



# ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF A COMMUNITY CARE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 OCTOBER 2020 BY VIDEO CONFERENCE

### **Present:**

Cllr. K Cargill, Cllr G. Forman, Cllr A. Foster, Cllr K Soares, Cllr C. Neal-Sturgess, Cllr E Randle, Cllr V Blake, Cllr D Henderson and Cllr K Forbes.

**In attendance:** Mrs V. Lowe Town Clerk

### **1. Apologies**

There were no apologies received. Cllr K Greenaway was not present.

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **3. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes were signed at Full Council.

### **4. Update from the ATC Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator**

The October update from Wendy Sherwood (which is attached to these minutes) was presented by Cllr Cargill.

Cllr Foster asked whether contact had been made with Malin Court regarding possible activities for residents. The Town Clerk confirmed that there was regular contact with Malin Court but explained the limitations on what could be put in place.

Cllr Foster asked whether the computer club could restart in view of the current need for isolated residents to connect via technology. The Town Clerk confirmed that efforts were being made to restart the group but that most attendees required face-to-face support which was a challenge with the current social distancing rules.

### **5. Reports from Working Groups**

#### **5.1 Business and Tourism**

Cllr Blake reported that the Group had not met yet but a meeting was planned for 10<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Blake will invite previous members plus all Councillors.

In response to a question, Cllr Blake confirmed that he did hope to run Window Wanderland in January 2021. It was agreed that this would be a perfect socially distanced activity which might lift the spirits of the community. Cllr Foster offered to support Cllr Blake.

#### **5.2 Community Safety/Resilience**

Cllr Soares reported that a meeting had been held in the hour preceding the Community Care meeting. Cllr Soares has been appointed as the new Chair of the Working Group. The Group had decided to rename itself the Community Resilience Working Group.

The Group had decided that it should be more pro-active in resilience building rather than just responding to emergencies. They had identified the following areas initially for attention – mental health, climate change,

flooding and resilience in food production. The Group will meet every 2 months.

## **6. Future Plans**

Cllr Cargill asked Councillors to email her with any future items for the agenda. She suggested that written reports were produced so that there was time to consider any item prior to the meeting.

It was agreed that updates on Young People and Older People should remain as standard agenda items.

Cllr Randle explained that she had been looking into a project with Cllr Foster to supply hot take-away meals for young people during the Christmas holidays. Cllr Cargill asked her to work up a business plan on this which in view of the time constraints, could be discussed at an extraordinary meeting or by email as required. The Town Clerk confirmed that there were funds available for such a project from the Community Resilience fund.

## **7. Propositions**

There were no propositions.

## **8. Date and Time of Next Meeting 7pm on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020 by Zoom**

## Community Care Committee – Update October 2020

- The repair café is back up and running. We have organised a drop off and pick up type system to comply with Covid restrictions and completed around 10 repairs last month. We have more repairs booked in for Thursday, so all positive.
- A cookery project is underway called Cook and Eat your Tea and is aimed at particular groups who may benefit from a little help and support to prepare and cook their own meal, using local, fresh, nutritious but inexpensive and simple recipes. We have three fantastic people supporting the project and we intend to run the 4-week course throughout the year until July 2021. The teenager course finishes tomorrow and has been a huge success. The next one is 'Lads Night In' for gents.
- We have secured funding from the Angling Trust for a fishing project. Money from the Tackling Inequalities Fund will be used to offer a 16 -18 hour tutored fishing course to 4 members of the community who may benefit from this week time activity, such as minority ethnic, vulnerable, lonely or those suffering from mental illness. Starts asap.
- Progress has been made around reopening the youth club. Successful meetings have been held with Rachel Woodbridge, Executive Officer at The Hub in Henley in Arden. She intends to support the Town Council with the recruitment and management of a Youth Leader to take forward the safe opening, running and management of the youth centre. Phil Hodges is fully aware and supportive of these plans in order to secure the ongoing development of the Youth Club.
- The Well-Connected computer group would like to return in some form and we are currently looking into how we can return safely from The Depot, once we have suitable WI-FI and screens in place.

### Previous Projects -

- The Cuppa Club (formally carers café) has now come to an end with mixed conclusions as to how it went. The view is that it was not particularly successful, but we plan to have a trip for all carers who attended, using the remainder of the budget as soon as Community Transport is fully operational.
- Welcome radio is not in operation and so we will no longer take part at the moment.
- The filming for the MH Project in the schools is on hold.
- The Parkour Project has been postponed until next March 2021
- The volunteer event is on hold until 2021.
- The community allotment is ongoing with members growing various vegetables this season. We have a free raised bed for anyone interested.