Alcester Town Council Summer Newsletter

Issue 54 June 2019

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

I am extremely proud and honoured to have been elected as the Mayor of Alcester by my fellow Town Councillors on 7 May 2019. With my husband, Tim, as my Consort we are looking forward to the coming year with great enthusiasm. I would like to thank Councillor Andrew Foster for his hard work as Mayor for the last twelve months and the wonderful support given to him by his wife, Kathrin, and his children. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Councillor Kathryn Cargill on being elected as Deputy Mayor for this year.



The Mayor of Alcester, Cllr Gill Forman with the retiring Mayor, Cllr Andrew Foster

I was first elected to the Town Council in 2015 and have enjoyed serving on the Community Care and Community Facilities Committees, the latter as Chair. I am now looking forward to the exciting challenge of leading the new Council, which includes a number of new Councillors. Alcester Town Council has said goodbye to several Councillors this year, some of which were long serving, and I would like to say a very big thank you to John Bunting, Chris Gough, Jim Kenyon, Mike Gittus, Yvette Morrison, Alison Brown, Chris Brannigan and Julie Smith for all the years of service that they have given to the council and for all the hard work and dedication they have shown. Town Councillors will continue to work hard on many projects and challenges over the coming months. The Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan, drafted by a working group of councillors and residents, has been approved by Alcester Town Council, submitted to Stratford District Council (SDC) and should shortly be issued for Regulation 16 consultation by SDC. Independent examination will follow. Legal proceedings are continuing between Stratford District Council and the Greig Hall Trustees, and we will keep you informed.

I have chosen to support two charities in my Mayoral year. The first of these is Alcester and District Community First Responders. This is a team of

volunteers who respond to emergency 999 calls providing initial care and treatment to many illnesses or injuries in order to save lives or prevent disability whilst waiting for the emergency services to arrive.

The second charity I have chosen is Ekica Trust. Ekica is a charity, of which I am a trustee, and was set up formerly as a children's orphanage in Tanzania, to provide day care and pre-school education and is now registered as a Pre and Primary school for the most disadvantaged local children. I hope that you will come along to my events during the year that will raise funds to support both of these excellent and worthwhile charities.

I have lived in Alcester for most of my life and I think that our town is a wonderful, unique place to live with a fantastic community spirit. Many great events take place throughout the year, for example the Food Festivals and the Court Leet Street Market, none of which could happen without the army of wonderful volunteers that this town has. I am looking forward to representing the Council at these events and it will also be a great privilege to represent and promote our town at events in the surrounding area.

Cllr Gill Forman, Mayor of Alcester

Clerks Corner

The elections for Alcester Town Council on 2nd May 2019 were uncontested and I am pleased to announce that the following were elected as Town Councillors:

Ward	Councillor		
Alcester West	Mark Cargill		
Alcester West	Laura Pusey		
Alcester West	Emma Randle		
Alcester West	Clive Neal-Sturgess		
Alcester West	Erick Wilson		
Oversley	Mike Bowe		
Oversley	Kirsten Forbes		
Oversley	Gill Forman		
Oversley	Tim Forman		
Oversley	Andrew Foster		
Oversley	Keith Greenaway		
Oversley	Mat Hempell		
Oversley Green	Kathryn Cargill		

Good luck to all the new Councillors in their term of office.

At the Mayor Making event on 7 May, I was very pleased to oversee the election of the new Mayor, Cllr Gill Forman and the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Kathryn Cargill. Congratulations to both of them on their appointment. I am sure that they will do an excellent job in representing Alcester.

The arrival of new Councillors does mean that we have said goodbye to some very long- standing members of the Council. Thank you to our retiring Councillors for their exceptional service to the town – John Bunting, Chris Gough, Jim Kenyon, Alison Brown, Yvette Morrison, Mike Gittus, Chris Brannigan and Julie Smith. We will miss them all.

We do now have three vacancies on the Oversley Ward which the Town Council hopes to fill in the near future. If you are interested in being co-opted, please contact me as soon as possible for further details.

Vanessa Lowe, Town Clerk

BRAVE NEW LOOK!





Councillor Keith Greenaway would like to express his sincere thanks to everyone who sponsored him in his recent head shave. This also included his beard and eyebrows! He raised a massive £1051 in total for Kidney Cancer UK. Thank you for the overwhelming response to a very personal appeal.

