

# Summary of responses to Emerging Policies Document

## Comments on Vision and Objectives

It would seem nothing will happen without the approval of SDC whose own planning is abysmal

A Police station (manned) should be reinstated

Style of new housing is important

Hotel- overnight accommodation needed- development of the White Lion and Swan. The Oak?

I am pleased that greater control of shop frontages is envisaged. Also what appears to be more stringent oversight of building materials used in residential housing developments

The vision of Alcester as a thriving and attractive town is desirable but not if it sacrifices its rural aspect. Part of Alcester's character and attraction is that it connects historic buildings with historic environment

The wrong people are proposing way forward

Obviously well thought through!

The frontage of many shops in the High Street need work to promote a good vision

A wonderful town and as a person born here over 80 years ago I am delighted with all that goes on

All looks about right

Very sensible and comprehensive vision

Particularly supportive of S2 and S3!

Too many houses

Tourism should only be a very small factor in the plan. I lived in Stratford for many years and, due to the emphasis on tourism, the town does not feel like it belongs to the residents

S4- Why is the council allowing the Greig Hall handover to drag on so long?

C3- Will this become another brownfield site in order to re-build on it? ie new built leisure facilities

L2- Allotments- should not be allowed for development. The top Bleachfield St site has been used for a very long time and soil is top notch. Any new site will have awful soil and useless for years until composted & manured!

T5- Development roads must be wide enough for fire engines & parked cars as builders do not put in enough parking spaces!

Ageing population will produce an enormous need for local transport between houses and shops, facilities etc. Walk ways are fine but what about buggy routes? And bikes, rickshaws etc. Regional public transport will also become increasingly necessary

Not without local disabled childrens play parks with disabled equipment. No mention on disabled facilities ie dropped kerbs and access to High Street without 'A' boards & display signs blocking pavement by not sticking to Highways Act

Do you know how many shops & businesses are fully accessible ( I do and it is not good)

Some of the objectives are rather vague and airy fairy open to different interpretations

Seemingly well thought through

2- Shops need fewer road closures and "Rates" support. Monthly "Alcester Market" has run its course! (In present form)

4- Links are good but reliability poor. Cannot be depended on for work

5- Get it wrong & Alcester will lose its character and appeal

Whilst recognise the need for more (affordable) housing (especially for people with a local connection) important to retain the character of the town- improving infrastructure, parking and facilities.

Additional build should be seen to add value. We love our town and know that things have to change to stay the same

L4- To maintain public footpaths of which many are in dreadful state this has been complained about to council many times over the last 3 years and to keep all vegetation to be cut back to back of footpath

E4- The outfall from the recent flood pumps should be located below Arrow Mill, at present will cause flooding, particularly with future development to housing

There seems to be a contradiction between expansion and keeping the "historic character" in a "beautiful rural setting"

I would be very interested in joining the Alcester Neighbourhood Planning strategy working party to explain my thoughts and look at the implementation of the visions and thoughts that come forward from the ANP survey and other comments made

Overall I agree with the vision and objectives. Would be interesting to see if existing brownfield sites have been identified for future development. Also can new education facilities promote high street footfall? eg. Moorfields

The high quality housing mentioned should comprise mostly social housing and starter home/co-ownership to benefit those of limited means and to provide a rung on the ownership ladder

350 new homes could equal 1400 people. People moving here for the Grammar School, so Alcester has to lose its countryside, soon all that will be left are the parks- making Alcester unattractive place to live

A lengthy document- needs bullet points

Public transport needs a much higher profile here- it is for us the single greatest problem as it limits work options for residents, and travel options for visitors

Vision- seems to be aimed at growth and urban sprawl rather than keeping Alcester a small town. Again a focus on housing and encouraging development which Alcester doesn't need, instead we need a focus on 'local' and the people already here

Yes, but local residents & future residents need adequate school and health facilities

Not sure if all this proposed development will not cause grid locking in town centre where car parking is currently very difficult

Can you double the width in the path to the Jubilee Centre, St Faiths Road, to allow two cars to enter?

Use of Greig Hall (multi-use) as the population expands. Besides leisure activities of various forms could be used for FE (tertiary) and tourism (conferences & meetings) etc

Convert Swan to offer more accommodation to attract tourists

Fill empty high st premises with lower rents and rates. Get landlords to be realistic

## **Comments on key issues that have been missed**

Transport- A direct bus service to Birmingham City Centre. This would help with job opportunities for younger people

Increasing essential public service provision in line with population growth ie NHS dentists, number of GPs, Police presence, local community transportation needs

The overall impact onto Alcester due to knee jerk reaction to the explosion of house building in and around local villages!

