

MINUTES OF A COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING OF ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT 7.00pm ON MONDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT GLOBE HOUSE, ALCESTER

Present:

Cllr E. Payne (Chair), Cllr C Neal-Sturgess (Deputy Mayor), Cllr Y. Morrison, Cllr L Cumberbatch, Cllr S. Payne, Cllr A. Brown, Cllr J. Kenyon, Cllr C. Gough, Clerk: K Wright

Public participation

Cllr J Bunting attended the meeting wishing to speak to the Committee regarding the Jubilee Centre, having hired it for an event recently. He was concerned that the problems being caused by Youths at the centre was something which needed to be addressed or could put people off hiring the hall. Firstly the lights on the field side of the building do not operate at night meaning that CCTV images cannot be picked up, and the CCTV system itself could do with an upgrade. Secondly he wanted the committee to agree to a location for a Shelter, which he thought would encourage youths away from congregating on the patio area outside the Hertford room. However he also stated that he thought the shelter also needed to be well lit and visible on CCTV. Lastly he commented that the car park has no signs to state that it is a privately owned car park for the use of the Jubilee Centre which he thought there should be. Cllr E Payne responded on behalf of the Committee stating that the Jubilee Sub-Committee will pick up the issue regarding the lights on the field side of the building. With regards to the shelter location he wished to postpone that decision until the car park had been resurfaced and to also consider it in relation to a possible extension to the car park and re-siting of the pods in a joint project with the REOS Committee. Other issues regarding the misuse of the car park and other ASB incidents were also brought up and Cllr E Payne will be arranging a meeting with the local Police team to discuss this. CCTV signs will be put up on the Jubilee Centre and car park signs once it is resurfaced.

AGENDA

1. Apologies

Cllr Y Hine (Mayor), Cllr C. Brannigan, Cllr J Styles, Cllr S. Adams

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 August 2014 having been circulated and were approved and signed.

4. Updates

a) Health Care

Cllr L Cumberbatch reported:

He along with Cllr S Adams are awaiting a meeting with the SWFT regarding nursing in the district expected in the next couple of weeks.

He also reported that WCC have produced leaflets for the Measured Mile routes and he will be attending a meeting on Thursday about this to iron out some minor issues such as signposting. There are 3 walks with one having an extension beyond the orchard designed to be of benefit to health. At a meeting with Dr Wallis he stated that he was 100% behind this initiative and will be distributing the leaflets to his patients, Cllr L Cumberbatch will also be meeting with Dr Lambert who he expects will also be in support of this scheme.

He has also produced a document on health and wellbeing for the Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan which Doctors in the town have offered to contribute to as well.

He reported that the Government have recently released a Mental Health Care concord and following that he has set up a meeting with Springfield mind (having recently attended their summer fete) to discuss Mental health issues.

Cllr L Cumberbatch will be chairing the next SCAN meeting on the 11th September
Cllr Yvette Morrison commented that she had heard about a petition being taken at the Walk in clinic at the Stratford Hospital following a rumour that the facility is to close meaning the next nearest facility would be Warwick Hospital. Cllr L Cumberbatch will be looking into this further and bring it up at his meeting with the SWFT.

Cllr A Brown also noted that the AED at the doctors is now up and running having had some minor wiring issues when it was first installed.

b) Resilience

Cllr C Neal-Sturgess reported:

The Resilience Sub-Committee had met the previous Friday and they were concerned that their bank of volunteers to be flood wardens had almost disappeared which they will be addressing.

Road safety – Priority in place and the Town Hall, although it was noted that this is not well observed. The 20mph zone is being addressed as well now the speed humps are in place.

Broadband – A simplified questionnaire has been circulated to all Cllrs, as part of this Cllrs have the chance to test their broadband service, which so far has proven quite good in some areas, but not so good in others and not all areas will benefit from the upgrade.

The generator movement is also under consideration, with links to the Jubilee Committee and the positioning of the pods, a joint meeting will be set up. The generator may also be needed during the NHDP roadshows during September and October.

