



Minutes of a meeting of the Alcester Town Council held on Tuesday 10 December 2013 at Globe House, Alcester

Present

Councillors M Cargill (Mayor), S Adams, C Neal-Sturgess, J Bunting, E Payne, L Cumberbatch, Y Morrison, C Gough, A Brown, N Knapman, J Kenyon, S Payne, M Gittus and Town Clerk C Wright

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 at the discretion of the Chairman, before the start of the Town Council meeting and no later than 30 minutes after the start. Mr David Rose, a disabled person, from Blackthorn Way made a complaint regarding the disability access and fire safety at the Jubilee Centre and that he as a disabled person had expected certain things to have been completed before the building had opened.

The Mayor responded that this issue would be addressed at the appropriate part of the agenda.

District and County Councillors' Reports

The following reports were received from Ward District and County Councillors. Cllr Susan Juned commented that Mr Rose was one of her ward constituents and she asked that all the necessary measures had been taken at the Jubilee Centre. She then continued her report stating she had attended the Allimore Lane Enquiry and had made further enquiries on the Section 106 monies to ensure they were spent in Alcester and she had also asked for improvements to be made at the Play Area by Hopkins Precinct, and would be willing to work with Alcester Town Council on this.

Cllr Gittus stated he had a busy and interesting month, he had attended the VASA AGM and the Allimore Lane inquiry where Alcester gave a very good account of ourselves and he too was keen to get confirmation on certain S106 issues, in particular that the library agreement would include community libraries. He had also had meetings regarding the prescription mile and the High Street Market scheme which would be a very positive message for the town. He was also keen on Alcester becoming a Dementia Friendly town, Remembrance Sunday was a fantastic event and he was encouraged by the enthusiasm of the young people in the town to participate. He had been to the Jubilee Centre on 2 occasions and was now a master composter having completed the training course. The Tree of Light ceremony, the installation of the new Rector of Alcester Minster and the St Nicholas night all went well. It is the view of the County Council that there should be a zero rise in Council Tax for the next 2 years as they do not feel they could ask for economies on one hand and then ask for more money with the other.

Cllr E Payne stated that he had also attended the same events including the planning inquiry. He also stated that Stratford District Residents should be proud of their record for recycling as the district is now in the top 10 in the country having recycled over 60% of their waste.

Cllr Adams reported she had visited the women's refuge facility in Stratford and was discussing with the District council how they could support this. She had also attended the Cabinet Meeting where she complained about possible section



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106 money from the Allimore Lane development being spent in Stratford not Alcester. She had also attended Arrow Parish council meeting and a workshop on the emerging Core Strategy

Apologies - 131201

Apologies were received from Y Hine (Deputy Mayor), J Styles and C Brannigan, whose reasons for absence were agreed on a unanimous vote.

Minutes of recent Council meeting held on 5th November 2013 - 131202

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 5th November 2013 were proposed to be accepted by Cllr M Gittus, seconded by Cllr A Brown and accepted by Council.

Declarations of Interest - 131203

No declarations of interests were received

Mayor's Report - 131204

The Mayor gave a report on recent activities which included the Royal British Legion Concert at the Greg Centre, the Laying of a wreath at the Remembrance Day Service as well as attending the Royal British Legion Lunch. The big event of the month though was the Planning Inquiry and he thanked all who had taken part especially Cllr Neale-Sturgess who had attended all four days. He also stated he had attended Shipston Civic Service, the Installation of Rev. Adrian Guthrie, St Nicholas Night Parade, the Baptist Church Toy Service and a concert in Leamington for people with Learning Difficulties

Alcester Town Council Governance Review - 131205

The Clerk gave a report on the reason behind the need to consider a new committee, particularly for Strategic Planning with the production of the Neighbourhood Plan in mind. The Mayor stated there was also a need to look at restructuring committees for the coming year and a discussion paper would be cascaded to councillors and a discussion period would be allowed at the next full council meeting before any decisions were taken.

Town Centre Markets Governance - 131206

The Clerk gave a report supported by Cllr Gittus, who informed councillors of a number of meetings that had taken place, including Stratford District Council Officers, the Warwickshire County Council Lead Officer, 2 possible market management agents and a combined meeting with the Chamber of Trade and Court Leet representatives regarding the town Council becoming the Market Authority. Cllr Gittus also stated this was only the start of the process. Following Discussion the Mayor asked Councillors to consider the following Proposition:

'Alcester Town Council wishes to become a Market Authority and to do so adopts the powers to establish and operate markets under Part III of the Food Act 1984'.