PLANNING MATTERS

Alcester Town Council Planning Committee has met 6 times since the last newsletter, considered nine applications along with other matters. Most of the applications were of a minor nature and no objections were made; significant applications are listed below. All the Planning Committee meetings are open to the public, the minutes are available on the ATC website, and attendance is encouraged.

15 April meeting:

Notified as adjoining parish- 18/02101/FUL- Hoo Mill Alcester B49 6LS. Proposed: Use of land for the siting of two caravans for holiday lets (C3) (retrospective). For: Dr A Wallis. Disappointment was expressed at the retrospective nature of the application. It was agreed to support the Ward Member, District Cllr Mike Gittus, in his decision on this matter- which is still ongoing.

18 March meeting:

18/03188/FUL- The Pool House Oversley Castle Wixford Alcester B49 6DH. Proposed: Conversion, alteration, extension and partial rebuilding of Pool House to form single dwelling (alteration to 14. Pool House of 13/01140/FUL and 14/02968/VARY) to include the change of use of land for revised access/garden land to serve the Pool House. For: Oversley Property Developments Ltd. Following an interesting and informative site visit together with a representative from Wixford Parish Council, it was agreed to remove the previous holding objection and support the high quality development proposal.

SDC West Area Planning Committee 13 March

In December 2018, the Reserved Matters application for the northern site of the land off Allimore Lane was submitted to SDC (17/01084/REM). A hastily arranged public consultation event was held in January, due to the short notice for responses to SDC. Following an earlier consultation in May 2017, ATC had mounted 23 issues of concern. Following meetings with the developers and SDC on the second version of the plans, ATC had 12 issues which remained outstanding. By the time of the SDC West Area Planning Committee meeting, attended by the Chairman and Cllr Susan Adams (Ward Member) the Officers had imposed 23 conditions, and 6 of our residual concerns were deemed to be within those conditions. A major outcome, although outwith the application, was a request by ATC for support from SDC for a pedestrian crossing on Arden Road to assist children going to school in Coughton and this was given.

In addition to the meetings above, two pre-application meetings have been held with Linfoot Country Homes Ltd to discuss a possible proposal for developing the triangle of land on Allimore Lane. Concerns were expressed over possible access issues from Allimore Lane, which are under discussions with WCC Highways; no formal planning application has yet been made. If you are a concerned resident, please keep your eye open for the planning meeting when the application will be considered.

At the final meeting the Chair thanked members, and the Clerk, for their diligence over the previous four years.

Professor Cllr Clive Neal-Sturgess, Chair Planning Committee

ALCESTER & DISTRICT LIONS

EASTER EGG "EGGSTRAVIGANZA"

This year Alcester and District Lions broke all previous records with generous contributions to the Lions' Easter Egg Raffle when nine local pubs, cafes, restaurants and businesses jointly raised £1360. Our thanks go to everyone who supported the

raffle, especially staff and patrons of the Holly Bush who raffled six Easter Eggs and a hamper raising nearly £800.

Every penny raised by Alcester & District Lions goes to support charitable causes, particularly for those residents in and around Alcester who sometimes need a little help and fall outside the remit of other support groups and organisations.

Alcester & District Lions Club are now recruiting new members. If you are willing to lend a hand and would enjoy the social side of fund raising or would like to know more about the Lions Club, please contact Roger on 01789 490759 or email: alcesterdistlions@gmail.com.



Charlie, Tehys, Helen and Lauren from the Holly Bush

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Awarded 2019/20

Organisation	Amount awarded £
Arrow Action Group	500
Alcester in Bloom	1500
Malt Mill Lane Residents Association	400
St. Nicholas Church Benefactor's Panel	750
Alcester Male Voice Choir	1000
Run Alcester	600
Alcester and District First Responders	460
Alcester Town Football Club	1000
ABLE Bunting and Lights	450
Citizens' Advice South Warwickshire	750
Alcester Heart Safe	250
Bowmen of Alcester	300
Heart of England Town Criers	400
Alcester War Memorial Town Hall	1000
Opera Experience CIC	250
Girlguiding Alcester and Avon Village District	700
Total awarded includes £310 carried forward from 2018	10310



Honouring the Pride of Stratford

The people who make the district a better place to live were honoured at this year's Pride of Stratford District Awards.

