The Annual Assembly of the Parish Meeting took place at the Alcester War Memorial Town Hall, Alcester on Tuesday 3rd April 2018 at 7pm.

Welcome and Chairman

The Mayor of Alcester, Cllr Yvette, took the Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4th April 2017 were confirmed as a true record on a proposition by Cllr Mark Cargill and seconded by Cllr Keith Greenaway.

Report from Alcester Town Council

The Mayor gave a report from Alcester Town Council which comprised reports from each standing Committee and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Presidium report confirmed that a 2% increase had been agreed for the precept for 2018-19, a new Code of Conduct had been approved, the Housing Needs Survey Report prepared by Warwickshire Rural Community Council had been adopted and a new Assistant Town Clerk, Sarah Duran and second Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator, Wendy Sherwood, had been appointed.

The Facilities Committee report confirmed that safety work had been undertaken on the footpath by the "Black Bridge" including the removal of trees damaging the bridge, a new barrier had been installed at the Jubilee Centre, a bin and bench survey had been undertaken, replacement trees had been planted at the community orchard and new CCTV had been installed at the Jubilee Centre courtesy of a donation from Church Street Properties.

The Community Care Committee report confirmed that they had distributed £10,000 of community grants, new speed aware volunteers had been vetted and trained and 15 Speedwatch sessions held, a town emergency exercise had been organised with WCC and SDC, new wi-fi had been installed on the High Street to measure footfall in the town and defibrillator training had been organised for councillors and residents.

The Planning Committee reported that they had responded to 73 planning applications during the year. The most significant were those at SIG Roofspace, Alcester Members Club, Garages off St Faith's Road, The White Lion on Evesham Street and Rosehill, Priory Road. The Alcester Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group had been reformed, chaired by Mrs Wendy Mills. A grant had been obtained from Locality which had enabled a planning consultant to be appointed to assist the production of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Health and Wellbeing Board reported that it had met quarterly. It had identified three priority areas for the forthcoming year – older people and loneliness, mental health of children and young people and support for carers (including young carers). The work with older people continues to progress well with the Elderberries lunch club now operating independently of the Town Council.

The Mayor thanked all who were able to attend the meeting today and looked forward to hearing the various reports.

Accounts

Mr John Hill, Steward of the Manor of Alcester presented the accounts on behalf of Alcester Court Leet for the year ending 30th September 2017. The following balances were received:

High Bailiffs fund £1358.28
Charity fund £ 753.99
Depreciation fund £4496.07
Amount distributed by Charity £5075.00

Cllr John Bunting, on behalf of Church Street Properties, gave a report noting that £5854 had been spent. During the year the sum of £9954 had been given in grants. He then presented the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2017, the balances were recorded as:

Treasurers account £43603.12
BIA account £ 6165.26
National Savings Bank £79996.69

Mr Vaughan Blake, Treasurer of the Alcester War Memorial Town Hall, gave a report confirming that the work had been completed on the external stonework of the Hall at a cost of £38,000 of which £28,000 was received from grants. The accounts had not yet been approved.

Cllr Clive Neal-Sturgess, on behalf of Newport's School Foundation explained the purpose of the trust which is to provide financial support for young people between 16 and 25 from Alcester or who went to school in Alcester. He presented the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2017 which showed assets of £312,458.98.

Mr Steve Payne, Chairman of Alcester Community Trust gave a report on the activity of the trust in the past year. The 10km run remains popular and ACT are currently working with the Alcester Chamber of Trade on an annual car rally.

There were no representatives present from Moorfield Trust, Alcester United Charities and Alcester Bunting and Lighting Executive but accounts had been received from ABLE in advance of the meeting.

Alcester Organisations

The Mayor then opened the floor to the representatives from various Alcester organisations who presented on their activities during the year:

- 1. Mrs Carole Zambonini Alcester Daycare
- 2. Mr Vaughan Blake Rotary Alauna
- 3. Mr David Bryant Alcester Vallet Twinning Association
- 4. Mrs Sue Blackburn Alcester Singers and Alcester Friends of Cancer Research
- 5. Mr Tony Bradley Alcester Male Voice Choir
- 6. Cllr Chris Brannigan Alcester Dementia Café
- 7. Mr Steven Brown Food Festival
- 8. Mrs Mary Nash Oversley Green Residents Association
- 9. Cllr Julie Smith Alcester Junior Drama and Alcester Youth Council
- 10. Mr Ian Greig Alcester and District Local History Society
- 11. Cllr Alison Brown Heartsafe
- 12. Cllr Mike Gittus Royal British Legion
- 13. Mr Peter Chadwick Greig Trust

The Mayor then concluded the discussions praising Alcester's many volunteers and closed the meeting at 8.45 pm, however all who attended were invited to stay for refreshments.