Security – the Police safe neighbourhood team update listed 6 incidents of ASB at Hopkins precinct. The Alcester Bidford Forum police priority voting listed 4 options for speeding and one for various ASB/speeding/misuse type incidents on the Conway estate, which Cllr C Neal-Sturgess thought was a more urgent priority at the moment. The issue of having less PCSO's in the area was also raised as a concern and it was suggested that the Town Council ought to have a forum meeting with the police in the not too distant future (once the meetings are moved to the Jubilee Centre in October this will be organised by the Town Clerk). Cllr E Payne is also to have a meeting with the Alcester team to discuss the specific issues with the Jubilee Centre.

c) Business Support

Cllr A Brown reported:

There is a new business in the old vets in Butter Street which will be a chiropractor and podiatrist. There will also be a new shop in Swan Street opening soon, selling handbags and clothes. The empty shop where the fine food emporium was has had no interest in it this could be because it is quite a small space and the rent is quite high. The window in the Charity shop (sue Ryder) had been replaced which has improved its appearance. Cllr L Cumberbatch noted that what is needed is for the Government to help by lowering rates, even for a set period, to help new businesses get established as has been done elsewhere. Schemes under Localism/by SDC/NALC have been turned down by Government, seeming as if they are not prepared to help.

The Event Guides are running quite low in supply with several businesses requesting more. The Committee agreed to get a smaller supply of the one side of the 2014 guide printed off to last until the full list for next year has been compiled and ready to print off.

Cllr Y Morrison asked if the signs the ACTC are supposed to be putting up could include the location of the new AED's, noting that many residents and visitors do not know where their nearest would be in the case of an emergency. With other changes to the Library location etc. it was decided to review the general situation of signs with the possibility of updating the three triangle information signs located in the town.

Cllr S Payne also noted that the ACTC had put up the signs outside Alcester which had originally been used during the CLA game fair at Ragley. However he thought they were too close to the town to draw in new visitors and also that most were only advertising the great pubs, there were other signs for the shops which have not been put up. Cllr A Brown is to follow this up.

The Town Clerk spoke regarding the Markets, the SDC Cabinet had released the Licencing fees and their market fees were identical to ATC's. He had also been contacted by SDC as they had heard that the markets in Alcester were going to be run by a company, ACT representatives will get in contact with SDC to talk through how they are going to run the monthly markets.

d) Speed Aware

Cllr S Payne reported:

The vetting applications have still not been processed as there is a staffing issue within the Police services, however this is still being chased.

It was also raised by the Town Clerk that Cllr S Payne should contact Cllr M Gittus regarding the flashing speed signs to consider placing this up in the town again, which will be done.

e) Communication

Cllr Y Morrison reported:

That she had nothing further to report.

h) Youth Issues

Cllr J Styles was unable to attend the meeting as it was the first session of the new Junior Drama Club, however had sent a written report to the Chairman which Cllr E Payne read out:

Cllr J Styles has been busy getting the Drama Club going again which has started tonight at Alcester Academy.

She has also been in touch with the academy to try and increase the membership of the youth council. She will be doing some assemblies and messages have been sent out to years 7-9.

i) Jubilee Centre and Fields

Cllr E Payne reported:

The WW1 film show on Friday had the largest audience to date with over 150 people attending, and were comfortably seated in the hall with tea/coffee served from both ends of the kitchen. The event raised £838 profit which will be going towards the Car Park project, additional donations were also given to the event of £50 and £500 which brings the total amount donated to the project of £1388.

The movable wall/sliding screen project is quoted as costing £6766 and will be starting soon. A grant of £6100 has been received from the Big Lottery Fund – Awards for All to go to towards this project, the Alcester café group have also donated £600 towards this too as they would benefit from the project.

Other events at the Jubilee Centre include the Alcester in Bloom quiz night on the 12th September, with a maximum of 100 tickets being sold, and the monthly GOCC is on the same date too.

10. Correspondence

None received

11. Proposition to Full Council

None

12. Date and Time of Next Meeting

7pm Tuesday 14 October 2014 at Jubilee Centre