High St parking- enforcement of yellow lines

On or half-on pavement parking

Weight limit on vehicles using the High Street

Conditions of footpaths and provision (or lack) of drop kerbs around the local streets

Increased provision of disabled parking at Alcester Health Centre- has been woefully inadequate from the start

Theme 7- Healthcare issues- Perhaps as a preventative option- there could be Council run Relaxation classes for anxiety/stress? ie mindfulness- counselling etc?

Perhaps a minibus service on the estates to and from the town.

More effort to stop miscreants from causing havoc eg scooter drive at top speed after midnight on the Arden Forest mainly

Anti-social behaviour- litter, dog mess, vandalism & graffiti. Cars & bikes using our roads as racetracks, to name but a few, all need addressing before this utopian vision can even start to be realised

No word of extra Police in the Alcester area. The Police do a fine job but an extra 350 houses could mean possible 700-1000 extra people living in the area. The Police are overstretched as it is! More Police are required

Grass verges?

Revision of speed limits A435?

Any new development should include more affordable housing and bungalows- too many large houses have already been built which local people cannot afford

More noticeboards for public use for future activities- not everyone is on computer and able to see what's on

At times during the day our local roads are gridlocked now, do we have a plan to cope with all the extra cars that will come with the extra housing

Access to shops and businesses within the DDA 1995. Access inside shops & businesses.

Householders allowing hedges and shrubs overgrowing footpaths and sufficient correct dropped kerbs

Bus transport

More doctors

Greig Hall- exhibitions/shows/events/theatre etc

Parking strategy

Support for community events (eg Food Festivals, Street Fair, Markets etc)

Affordable homes for private purchase not housing associations. Housing associations should not be allowed to purchase homes within a private estate

Managing the environmental impact of the growing population on the surrounding countryside eg 1000+ extra people off Allimore Lane on the adjoining countryside

I would very much like to explore this more with the steering group

Consideration of working with other parishes such as Kinwarton. Would assume similar issues.

With regard to tourism, we have very little to show in the excellent little museum, yet we know there is a great deal of Roman town still undiscovered. If there was a possibility of a significant Roman find would attract more visitors

Taking green space that's why people want to live in Alcester

The town centre offers nothing to shoppers, most charity shops, cafes, 4x hairdressers- one small supermarket. These people will go out of town to shop. What are we giving up for them

Better definition for High St crossing

Public transport- commitment to increasing options

Town parking

Permit parking for traders "daytime"

Need more Police provision

Reliable public transport- links within the town and wider area

Support for wider transport links. Bus services/community travel services that are much more widely advertised. I would say this is an area that requires a strategic approach. To link up with train timetables

Public transport

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## Comments on Draft Policies

“The success of the policies will depend on the quality of the implementation”

### Theme 1: Economy (B)

Without a strong economy the town dies. Also will encourage companies to sponsor, support etc

Agree with B1- B4 but in B5 why did the council refuse the Trades & Labour Club on St Faiths Road permission for Bed & Breakfast- especially as the Swan has closed- we need this facility

This sounds like common sense

Good local economy. Would be ideal to find a way to encourage more locals to support High St

More jobs for locals

Agree

Utilise existing pathways by creating signs for walks, improving access for cycling, walking thus attracting more visitors

Many small firms done well

Should also consider job opportunities for older residents as well as the young

5. Visitor accommodation needed urgently! Encourage set-up of B & B for instance

Support new and existing business

Agreed

B1. Once a brownfield site always to be developed?

B2. Effect on neighbours/neighbourhood

Visitor overnight accommodation

Agree with encouragement of youth employment and development of apprenticeships

By creating a working group of stakeholders drawn from the community, including professional advisor's leisure and housing providers amongst others “Business Start-Up” ventures can be encouraged.

I'd like to have the opportunity to give my thoughts on the creation of a “*wellness and community hub*” as part of seeing The Jubilee Fields used to its full potential. The NP looks at, conference provision, training schemes and much more further adding incentives for businesses.