On Friday 8 February, the eighth annual Touch FM-organised awards, supported by Sitel, were announced at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Stratford-upon-Avon at a ceremony attended by 350 people, celebrating the best achievements in business and the community.

Our very respected and much missed Councillor Eric Payne was posthumously awarded a Special Award which was accepted by fellow Councillor, Sue Adams.

Did you know?

You can book evening or weekend appointments with a GP, nurse or pharmacist at six GP+ Hubs across South Warwickshire – including Alcester Primary Care Centre.

Pre-bookable and same day appointments weekday evenings from 6- 9pm and weekends between 9am and 3pm.

South Warwickshire



NEWS FROM THE ALLOTMENTS

It has been virtually a year since we formed our association at Bleachfield Street North and it is time to take stock!

It's been a busy year with progress made with the water supply, the addition of a shed (thanks to ATC for that) pruning of overgrown trees and bushes, a fabulous Xmas get together (at the Royal Oak) and help with establishing a community allotment. Regular meetings have been very well attended (thanks again to the Royal Oak) and we look forward with optimism. In July we plan to have a barbecue and other potential projects include joining the National Allotments Association, installing new taps, improving some paths and seed and surplus plant swaps. A composting toilet remains a possibility. There's plenty to discuss!

All plotholders are automatically members of the Association at no cost. If you want to get involved and keep up with the news then please check the noticeboards or send us your email address and you will be added to our 'growing' list of plotholders.

Good growing, Steve Keeling

Email: Stekeel1@aol.com



ALCESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR

Another prestigious venue for Alcester Male Voice Choir

Following a highly successful and sell out concert at Worcester Cathedral at the beginning of May, the popular and in demand Alcester Male Voice Choir are all set to make a return visit to another prestigious venue, St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle in July. The choir last appeared there some four years ago and delighted an international audience with a lunch time recital.



The choir at Windsor Castle four years ago

Judith Land BEM, the choir's founder and Director of Music, explains that "We are delighted to be asked back to Windsor. To sing in one of the nations most iconic and beautiful buildings is both an honour and a privilege.

We shall be singing "a cappella" and the 40 minute programme will comprise a variety of both sacred and secular music sung in English, Welsh, German, Latin and Zulu. It promises to be a very special day, and one which we are all looking forward to. The day will end when the choir returns to St George's Chapel to join the chapel's own choir and the congregation for Evensong".

ALCESTER WAR MEMORIAL TOWN HALL



The 41st AGM of Alcester War Memorial Town Hall was held on Wednesday 13 March 2019. In her report as Chair, Susan Juned attributed much of the success of the Town Hall's 400-year anniversary celebrations to Ian Greig, Dianne Williams, and the History Society, all of whom provided the extensive displays for the nine open days, and to Nick and Cham Dearling who arranged a banquet. The Fulke Greville Festival put on by Adam Busiakiewicz, Lise Evans and Ian Greig was very well attended and afforded the Town some excellent publicity.

Going forward, as well as our usual open days in August, we have a Heritage Day on 15 September when we will be joining with the Museum, St. Nicholas Church and Church House to showcase Alcester and the organisations that make it the community it is. User groups will be displaying the way the Hall is used today and the role it now plays in our community, as well as exploring its 400 year history.

Our Town Hall is a brilliant asset for Alcester and the trustees and volunteers who manage and look after it are very proud of the contribution they are able to make to its upkeep. This work is ongoing and time consuming for a small number of dedicated people. More volunteers are urgently needed, both for the hands on remedial work of decorating and repairs and for regular checks. After bookings for birthdays, wedding breakfasts, and other gatherings, the hall has to be checked to ensure it is in good condition for the next event.

We welcome anyone who wants to become a friend of the Town Hall. People with practical skills to offer, however limited, will be especially welcome.

Please contact Chairman Susan Juned on 01789 762751 or Secretary Kay Blake on 01789 764128 to register your interest.



Alcester Singers Summer concert

Saturday 6 July

St.Nicholas Church Alcester 7.30pm

This is an extra special concert featuring many of our former successful Young Musician winners; in particular, Florence Cain winner of the BBC Radio 2 young chorister of the year in 2016.

Fully supported by the choir performing pieces by Benjamin Britten, Ralph Vaughan Williams and Gustav Holst.

Tickets £12 (under 14s free) available from 01789 400295 or Humphries Shoes, Alcester or on the door.



Alcester Royal British Legion

Dates for your diary!

