



**MINUTES OF THE ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 4TH AUGUST 2015
AT THE JUBILEE CENTRE, ALCESTER.**

Present

Councillors C Neal-Sturgess (Mayor), C Brannigan (Deputy Mayor), L Cumberbatch, J Bunting, A Foster, G Forman, M Nash, M Cargill, E Payne, K Greenaway, J Kenyon M Gittus and C Gough.

Also the Town Clerk C Wright and Deputy Clerk K Wright

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DISCRETION OF MAYOR

Mr Marc Venables attended to talk to Cllrs about the Alcester Zombie pub crawl, a charity event he organises. This year will be the 3rd annual event and money raised will be in aid of the Alcester Dementia Cafe.

District and County Councillors' Reports

Cllr M Gittus (County Cllr for the Alcester ward also a District Cllr and Chairman of SDC) gave a report on Combined Authorities stating that both WCC and SDC would be voting on the matter of whether to join the West Midlands Combined Authority however the details of which have yet to be agreed.

Cllr M Cargill (a District Cllr and Chairman of the SDC west area planning Committee) gave a report on the position of the SDC Core Strategy and for Cllrs information an update on the situation in Bidford with regards to the bridge.

Cllr E Payne (District Cllr representing the Alcester Town Ward) gave a report about his recent activities and the work he has done for local residents in his capacity as District Cllr.

Cllr S Adams (District Cllr representing the Alcester & Rural Ward) could not attend the meeting, there was no report received.

Apologies - 150801

Apologies were received from Cllrs J Styles, A Brown and Y Morrison, whose reasons for absence were agreed by Council.

Minutes of Council Meetings - 150802

The Mayor asked Councillors to consider for approval the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 7th July, which were proposed to be accepted by Cllr M Cargill, seconded by Cllrs M Gittus and C Gough and approved by Council.

Declarations of Interest - 150803

Cllr C Gough declared an interest during item 16.

Mayor's Report - 150804

The Mayor gave a report on the recent activities he and his deputy, Cllr C Brannigan had attended.

Alcester Community Care Committee - 150805

Cllr C Brannigan confirmed he was satisfied his Committee members had approved the minutes. He then signed the Committee minutes from July. Cllr C Brannigan reported that one of the first projects the committee are working on is to compile the groups/organisations which contribute to the health and wellbeing of residents so that ATC can signpost to the relevant group (including sports which has an overlap with the Facilities committee too).

Alcester Community Facilities Committee - 150806

Cllr J Kenyon confirmed he was satisfied his Committee members had approved the minutes. He then signed the Committee minutes from July.

Cllr J Kenyon reported that there were several projects identified, in particular to update the play (and improve) the play areas. With regards to the Skatepark the Clerk added that the latest update was that Redrow expect to complete their 100th house in October and had given a calculation on how the money



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would be worked out, this is to be checked by SDC planning/legal team, due to the length of time quotes are being updated. Cllr Kenyon reported there was to be a meeting regarding the future management of the Jubilee Centre. With regards to the Riverside footpath Cllr M Gittus added that the order had been raised with WCC who had agreed to fund the resurfacing and he would follow this up. He also added that he had a meeting arranged to discuss the "safer routes to school" footpath project with WCC regarding possible funding.

Alcester Strategic Planning Committee - 150807

Cllr M Cargill confirmed he was satisfied his Committee members had approved the minutes. He then signed the Committee minutes from the 27th July.

Cllr M Cargill noted the Planning applications seen by the Committee, in particular the applications from Churchill Retirement Living, he then informed Council that the application for the building had been withdrawn from the SDC Planning Committee agenda and was awaiting further information.

With regards to the ANDP he noted that although the Core Strategy had been delayed work on the ANDP should continue in preparation.

Alcester Communication Committee - 150808

Cllr Y Morrison was unable to attend, therefore the signing of the Communication Committee's minutes would be done at their next meeting, and she had sent a brief report which was read by the Mayor, in particular noting the Newsletter deadline of the 14th August.

Alcester Town Council Presidium - 150809

Cllr C Neal-Sturgess confirmed he was satisfied his Committee members had approved the minutes. He then signed the Committee minutes from the July. Cllr C Neal-Sturgess reported that the Terms of Reference for the Presidium Committee would be circulated to Council for approval at the next meeting, however there was not much else to report back other than the items elsewhere on the agenda.

