



**MINUTES OF THE ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD BY VIDEO CONFERENCE
ON TUESDAY 5th JANUARY 2021**

Present

Councillors G Forman (Mayor), K Cargill, M Cargill, T Forman, V Blake, M Bowe, C Neal-Sturgess, D Henderson, M Hempell, A Foster, K Soares, E Wilson, L Pusey, K Greenaway and K Forbes.

In attendance Mrs V Lowe, Town Clerk and Cllr S Juned, District Councillor

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DISCRETION OF MAYOR

There was no public participation.

District and County Councillors' Reports

Cllr S Juned (Ward Member for Alcester Town) reported that changes to parking charges (including those for Main Rural Centres such as Alcester) were being considered by the SDC Cabinet on 11th January. She also reported that charges for green bins were being introduced from 1st April 2021. Residents needed to purchase a permit for each green bin at a cost of £40 per bin (with a £5 early bird discount). In response to a question from Cllr Greenaway, it was confirmed that these charges may increase by inflation in future years. Cllr Juned confirmed that she had submitted an enquiry to SDC regarding the funds received from Right to Buy sales and the sale of garages since 2010 and confirmation of how much of these funds had been invested in Alcester. Cllr Juned reported that she was dealing with some casework for an Orbit tenant who had installed a woodburner without consent and was being threatened with loss of their tenancy. She asked Councillors to let her know of any similar cases.

Cllr M Cargill (County Councillor and Ward Member for Alcester and Rural) gave an update on the rollout of the Covid-19 vaccination programme. The programme is being managed by the NHS and Cllr Cargill is investigating provision for Alcester residents. Cllr Cargill explained that SDC was being forced to make difficult decisions as a result of the impact of the pandemic which would result in a £7.6m loss in the medium term 5 year plan. This had resulted in the green bin charge referred to above and also plans for joint working with Warwick District Council.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr E Randle.

2. Minutes of Council Meetings

The Mayor asked Councillors to consider for approval the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 1st December 2020. They were proposed to be accepted by Cllr Greenaway, seconded by Cllr Bowe and approved by Council; as this was a remote meeting, they were then signed by the Town Clerk on behalf of the Mayor.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest on the agenda items.

4. Mayors Report

The Mayor reported that she had been pleased to hear the carols sung by the Alcester Male Voice Choir on the Church Green on 12th December.



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5. Presidium

The Mayor confirmed that she was satisfied Committee members approved the minutes from the preceding month, which were then signed by the Town Clerk on her behalf.

The budget for 2021-22 together with a briefing paper had been circulated by the Town Clerk in advance of the meeting. These were approved. Cllr Bowe raised a question regarding how decisions were to be made about spending CIL receipts. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would prepare a paper on the subject including a list of potential expenditure items for the next Presidium meeting.

There was a proposition from Presidium:

"To agree a budget of £317,160 for the financial year 2021-22. Taking into account anticipated income of £30,933, to request a precept from Stratford-on-Avon District Council of £286,277 for the year 2021-22."

This was proposed by Cllr M Cargill, seconded by Cllr Neal-Sturgess, and carried unanimously by Council. The Town Clerk will submit the request to SDC.

6. Community Care Committee

Cllr K Cargill confirmed that she was satisfied Committee members approved the minutes from the preceding month, which were then signed by the Town Clerk on her behalf. There were no questions about the minutes.

Cllr Cargill confirmed that the Committee had submitted a response on WCC's draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2020-2025. She also reported that it was hoped to interview potential candidates for the Youth Club leader position shortly.

Cllr K Cargill was pleased to report that 250 families had been supported with supermarket vouchers over the Christmas holidays and that the Holiday Lunch Club had been very successful.

7. Community Facilities Committee

There had not been a Community Facilities meeting in December.

8. Planning Committee

Cllr Neal-Sturgess confirmed that he was satisfied Committee members approved the minutes from the last meeting which were then signed by the Town Clerk on his behalf. Cllr Neal-Sturgess reported that, in the Deputy Town Clerk's absence, the Town Clerk was dealing with planning matters. The proposed Planning Committee meeting on 11th January had been cancelled and a response to pending applications would be agreed by email.

9. Greig Hall

Cllr Foster gave an update on the latest meeting of the Working Group and the recent site visit to the Greig Hall. He explained that the Friends of the Greig Hall were keeping a list of all volunteers. An advertisement had been put in the latest ATC newsletter for residents with specific skills particularly relating to project management. The Town Clerk confirmed that the lease negotiations were proceeding according to plan.

10. Town Council Representatives

There were no reports this month.



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11. Payment of Accounts

The Town Clerk presented the Payment of Accounts for the preceding month. The accounts were proposed to be approved by Cllr K Cargill, seconded by Cllr T Forman and carried by Council.

12. Correspondence

Email correspondence received by the Clerk was taken as read.

13. Dates of future meetings

Planning Committee Monday 11th January 2021 at 7pm (cancelled)

Community Care Committee – no meeting in January

Community Facilities Committee – Tuesday 19th January 2021 at 7pm

Presidium Tuesday 26th January 2021 at 7pm

Full Council Tuesday 2nd February 2021 at 7pm

All meetings to be held remotely using Zoom software.

Anyone wishing to attend should contact the Town Clerk on clerk@alcester-tc.gov.uk for details of how to join the meeting.

The Mayor closed the meeting.