Armed Forces Day. Saturday 29 June. 10.45am till 11.30am. St Nicholas Church Green

Great Pilgrimage 90 Film Presentation and Talk - Saturday 10 August. 7pm. Jubilee Centre. Tickets £7.50. In 2018, thousands of members and representatives helped The Royal British Legion recreate the 1928 Battlefields Pilgrimage to mark the centenary of the launch of the 'Hundred Days Offensive'. Our Standard Bearer Mike Clark and branch Member Nick Dearling represented the Branch and along with a 20 minute DVD will tell us of their experience. Refreshments

Poppy Appeal Launch 2019 - 2020. Saturday 26 October. Methodist Church. 10am till 1pm

Remembrance Concert. Saturday 9 November St Nicholas Church

Remembrance Sunday Parade and Church Service - Sunday 10 November

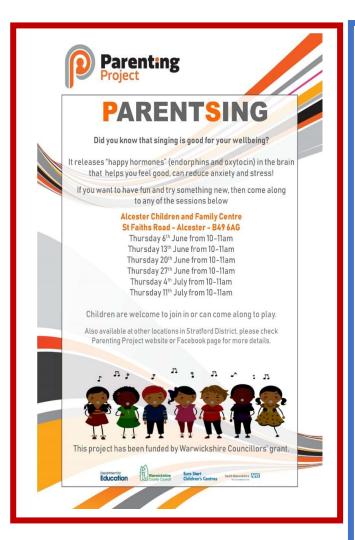
Legion Lunch - Sunday 10 November. Town Hall

Armistice Day Parade and Service - Monday 11 November

For further information please contact David Malin, Secretary, Alcester Royal British Legion

01789 400427 / 07880 319427

HEALTH & WELLBEING





FREE HEALTH **CHECKS**

THURSDAY 20TH JUNE 11AM - 4PM



Weight

- Water %
- Body Fat % Visceral Body Fat
- Muscle Mass
- Bone Density
- Plus advice on being active/healthier

Appointments held at Globe House 15-minutes (booking essential)

Wendy Sherwood Health and Wellbeing Coordinator Alcester Town Council Globe House Seggs Lane entrance Alcester B49 5DZ Telephone: 01789 766084 Email: info@alcester-tc.go

In partnership with



Carers Week 10- 16 June



Are you looking after someone?

To celebrate the start of Carers Weekcome along and join us for coffee, cake and a chat.

Tuesday 11 June

Café Lomas, Rigby Unit, Stratford upon Avon Cv37 6NX

Free transport from Alcester

Please contact Wendy Sherwood for more information on 01789 766084





Fancy a trip out for the day?

Come along to The National Motorcycle Museum



When: Tuesday 2nd July

Time: 10:30am pick up - returning from The Museum at 3pm

Cost: £15 including transport and entrance fee

(£5 deposit)

Trip organised by Alcester Town Council. To book a place, call or email Wendy Sherwood:

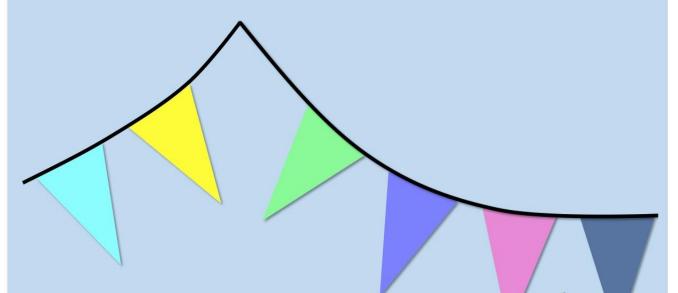
01789 766084

info@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Please respond by 25th June



Today's top tip- **Fix my Street Warwickshire**- An online form that allows you to report potholes, faulty traffic lights or bridge defects. You can report a problem by going to https://warwickshire.fixmystreet.com



IT'S GARDEN PARTY and SUMMER FETE TIME!

25 May - Arrow with Weethley Garden Party

15 June - Haselor Fete

29 June - Coughton with Sambourne Fete

24 August - Alcester Garden Party

31 August – Kinwarton with Great Alne Summer Fete & Fun Dog Show

Further details on our website/facebook/twitter pages Details of other events/church services there too!