Businesses would further be drawn to Alcester with the right infrastructure in place. This fully demonstrates that putting the infrastructure in place now, such as road/cycle/pedestrian routes, the additional provisions noted below, shows Alcester as a progressive “Healthy/Active Town” which would draw business interest putting Alcester “on the map”. Given Alcester's

central location and infrastructure already in place both locally and nationally means the foundations for Alcester to expand in a sensitive yet positive way will add to the attractiveness for business venture.

With a further 350 homes on The Allimore Lane Development there appears scope for small and medium scale relocation of businesses to the industrial estates within Alcester.

The UK are looking at how towns should be considering directions for development:

<http://www.ukactive.com/policy-insight/blueprint-for-an-active-britain>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/2016/03/hlthy-new-towns/>

**Mr Stevens says:** “The much-needed push to kick start affordable housing across England creates a golden opportunity for the NHS to help promote health and keep people independent. As these new neighbourhoods and towns are built, we’ll kick ourselves if in ten years time we look back having missed the opportunity to ‘design out’ the obesogenic environment, and ‘design in’ health and wellbeing.

“We want children to have places where they want to play with friends and can safely walk or cycle to school – rather than just exercising their fingers on video games. We want to see neighbourhoods and adaptable home designs that make it easier for older people to continue to live independently wherever possible. And we want new ways of providing new types of digitally-enabled local health services that share physical infrastructure and staff with schools and community groups.”

## **Theme 2: Town Centre (S)**

Reasonable rents for the entrepreneur to get off the ground and get established

Attractive and unspoilt

Anything to reduce the impact of the motor car would be welcomed

S4 This will work against our High Street

OK

Encouraging use of brownfield sites sounds excellent

Car parking, agree as long as all affected parties are informed and allowed to discuss and present their case for or against

Keep shops- not houses

There is a definite need for extra car parking space for the town- Swan car park, Bulls head Yard and Waitrose very often full causing people to shop elsewhere- local traders lose out

Agree business permissions should stay and not revert to residential

Character should be maintained and protected

Prohibit all delivery vehicles from High St, at least for most of day (eg 10am-4pm)

Improve/open access for long stay parking on town boundaries

Parking?

Buses- lorries re-routed down School Rd, banned from High St

Shops need better presentation

More parking made available

High Street parking makes it dangerous, should be a one-way system

No mention of disabled access to shops etc

2. Resist certain types of shop. Protect character of frontages

Make High Street one way using School Road as other way out

Ensuring when markets are on the pavements are still accessible as only the road is to be closed (Licence)

Traffic speed limits need enforcement

Possible pedestrianise High Street?

Make one way from Lloyds Bank to Kinwarton Rd- restrict heavy vehicles

Would like a policy to ensure shop fronts and buildings are properly maintained

S4. Brownfield site again. See Economy B1

Protect our unique character

Less private parking on High St

I noticed recently planning permission refused for local business in High St. So why do we want more people- they have nowhere to shop

No real emphasis on High Street traffic management. The safety aspects of two way traffic and those ridiculous non- crossing arrangements

Alcester's Town Centre could be rejuvenated by drawing people to Alcester. This needs be discussed further in detail to look at businesses working together.

In brief, by encouraging tourism through making more use of Ragley Hall, with overnight accommodation within Alcester, making Alcester an attraction for:

- Tourism in general
- Cycle tourism. There is a vast network of cycle routes already fully mapped out from Advantage Alcester.
- Single "day visits" would draw visitors to Alcester if "the charm" of Alcester is highlighted further explored.
- By linking the Town Centre within housing developments with Cycle and Pedestrian routes means the town centre is more accessible to all and appeals as it is easier to access.

### **Theme 3: Leisure & Recreation (L)**

Always needed

Currently a good spread but always room for expansion of ideas and clubs

More leisure- swimming pool

Swimming pool?

More to be said about the old Greig Hall

Footpaths need some attention especially the one on Oversley Green

Swimming pool required- possibly on Greig site

A leisure facility is the only thing lacking

This needs to be expanded in consideration of the proposed population increase

Agree

Invest in pathways & cycle routes & link villages

Improve signage

A swimming pool would be good!