This was proposed to be accepted by Cllr Gittus and seconded by Cllr Cumberbatch and accepted by all councillors.

Community Committee - 131207

Cllr Cumberbatch gave an update on Health and Social Care initially stating discussions on the 'Measured Mile' were going well and 4 routes had been



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identified and that our Doctors had agreed in principle to the programme. He also recommended that councillors read the CAB advice on fuel cost and fuel poverty 'Left out in the Cold'. Cllr Knapman also commented on this subject. Cllr also stated the South Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group had started a newsletter.

Cllr Neale-Sturgess gave an update on Resilience issues, firstly stating some assurances on flooding had come out of the inquiry, particularly the big tank did hold in 2012 which was the wettest in history with November the wettest November in 50 years. Other details would be brought up at the Refresher event for Wardens next week at their meeting. We have now completed the emergency equipment stock at the Jubilee Centre. We now have new stock of Sand Bags and a store of sand at 3 locations in the town. The Resilience committee meetings have also been moved to bi monthly events.

Cllr Brown gave an update on Business Support stating although there had been closures a few new shops had opened on the High Street

Cllr S Payne gave an update on Speed Aware issues stating training had been organised for April but there may be changes on the way. Other councillors raised concerns on other issues including the removal of the equipment from the Stratford Road, and progress with the 20mph limit outside schools.

Cllr Morrison gave an update on Communication thanking councillors for their contribution to the Newsletter which had gone out on time, with a new distributor. The Council Surgery had taken place the previous Saturday with 2 complaints. The Surgery process was also being reviewed.

Cllr E Payne gave an update on Youth issues on behalf of Cllr Styles, stating the Youth Council had held a cinema club but there was low attendance. The Junior Youth Club is still short of volunteers but there will be another meeting in the new year to discuss problems.

Cllr E Payne gave an update on Fields in Trust stating we had now received the Plaques and that he and the clerk would be looking at the best locations to keep them.

The Mayor gave an update on Community Grants stating there had been some later requests and £600 would be given to the Alcester Cafe an £100 would be given to an Under 5's Group

The Mayor gave an update on The Jubilee Centre by reading a report stating that the complaint had been investigated and a formal response would be sent to all interested parties.

There were no propositions to Council from the Community Committee:

Recreation & Open Spaces Committee - 131208

There was no update on Recreation Facilities and Ground Maintenance

Cllr Knapman gave an update on Environment stating that the sub committee would like to make a similar wild flower bed on the opposite side of the Weir Field

There was no update on the Allotments or the Cemetery

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



Minutes of a meeting of the Alcester Town Council held on Tuesday 10 December 2013 at Globe House, Alcester

Planning Committee - 131209

Cllr Gough gave a short update on Planning Applications and then stated the propositions to Council from the Planning Committee had been addressed in items 5 and 6 of the agenda

Scrutiny Committee - 131210

There were no updates from the Scrutiny Committee

Presidium Committee - 131211

There were no updates from the Presidium Committee

To receive a Report From the Clerk - 131212

The Clerk gave an update regarding Globe House stating that efforts to find a solution have stalled due to the County Council's financial review of services to save the necessary amount of money. Cllrs raised further concerns.

The Mayor Cllr Cargill gave an update regarding the Greig Hall

Payment of Accounts - 131213

The Clerk gave a report for approval by Council on payment of accounts for November 2013. This was proposed to be accepted by Cllr Cumberbatch, which was seconded by Cllr Adams and approved by Council.

Correspondence - 131214

Details of the following correspondence was read by the clerk and noted by Councillors:

LCR – Winter 2013 Publication

University of Warwick – Community Publication Winter 2013

Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership – Volunteer Driver request

Warwickshire Rural Housing Association – Annual Report for 2012-2013

St Benedicts Catholic High School – Letter from Jackie Witts re Work Related Learning

Notification of Future Visitors - 131215

Councillors were informed that Izzy Seccombe, the Leader of Warwickshire County Council, has been invited to attend on 19th December at an Alcester Town Council Forum at 6.30pm re. Warwickshire County Council 'Shaping the Future Programme'.

Notification of any further business for future meetings - 131216

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

Dates of future meetings - 131217

The Mayor reminded the councillors of the following meeting dates for their diaries.

Alcester Town Council Forum Meeting Thursday 19th December at 7.00pm

Community Committee Monday 9th December at 7.00pm

Planning Committee Tuesday 17th December

Recreation & Open Spaces Committee no December meetings.

Scrutiny Committee TBA

Presidium Meeting TBA

Alcester Town Council Meeting Tuesday 7th January 2014 at 7.00pm

All the above meetings were to be held at Globe House unless stated