Alcester Health and Wellbeing Board - 150810

Cllr L Cumberbatch reported that he had written a report to be circulated to Cllrs. The Alcester H&W Board will be meeting on the 16th September at the Health Centre. He then made reference to the press release regarding Alcester becoming the first Health and wellbeing town in the county.

Cllr L Cumberbatch reported that, although he was unable to attend, representatives from ATC and WCC had attended an event in Totness. For the past 8 years Totness have been running some of the Health and Wellbeing initiatives it is hoped to adopt in Alcester, the Clerk added that they have brought back some useful ideas but were impressed how it was led from the bottom up, with the Community (via a Community Liaison officer) driving the project.

Alcester Community Trust - 150811

Cllr L Cumberbatch reported that the group will be organising an event in order to raise funds for the projects. He also noted the Alcester 10k race which is to be held on the 11th October.

Cross-committee Town Plan group - 150812

Following the proposition from the Planning Committee at the last full council meeting there have been no further volunteers to join the group. It was then suggested that it should be an urgent item on the next Committee agendas to



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nominate a member to join Cllrs M Cargill, A Foster and Y Morrison.

Members only Website page - 150813

As part of Cllr Y Morrison's report from the Communication Committee an online policy is being drawn up for Cllrs to follow with regards to material posted online, prior to launching the members only portal on the website, which is now in place.

Town Council Representatives - 150814

Cllr C Neal-Sturgess reported that he had attended the Newport Foundation meeting, the group are still awaiting a figure regarding the land prices but have approved the means of distributing funds in the future as well as increasing the publicising of the group and grants available, in particular for apprenticeships. Cllr J Bunting reported that he had attended the Church Street Properties meeting and that painting of the properties would commence later in the month. The group would also be making a contribution towards the refurbishment of the Town Hall and had agreed in principle to contribute towards updating the play equipment at Moorfields and Bleachfield Street awaiting the quotes.

Clerk to report on status of Various Projects - 150715

The Clerk gave a report on the position of 'The Globe' project stating that at the workshop meeting he had questioned the quoted 6 week periods given for the work, a week later this was confirmed to be wrong and that the contractor would require access to the whole of the building from the 4th September 2015 until the 1st January 2016. This then meant that ATC would have to move out entirely from Globe House for this period (although it is still being negotiated for some equipment and furniture to be stored in the building during this time). It has been agreed that ATC's server and essential office equipment be moved to the foyer office at the Jubilee Centre, the staff would then work remotely from there but would provide drop-in surgeries at the Jubilee Centre and also the Library one morning a week following concerns raised at Presidium. Cllr M Gittus added that the face-to-face facility currently given at Globe House, the clerk was not obliged to offer, however the disruption caused would be worth it for the end result and the community should be excited by what's to come. The lease is expected to be signed and completed by 11th September. Details of the service offered for the interim period will be given in the newsletter and contact details for the Clerks and Cllrs.

Payment of Accounts – 150816

The Clerk informed Council that a system of making BACS payments had been approved by the Auditor which has allowed the introduction of being able to pay invoices by this method.

The Clerk then presented the Payment of Accounts for July 2015, this was proposed to be approved by Cllr M Cargill and seconded by Cllr K Greenaway and Council agreed.

The remaining funds from the Mary Portas grant received by the Town Council is to be checked in relation to future projects.

Correspondence - 150817

Biffa Municipal Ltd – written to inform ATC of an 8% increase in waste collection costs, due to the increased Landfill prices.

Notification of any further business for future meetings - 150818



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The Mayor reminded Councillors that agenda items must be received by the Clerk no later than 7 days prior to the corresponding meeting.

Dates of future meetings - 150919

Alcester Full Council Meeting 1st September 2015, 7 pm at Alcester Jubilee Centre

Alcester Community Care Committee Tuesday 11th August 7pm at Alcester Jubilee Centre

Alcester Community Facilities Committee Tuesday 18th August 7pm at Alcester Jubilee Centre

Alcester Strategic Planning Committee 10th and 24th August 7pm at Globe House Council Board Room

Alcester Communication Committee Tuesday 11th August 10:30am Globe House Council Board Room

Alcester Town Council Presidium Tuesday 25th August 7pm at Globe House Council Board Room