Do we really have to have more sport facilities? There are other things in life than sport

Much going on but a shortage of younger persons volunteering to serve

Important to retain/add to current allotment provision

Lack of childrens disabled facilities in play areas

More facilities for the young. Not all youngsters are keen on sport

Greig Hall

Safe routes and surfaces of footpaths in parks etc

Would like to see a policy relating to investigation into viability of a swimming pool, and if viable, its implementation

L4....and keeping them to appropriate use

Protect the allotments

Why not refurbish and improve the Greig Hall. Such a waste of a great facility

A swimming pool

A swimming pool please!

Why do we have to have further housing to gain a leisure centre- swimming pool desperately needed- even Studley has one

Does this include the Greig Hall. Talk of new build when we have one that is being allowed to fall into disrepair

Hannah Susan Greig Memorial Trust  
THE GREIG lifestyles

The Greig Charity has provided support for the community for sixty years being the largest centre for sports, leisure and recreational facilities and services within the Town.

Over the last couple of years the Charity has focused even more on the need to support government, local authority, educational and NHS strategies and initiatives to enhance the health and wellbeing of individuals of all ages.

Alcester Town Council has adopted policies which the Charity believes it is very well placed to help deliver. The Neighbourhood Plan rightly commits to the need to enhance the provision of leisure and recreation facilities offering opportunities for health and exercise.

The Charity sees its facilities as a hub for an increased focus on physical and mental wellbeing as well as preventative healthcare. We have already started that journey in terms of the design and delivery of Lifestyles services by working with local medical practices. Prospects exist to help with dementia care and the provision of safer routes to schools.

Facilities are already in place at the Greig Lifestyles but it is essential to consider the scope and makeup of the community through to the end of the planning period in order to develop plans and establish actions through to 2031 and beyond. To create longer term plans for expanding and enhancing our facilities we need to understand better the future structure of the Town and surrounds in terms of population growth and age profile so that investment can be used to best effect.

Alcester and the surrounds is already endowed with a range of sports and leisure amenities of which it can be proud and these need encouragement and support through coordinated leadership by the Council.

The Charity wishes to work closely with the Council, educational establishments and health services to identify specific needs to broaden the facilities and services on offer so that the community and individuals can benefit generally from a fully coordinated approach.

We fully support the ideas highlighted by the Neighbourhood Plan and believe the Charity is very well placed to help promote and achieve initiatives benefitting residents of all ages as well as those who visit and travel to work in the town. We look forward to seeing the results of the research and helping work to implement the outcomes.

The plan will support the delivery of improved and new leisure and recreation facilities, where they are easily accessible to residential areas and offer opportunities for health and exercise.

I am very keen to discuss a project I have been working on which gives an explanation of provision of a new build Swimming Pool and Leisure Centre built on The Jubilee Fields and showing how this can be achieved. This is backed up and justified across The UK as we move away from traditional style sports centres towards Health and Wellbeing hubs.

This is an area I have now gained a considerable understanding in with links to professional advice ensuring the delivery of these projects is carried out correctly.

Alcester would benefit from structuring the provision as a whole whereas at the moment the town has a fragmented historical design as a result of how a town grows over the years.

Taking Alcester Lawn Tennis Club as an example. This has been there for over 50 years but has now reached the point where its infrastructure is not suited for this site.

Looking at a combined new leisure facility, in the second largest town in the district, bringing tennis to a combined leisure hub, would allow easier parking. See less impact on neighbouring homes through light pollution in the evenings and car parking. The changing facilities and club house are

very dated with no shower facilities or an adequate club house set up. There is no room to expand or update these whereas combined in a new centre sees these fully improved.

Health and Well Being is of major significance within the UK now as we live in a sedentary culture. The attached links highlight how towns are being encouraged to be more active.

Walking Football and Walking Netball are high value for 50+ age groups. Alcester has a 3g pitch identified. Having this combined within a new build leisure facility means changing facilities, parking and a fully structured plan for use is set up along with initiatives to encourage participation.

Taking Alcester Netball as a further example who are looking for a new home. Alcester has a base for Football and Rugby so provision for Netball in the centre of town fulfills identifiable needs but more so the Jubilee Fields “hub” could offer five a side football provision as another example as well as much more.

There is much to be gained from creating linked routes throughout Alcester with pedestrian and cycle routes.

