

Alcester Town Council Annual Report of the Planning Committee 2018-19

Membership: The standing members were Cllrs Clive Neal-Sturgess (Chair), Yvette Morrison, Mark Cargill, Chris Brannigan, Jim Kenyon, John Bunting, Kathryn Cargill, Tim Forman and Alison Brown

Meetings: The Planning Committee met on 19 occasions throughout the year, and considered 75 Planning applications, all of which are minuted (see the Town Council website). Objections were made on 13 occasions. Site visits were conducted on 4 occasions, and public representation occurred at 8 meetings.

Applications of significance were:

SIG Roofspace, Alcester Heath: Two applications were submitted, one concerned with changing the layout of the roller shutter doors and one increasing time on site. Objection was made to the second application due to concerns about noise, lighting and landscaping. A committee hearing of SDC took place, and ATC representation made concerning extra conditions. The application was approved with our conditions incorporated, in all there are 23 conditions

Lloyds Bank: applied for changes to permit disabled access, which are needed. However, an objection was made based on the layout of the new access not being in accordance with Highways requirements; the application was withdrawn.

Alcester Conservative and Unionist Club: applied to replace a number of windows with PVC windows. An objection was made as it is a Listed Building in the Conservation zone; the objection was upheld by SDC. This has important consequences for businesses on the High Street.

Garages, North of Castle Road: an objection was made as it was considered to be over development, and the car parking was not well designed. The proposal was revamped and the objection withdrawn.

Polkadot Nursery (Retrospective): an objection was made as the canopy constructed was entirely different to the agreed development. An SDC hearing was held, and ATC made representation. The proposal was finally passed after structural alterations and repainting was agreed.

Allimore lane (North): the Reserved Matters on the Allimore Lane development were considered by SDC; ATC has objected on 5 counts. SDC considered the application on the 13th of March; ATC made representation and asked for a further 5 conditions. The application was approved without our extra conditions.

Alcester Neighbourhood Plan: A Steering Committee composed largely of members of the public was appointed chaired by Mrs Wendy Mills, and met on a number of occasions. The plan focusses on five main areas: Economy, Community Facilities, Housing and the Built Environment, Transport and Infrastructure, and Natural Environment; for which working groups have been established. A public consultation was held on a draft plan, which was well received, modifications made, and the plan is now in the final stages of drafting.

Professor Cllr Clive Neal-Sturgess March 2019