EVERYONE WELCOME



www.alcesterminster.org www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster @AlcesterMinster

Help us develop our Alcester Flood Scheme proposals



Alcester lies in the area where the rivers Alne and Arrow meet. The rivers are integral to its history. However, they have also been the cause of flooding over the centuries, with flood events happening in June 1921, January 1960, April 1998 and more recently in July 2007.

The Environment Agency is now looking into developing a scheme to improve flood defences for the town, with a view to developing a consistent level of protection on the west bank of the River Arrow and reducing the risk of flooding to more than 100 properties.

We recently started investigations and as part of this we will be carrying out ground investigations from July onwards. These investigations are taking place to determine the condition of the ground around the

existing embankments. It helps us gain a better understanding of the site and immediate surroundings, which will help us determine the best method of working during construction.

We also created a Hydraulic model, which shows where the defences are most likely to breach in a severe flood event. We would like to share some of our findings with the community and find out from you whether this is in line with your experience in previous flood events.

We holding a drop in session on 9 July at Alcester War Memorial Town Hall from 4-7pm. It would be great to see lots of local people at this event- so we can learn from your experiences and share information about the current proposals.



If you are not able to make it, but would like to be kept informed, please contact Imke Goalby- Public Liaison Officer- by emailing imke.goalby@environment-agency.gov.uk or phoning 02084 749 657

CCTV PARTNERSHIP

The Town Council is a member of the Stratford-on-Avon CCTV Partnership which operates the CCTV cameras in Stratford-on-Avon and other market towns such as Alcester. The monitoring of all cameras, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is carried out from the Stratford-on-Avon District Council CCTV Control Room.

CCTV staff have a direct radio link with the Warwickshire Police force control room, and officers on the ground. Warwickshire Police control room staff also have access to a monitor showing live feed images within their facility which, coupled with the radio contact, enables effective and rapid deployment of police resources. Footage of incidents is routinely made available to the police for use in the investigation of reported crimes, missing persons or suspect activity, and is used to assist in the prosecution of offenders in the courts.

In the past quarter the following incidents in Alcester have been reported:

*CCTV monitor a male assaulting an employee of a town centre store and run off from the scene. The employee identifies the offender and CCTV monitor the area until the male is arrested to ensure he does not return.

*CCTV operators spot a large fight in progress on the High St, duty CCTV operators informed the Police who attended and dispersed the males from the area.

*Control inform CCTV of an elderly female who has late stage dementia who has disappeared from her home address. CCTV perform a review of all town centre cameras from the time she was last seen to see if her direction of travel can be traced. CCTV also perform a search of the area to see if the female is located in the town centre. Review showed the female had not yet reached the town centre and the police were informed of this, they targeted their search with this new information and located the female shortly after.

*CCTV locate a missing minor in the town centre. Control informed and officers attended.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ALCESTER

Frightened 999 callers should try using Silent Service

Making Yourself Heard campaign has been launched by the Police to raise awareness of how to call 999 if you are unable or too scared to speak as it emerged that few emergency callers knew how to use the Silent Service.

The scheme lets a 999 mobile caller who is frightened for their safety, or is unable to talk, press 55 to signal that there is a genuine emergency. Police forces receive 5,000 silent calls a day to the system but the 55 instruction is detected only 50 times. If the 55 numbers are not keyed in, the call is terminated. Police hope that this campaign will end the myth that dialling the emergency number alone will automatically bring help. The Independent Office for Police Conduct said that the system worked only if the public understood how to use it. "It is always best to actually speak to a Police call handler if you can, even if by whispering, but if you are putting yourself or someone else in danger by making a sound, there is something you can do...."

In danger, need the Police but can't speak?

- 1. Dial 999
- 2. Listen to the questions from the 999 call operator
- 3. Respond by coughing or tapping the handset if you can
- 4. If prompted, press 55. This lets the 999 call operator know it's a genuine emergency and you'll be put through to the Police.

The next meeting of NHW Alcester will be held on Wednesday 5 June 2019 in St Nicholas Church House, Butter Street at 7.30pm. Contact details: nhwalcester@gmail.com or telephone Dorrie Manders on 01789 762999 Everyone is welcome. A further NHW Meeting will be held in October. A date to be arranged.