There is a suggested design which Alcester would benefit from within this paper:

**Where appropriate, contributions for primary healthcare infrastructure will be sought to meet housing and employment growth. Developments should focus on the physical and mental well-being of existing and future residents, including preventative healthcare including high quality greenspaces, design and transport.**

**The directives from high levels, both from Government, Sport England and UK Active, give clear guidance to developing towns:**

**Mr Stevens says:** “The much-needed push to kick start affordable housing across England creates a golden opportunity for the NHS to help promote health and keep people independent. As these new neighbourhoods and towns are built, we’ll kick ourselves if in ten years time we look back having missed the opportunity to ‘design out’ the obesogenic environment, and ‘design in’ health and wellbeing.

“We want children to have places where they want to play with friends and can safely walk or cycle to school – rather than just exercising their fingers on video games. We want to see neighbourhoods and adaptable home designs that make it easier for older people to continue to live independently wherever possible. And we want new ways of providing new types of digitally-enabled local health services that share physical infrastructure and staff with schools and community groups.”

Within a new leisure centre and Wellness hub on The Jubilee Fields there is the opportunity to consider:

Preventative Health

Promote the towns physical health

Deal with the lack of mental well-being.

Create linked green space with sensitive design including transport links.

Of note: Mental health – “dementia support” in a specialist built centre is a possibility which has been identified as a priority.

## Theme 4: Transport (T)

Not a problem at present

Increase bus services to Evesham, Redditch and Stratford upon Avon

There is no public transport for the elderly or disabled to travel to the local surgeries. One has to rely on neighbours or friends for transport. Voluntary transport system in Alcester has ceased now run by Stratford District Council. Lifts can be expensive and sometimes unavailable

Don't need another car park!!

Direct bus to Birmingham

To manage impact of school traffic

T3 Very supportive! But do we have a plan for extra parking

Will need some more emphasis. This is the one area I feel has not already been seriously addressed. The others have

Evening/late night buses between Alcester/Stratford/Redditch at weekends

Great Alne bus to Stratford to begin again

A one-way system on High St & School Road should be considered

Car parking- good additional long term/day parking would be helpful for overnight parking off road

An increase in public transport is unrealistic. Current buses are OK for Evesham/Stratford/Redditch. Bus companies to co-ordinate services (Eg buses to and from Redditch frequently follow each other)

Consider creating environmentally friendly transport links between villages & into surrounding towns ie electric tram system

Inadequate bus services from outlying villages

Regular bus services for the estates to go to town

A good service available

Public transport is barely adequate could be better

Hope can do more to promote cycling. Potentially cycle routes across the town

Possible to provide/develop local bus service between Alcester & Great Alne.

Car pool idea to be pursued?

5. Dismal lack of Police presence renders speed limits pointless (eg School Road)

Stop parking on pavements to make movement by the elderly, parents with buggies and young children safer

Links to other towns?

Public transport is very poor. Many residents have no cars. There is no bus service to or from Alcester after 6.30pm

Make High Street to Henley Street one way to save ancient buildings

Stratford buses some shelter for the bus stop area on side of Evesham Road opposite the Library

We need more buses, more often, and should consider reinstating a train line

Personally I drive so can't comment

No mention of a commitment to public/community transport for wider area. This could encourage tourists from Stratford/Birmingham to visit

Thought can be given to how sensitive housing developments can lead to better transport links. Creating a link from The Allimore Lane development through The Jubilee Fields past schools and then into Alcester encourages people to walk/cycle as there is the provision to do this without risk.

Provision of cycle/walking routes can be expanded on:

<http://www.makingspaceforcyclng.org/#offroad>

Working with any development, Allimore Lane plus others, will see housing developments well linked to the town centre and careful thought to traffic impact can be carefully considered.

The use of Jubilee Fields for a "community hub" adds sensible and sensitive parking to Alcester.

As noted, this provides safer routes to schools additionally.

The creation of a new swimming pool and leisure centre creates sensible and sensitive parking provision both long and short term which ties in with ***safer routes to schools*** additionally.

I muted the idea of a raised foot/cycle pathway across The Birmingham Road with one of Bloors's team, (at the moment there is an "undecided" crossing) to allow a pathway to run across the black bridge, through The Jubilee Fields, past the schools, Safer Routes to Schools, and then through The Greig and on into the town centre. This helps with a number of areas already identified.

There is also the perfect opportunity to fully tie The Allimore Lane Development in to all of Alcester's requirements, for ATC's Neighbourhood Plan

It will also give clear direction of where funding from the development can and should be sensibly spent with guidance from professionals.

