey for the retirement of Canon David Capron and attended his farewell Party. He attended the service for the new Baptist Minister and the Court Leet's Church Service had meetings with District and County Council officers at the Jubilee Centre, a meeting with Springfield Mind and a meeting with Alcester Grammar School's Headteacher.

Council Vacancy - 050213

The clerk read the Vacancy notice for the Town Council and councillors considered the roles of Council representative for local organisations that are now vacant, due to the retirement of Cllr Malin, for Alcester United Charities, reading the Letter received 29 January, and Moorfield Charity, both were deferred till next meeting

Community Committee - 060213

Cllr Cumberbatch gave an update on Health and Inequalities stating he had a meeting with the developers and doctors on the proposed opening on 3/3/2013. The Clerk is to cascade the date to councillors. Cllr Cumberbatch also stated that Springfield Mind, which currently has a drop in service, would now like to have a much more steady service in the town, GP's are behind the development of the service. Cllr Knapman also agreed the need for Springfield Mind and stated that transport and information is still required re the opening of the new surgery and the move to the new building. Cllr Cumberbatch stated that the occupancy was due in the first week in April and was to go in the Newsletter.

Cllr Cumberbatch gave an update on Senior Citizens issues stating that there is a critical shortage of helpers for the lunch clubs and a request for volunteers is to go in the newsletter as we seriously need to look at recruitment of volunteers to support the elderly and disabled.

A written report from Cllr Neale-Sturgess had been circulated on Resilience issues Cllr Cumberbatch gave an update on Business Support having met with the Chair of Alcester Chamber of Trade re getting businesses involved in the business fair and CLA game fair at Ragley Hall. Also ATC meeting re promotion of other businesses during the food festival.

There were no update on ACT.com

The Clerk read out Cllr Styles email regarding Youth issues.

Cllr Morrison gave an update on Communication stating that in the meeting on 23/1/13 the contents of the newsletter were discussed. The format will not change immediately but changes will be phased. Suitable articles need to be identified. The Website is almost complete with information being loaded and some of the framework has been changed. We are hoping to go live mid February. Next Council Surgery will be held in Church House as a change which has been booked for March. Clerk to encourage Alcester Youth Project to meet in a public Building not someone's house.

An update on Broadband is in the Community Resilience report .

The Alcester Olympics Committee will meet in Globe House.

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The update on Fields in Trust stated that the deeds for the Jubilee centre were signed and now waiting for a plaque. Kinwarton have registered. Screen projector and sound system have been installed. Blinds to be installed but used twice for WALC. Signage a problem which Cllr Payne is working on.

There were no propositions from the Community Committee

Recreation & Open Spaces Committee - 070213

Cllr Bunting made a written report on Recreation Facilities which was cascaded to councillors.

Cllr Cargill gave an update on a meeting at Jubilee centre where the Youth asked for a youth shelter.

Cllr Knapman gave an update on Environment stating that a meeting of the committee is to be arranged.

Cllr Gittus spoke on the impact of flooding, WCC arranged drain clearance and an engineer to look at Eclipse Road. Cllr Knapman also spoke about the bottom of Bleachfield Street which is also a flooding problem restricting access during wet weather for Oversley Park. Cllr Gittus was aware of the Bleachfield Street flooding and the highways engineer will attend on Thursday.

There was no update on Allotments

There was no update on the Cemetery

There were no propositions to Council from the Recreation & Open Spaces Committee

Planning Committee - 080213

Cllr Cargill gave an update on Planning Applications stating that the planning committee had received a pre-planning consultation at the last meeting for a development of the land behind priory house. Also the application for the development on the Acorn house site is being discussed with SDC planning.

Cllr Cargill gave an update on Neighbourhood Planning stating that there will be a session at the Jubilee centre on Thursday (07/02/13) and that the committees will be set up.

There were no propositions to the council from the Planning Committee

Scrutiny Committee - 090213

The Clerk announced a meeting with the Internal Auditor 18th February that was of particular interest to the Scrutiny Committee

Presidium Committee - 100213

There were no updates or propositions from the Presidium Committee

Payment of Accounts - 110213

A report on payment of accounts for December 2012, approval was proposed by Cllr Morrison and seconded by Cllr

Correspondence - 120213

Clerks and Councils Direct January 2013 Publication was noted by the council

Notification of Future Visitors - 130213

Clerk is to invite Maureen Richards of Credit Union to the Town Council March Forum

Notification of any further business for future meetings - 140213

The Mayor made a request to councillors for agenda items to be received no later than 7 days prior to next meeting.

Dates of future meetings - 150213

The Mayor asked councillors to note the following meeting dates:

Community Committee Monday 11 February at 7.00pm

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Planning Committee Tuesday 12 February and Tuesday 26 February at 7.00pm

Recreation & Open Spaces Committee Monday 25 February at 7.00pm

Scrutiny Committee Monday 18th February at 7.00pm

Presidium Meeting TBA

Alcester Town Council Meeting Tuesday 5 March 2013 at 7.00pm

All the above meetings are to be held at Globe House

Alcester Town Council Closed Session

Due to the sensitivity and confidential nature of certain information, members of the public were asked to leave the Council Chamber and Alcester Town Councillors only were asked to remain.

DRAFT