Communicating with the Police: Emergencies dial 999

The Police Non Emergency number :101 To be used to report crime and other concerns that do not require an emergency response. 101 diverts to your local Police. Calls cost 15p per call, (landlines and mobiles)



Alcester South Safer Neighbourhood Team dial 101 or 01789 444816

Please feel free to contact the team direct: Email: alcestersouth.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

PS 542 Bob Shaw (Team Sergeant) 01789 444815

Robert.shaw@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

PC 1672 Robert Davies (Beat Manager) robert.davies@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk PCSO 6111 Gary Johnson-Jones gary.johnson-jones@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 6327 Carolyn Davis carolyn.davis1@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

Twitter - @AlcesterCops Facebook - Alcester Police

Instagram – southwarwickshiresnts Facebook – Warwickshire Police

Call **Crimestoppers** anonymously with information about crime on 0800 555 111. Crimestoppers is a charity who will pass on information to police without revealing any details of the caller.

Contact **Warwickshire Trading Standards** 01926 414040. <u>Website Facebook Twitter</u>. Make a scam/rogue trader complaint to Trading Standards via <u>Citizens Advice Consumer Service</u> on 03454 040506. Sign up to receive scam alerts at <u>www.warwickshire.gov.uk/scams</u>. Avoid rogue traders- Use Warwickshire Trading Standards "No Rogue Traders Here" approved trader scheme.

Action Fraud Report a Fraud or Cyber Crime to 0300 123 2040 or visit www.actionfraud.police.uk.

Alcester is a relatively crime free area. We work together to keep it that way.

ALCESTER FESTIVAL AND EVENTS CALENDAR 2019

Please find below a list of events due to take place in the next three months. Pick up a Festival and Events Guide from Globe House, or alternatively check local noticeboards, websites, Facebook and Twitter for further information!

9 June	Court Leet Street Market	7 July	Court Leet Afternoon Tea
16 June	Garden Walkabout	13 July	Duck Race
29 June	Armed Forces Day Service	21 July	Alcester Motor Show
4 July	Church Restoration Lunchtime Concert	17 Aug	Court Leet Family Fun Day
6 July	Alcester Singer's Summer Concert	17/ 24 Aug	Town Hall Open Days

Town Council Meetings

Full Council Meetings are held on the first Tuesday in the month at Globe House, Library meeting room 4, First Floor (accessed via the Seggs Lane entrance- there is a lift) at 7pm prompt. All other Committee meetings are held on a Monday or a Tuesday in the Council Board room 7pm at Globe House, also accessed via the Seggs Lane entrance.

All agendas are published online at: www.alcester-tc.gov.uk and copies can also be found on the Council noticeboards at Market Place and High Street three days before each meeting.

Members of the public are welcome to attend any of the Council meetings and are given time at the start of the meetings to raise any relevant issues. Minutes from each meeting can also be found on the Town Council web site once they have been signed.

The Alcester Town Council Facebook pages are another source of information regarding Council matters: www.facebook.com/alcester.towncouncil,

For community health and well-being news see www.facebook.com/ouralcester For information on other events in the town, go to: www.facebook.com/alcester

Please click "like" and share with your friends. We're on Twitter too: www.twitter.com/AlcesterTown

Town Councillor's Contact Details

Alcester West Ward							
Mark Cargill	07988 485050		Clive Neal-Sturgess	01789 764416			
Laura Pusey	07928 327923		Erick Wilson	01789 764366			
Emma Randle	01789 766084						

Alcester-Oversley Ward							
Kirsten Forbes	07810 522920	Andrew Foster	01789 766708				
Mike Bowe	07775 500993	Mat Hempell	07939 797582				
Gillian Forman (Mayor)	01789 763828						
Tim Forman	01789 763828						
Keith Greenaway	01789 766818						
Oversley Green Ward							
Kathryn Cargill (Deputy Mayor) 07745 608567						

Alcester Town Council Contacts

Office of the Town Clerk: Tel: 01789 766084

Town Clerk: clerk@alcester-tc.gov.uk Mayor's Secretary: mayor@alcester-tc.gov.uk Planning: administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk Facilities:reception@alcester-tc.gov.uk Community Care: office@alcester-tc.gov.uk Health and Well-Being: info@alcester-tc.gov.uk Alcester Town Council offices are located on the First Floor at Globe House- accessed via the Seggs Lane entrance (lift available) and are open:

Monday - Friday 9am- 1pm

If you would like to speak to the Clerk outside of opening hours, please call to make an appointment Website: www.alcester-tc.gov.uk