## **Theme 5: Housing (H)**

Definitely need for affordable housing to keep or attract the younger generation (the life blood). Otherwise town will fill with OAPs with health problems

More affordable housing for people on lower income

Builders should not be able to develop proposed sites unless they are building a fair proportion of affordable properties for first time buyers

No more social housing please. Crime is bad enough as it is.

Don't need lots of housing- keep Alcester small

New builds kept to a minimum number

The difficult balance between housing needs and town character appears to be acknowledged

Act to minimise empty properties

No more

Strongly agree with use of brownfield sites

Who identifies these "Brownfield sites" to be built upon?

Affordable housing for Alcester people- really needed

Enough provision for elderly in town- housing should focus on first time/starter homes

Don't overbuild as in Stratford. The town and area is being destroyed by ultra-modern architecture

Agree

Create true affordable housing as starter homes and increase small/medium rental properties

No mention of 'sheltered' accommodation of which Alcester has a great deal. Some restriction on further such development would be good- Alcester could otherwise become a retirement town

This is okay. But what about facilities? Drs & shops for example

Need more affordable housing for the young- starting up

Do not agree with the town being used from other areas

Houses being built...without the thought of suitable parking eg Jackson Place. This creates a problem for exiting local residents

H4: Remember there are young disabled adults in the community!

Perhaps more single person dwellings suitable for the elderly or more sheltered accommodation

More affordable homes for the young

Need bungalows or flats for home owners to down size

H2....."Fulfilling identified need" Local? Regional? National?

H3. Brownfield sites in demand again

There are a few messy sites in the town which could be developed

Truly affordable family housing should be priority ie 3-4 bed houses at £150-250K

How much will be social housing. How do they gain access to their houses

Agree that standards should be set- re width of road, parking facilities. Will the policy include agreed policies/procedure for enforcing such standards

Given the difficulties being experienced with the Allimore Lane development there appears a need to provide Alcester with a more balanced and sensitive design dealing with a number of issues outlined.

An area of concern that appears not to have been addressed is the "rat run" that the road layout, at present, lends itself to, by enabling cars to avoid the Birmingham Road. After looking at different models work is required to deal with vehicle speed control providing road layouts and roundabouts, including mixed use pathways for cycle/pedestrian and "green space" use, play areas, etc, etc. After looking at this it has highlighted to me sensible and well thought out "development" can add so much to a town.

**As regards fully affordable housing there is clearly a very urgent need to address this given:**

- At the moment, Alcester has the highest total number of applicant households of the districts eight settlements with Main Rural Centre status for the purposes of SDC's Core Strategy.
- The percentage of single/childless couple households is slightly below the average for the whole District; the proportion of families with children is similar; whilst the proportion of pensioner/DLA households is slightly above the District average.
- Note that all Alcester pensioner/DLA households are aged over 55. Of these, 8 are in Gold Plus and 9 are in Gold bands respectively. The rest are in Bronze Plus.
- In terms of general needs accommodation, there is a need for a number of 4 bed properties and 2 bed properties for families. There is also a significant demand for single person accommodation.

The McCarthy Stone development has no provision for the majority of Alcester's residents as the cost is prohibitive. A fully affordable provision similar to Tithe Lodge housing provision in Southam would work well in Alcester and would provide much needed housing whilst releasing housing stock that is tied up further helping to deal with the very high need indicated for affordable housing both in the short term and longer term. More so it would provide "care in the community" for many of Alcester's residents which has been highlighted as an essential and urgent need.

## **Theme 6: Environment (E)**

Work, rest and play in equal amounts. Must be balanced

Protection of Alcester as a small rural town is vital. We do not want to be part of Stratford

Keep green areas

Conservation needs recognised

New development flood risk analysis should include larger safety factors to future proof against future increases in rainfall

E3 Rivers and bridges need clearing of plants and debris

Good

Very important

Agree with objectives. In addition, all 'speed bumps' to be removed. They increase fuel consumption & therefore emissions as vehicles continually brake and accelerate

Increase use of open spaces and natural environment with signed nature routes and access to river

Why is the Rec on Stratford Road never used? Make it into gardens so people could walk round

1. Reestablish access to local sites of interest/walks blocked by "land grab"

Banning of parking on pavements thereby slowing traffic down without any cost to councils and making movement by wheelchair users easier

More car parks needs- possibly on outskirts

Preserve rural scene as much as possible

E1. "Protection for trees, hedgerows..." (a bit late in some cases). Also wildlife from wandering people, loose dogs and cyclists on footpaths

We need to keep our green spaces, wild places where wildlife flourishes. These also could attract visitors if more footpaths were developed

Definitely E5

Unlike the Redrow debacle with the play facility. The policy is only as good as the mechanism that allows it to be enacted

The Jubilee Fields "community hub" would allow for access to the riverside which falls under the blue infrastructure allowing the river to be used from fishing to creating quiet seating areas. The nature reserve has great appeal if made more accessible. This would draw day tourism to Alcester and with a well designed link to the Town Centre, businesses, shops, coffee shops, pubs, etc would be easily accessible through signposting.

By working with the developers of Allimore Lane and from other already identified sites and taking professional advice for development within Alcester means there understanding of needs and requirements which enhance the "green landscape" of the town but also open areas up to use for Alcester and as appealing to visitors to the town.

The proposed bridge over the river means that it will be possible to further link areas of Alcester allowing the criteria under Environment to be met.

## **Theme 7: Community Facilities (C)**

Greig Hall once again become the "focal centre" it used to be

Excellent local clubs especially sport

Need emphasis that facilities for elderly need to be central and not always in the Jubilee Fields area

C3 only new built?

Good

Swimming pool would be a great addition to town

Agree

What about access/transport for old and young to use local amenities?

Create a communities office/information station for promoting towns activities etc

The existing Greig Hall space is wasted space and the building unsightly as it falls into increasing dilapidation

What facilities? At 84 and disabled. What is there for me?

Much going on. Can the town cope with new build due- sewerage- Doctors-schools

No mention of disabled access to facilities/open spaces etc

Inclusive 'blue sky' thinking- special or additional needs to be considered across all policies

Accessible play areas for disabled children seriously lacking for years

What about the Greig Centre?

A theatre/cinema on the lines of No 8 in Pershore- a real facility for the whole population

Save Greig Hall

Would like to see a policy relating to investigation into viability of a swimming pool, and if viable, its implementation

C3. On brownfield sites

Community office in town (also tourist centre)

The Greig- this must be used for the community with the refurbishment that requires

Why wait for more houses we need this now. Doctors cannot cope now

The Greig- no explicit mention of refurbishment & renewal

The plans for Jubilee Fields and other areas link these with pedestrian and cycle routes and pathways.

The creation of a hub on Jubilee Fields utilizing the proposed bridge from Priory Meadow to The Jubilee Fields makes the use of this central area to Alcester ideal for encouraging Active Communities and providing a host of leisure and recreation provision.

The community facilities existing, The Jubilee Centre and Depot can be used to there full potential.

## **Theme 8: Design & Heritage (D)**

Court Leet does excellent work too- thank you

Preserve tastefully as a neighbour to S on A with its history. But we have the Romans and the Saltway to promote

What has happened to the Greig Hall

More should be made of the Turies and not just the ones in the town centre. The one between Birch Abbey- Bleachfield Street is a disgrace and always has been. I think that this is the area where most of the Roman remains in our Museum were found- as such should be emphasised- especially as one of our tourist attractions for visitors

All sensible proposals which, surely, most would agree with

This is top priority to retain the uniqueness of Alcester

Agree

Important that new development references the built environment sympathetically (Stratford Rd development on old garage site is unsympathetic!)

Would need Stratford DC Planning Dept to "come on board"!

More effort to think of those less fortunate than the (ablebodied) wheelchair users, elderly and parents with buggies and young children

Open up Abbey site and help support ancient buildings (Town Hall)

Support historical research (eg archaeology of heritage sites eg Abbey Fields) and support for the museum

Signage good

No comment

Alcester has a rich heritage which could be highlighted further and would enable Alcester to be seen much more as a tourist destination. Certainly, the appeal of the town centre is, in many respects, equally as appealing as Stratford. By linking Ragley Hall, Coughton Court and highlighting Alcester as a base for travelling to Birmingham, Warwick Castle and indeed Stratford could be a longer term goal.

### **Other:**

Education: All Alcester children should have right to schooling to Alcester. Less bussing in from afar. Local schooling for all not just the elite

The policy is comprehensive and the town is well run- great credit to all concerned

Alcester is becoming a 'no go' area for wheelchair users!!!