

Alcester Town Council



Spring Newsletter

Issue 61 March 2021

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

My time as Mayor is nearly over, the two years has flown by, but what a very different experience each year has been. The first year was very busy, I attended events in Alcester and also the surrounding towns and cities, and also raised funds for my two Mayoral charities, Alcester First Responders and Ekica Trust- then the Covid pandemic arrived and all our lives changed. There have been none of Alcester's fantastic events for us to attend, no annual Mop, no food festivals, Street Market or Big Breakfasts to enjoy and no nights out in our favourite pubs and restaurants...but hopefully there is an end in sight with the roll out of the vaccination programme. But, until we get everyone in the position of being vaccinated please continue to follow government guidelines which are designed to keep ourselves, our families, friends and our community safe. Our wonderful NHS staff and keyworkers are all are doing such a brilliant job during this very difficult time, so in recognition of these keyworkers Alcester Town Council has purchased a commemorative bench that will always remind us of the hard work and dedication that they have showed, and continue to show, in these challenging and unprecedented times. The commemorative bench is located on the corner of School Road and Birmingham Road.

On a completely different subject, I am very pleased to announce that Alcester Town Council has been awarded Quality Council status. For more information, see Clerks Corner on page 2. Well done to Vanessa Lowe, the Town Clerk, and her team for all of the hard work that was needed to gain this wonderful achievement.

Alcester Town Council are now in the final stages of negotiations with Stratford District Council on taking out a 125-year lease for the Greig Hall. We hope we will be in a position to sign the lease in the very near future. We will of course keep you updated on the progress.



Last summer myself, Cllr Kathryn Cargill, Deputy Mayor and Cllr Tim Forman, Chair of the Community Facilities Committee judged the annual allotment awards. The winners were announced in the Autumn newsletter and the overall allotment winner was Mr M Harrington, whose allotment is on the Allimore Lane site. Due to the Covid pandemic we were unable to hold our annual Town Council awards evening when the winners would have been presented with their awards, so I visited Mr Harrington at his allotment where I presented him with his award- the Reg Grummitt Trophy. On the week of Saturday 16-23 January, Alcester held its second Window Wanderland event. On the 16 January I had the enjoyable but difficult task of judging all the decorated windows. Everyone who entered had obviously worked hard and had produced some imaginative and stunning designs. After much deliberation I decided to award Sean and Sally Macreavy, from Moorfields, with their ocean theme as the overall winners. A house in Alcocks Road won the "Positive Message" award, with the residents from Gerard Road winning the Community Award and The

Barchester Cherry Trees Care Home winning the business award. Well done to everyone who entered and let's hope for another successful event next year.

I would like to end my newsletter by thanking my husband Tim and my family for their support over the past two years. My thanks also go to my fellow Councillors and to all the Council staff for their dedication and hard work in making my mayoral years enjoyable. To Vanessa, the Town Clerk, and Sarah, the Deputy Town Clerk, thank you - your support and advice has been invaluable. My best wishes go to the incoming Mayor and I hope they have a successful year.

I have been very proud and honoured to have been the Mayor of our fantastic town, and the wonderful memories will stay with me always.

Cllr Gill Forman, Mayor of Alcester

Clerks Corner



I am delighted to announce that Alcester Town Council has just been announced as a Quality Council under the Local Council Award Scheme.

The Scheme is designed to celebrate the successes of the very best local councils and to provide a framework to support all local councils to improve and develop to meet their full potential. The

scheme offers councils the opportunity to show that they meet the standards set by the sector, assessed by their peers, and to put in place the conditions for continued improvement.

The Quality Award demonstrates that ATC has achieved good practise in governance, community engagement and council improvement. Out of the 9,000 parish and town councils, there are only 122 who have been awarded this status and the Council are therefore very proud of this achievement.

Precept 2021-22

The Town Council sets the precept each year in January. The precept is the primary source of income for the Town Council and is a small part of the Council Tax which residents pay to Stratford-on-Avon District Council.

At the Full Council meeting on 4 January 2021, the Town Council agreed to request a precept of £286,277 from Stratford on Avon District Council for the year 2021-22. The precept in 2020-21 was £279,620.

The agreed precept will result in a small increase in the precept charge to Alcester residents (Band D) from £129.17 to £134.36 per annum. This rise is equivalent to 10 pence per week for a Band D Council Taxpayer.

The Town Council uses the precept to run council business and to provide a range of services to residents. These include four allotment sites, four play grounds, the cemetery on Birmingham Road, civic and community events, grants to voluntary organisations, the Health and Wellbeing project, maintenance and upkeep of the Eric Payne Community Centre, maintenance of Priory Meadow, Centenary Field and other open spaces and miscellaneous street furniture such as signs, benches and bins.

Vanessa Lowe, Town Clerk

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.gov.uk

Facilities: reception@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Community Care: office@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Health and Well-Being:

info@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Website: www.alcester-tc.gov.uk

Advance Notice- Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 6 April 2021 at 7pm

This meeting will take place using Zoom software

The Annual Parish Meeting is a meeting for all the local government electors of the Parish.

It is not a meeting of the Town Council.

Anyone may attend and registered electors of the Parish may speak and vote during the meeting.

The Town Council would like to invite all local voluntary trusts and organisations to attend.

Please contact Alcester Town Council nearer the time for the Zoom invitation on

01789 766084 or clerk@alcester-tc.gov.uk

Or you can get ahead and pop these details in your diary now:

Meeting ID: 872 0112 8251

Passcode: 039213

COMMUNITY GRANTS 2021

Alcester Town Council are inviting applications for a Community Grant from local organisations who have specific projects which can be delivered in the next few months during the current restrictions.

Grants are awarded by the Town Council, at its discretion, to community organisations which can demonstrate a clear need for financial support to benefit Alcester by:

- Providing a service
- Enhancing the quality of life of community members
- Improving the environment
- Promoting Alcester in a positive way

The Town Council usually requests applications for Community Grants during February but this year there will be two rounds, the first is open until end of March 2021 and the second will be launched in the Autumn. An application form, together with the Policy and Procedures, can be found on our [website](#).

If you would like more information or an application form please phone 01789 766084 or email office@alcester-tc.gov.uk

THANK YOU ALCESTER!

Karen O'Shea, Head Teacher at St Nicholas Primary School in Alcester wanted to say a huge **THANK YOU** to everyone who helped make Christmas very special for lots of children and families this year. It was especially welcome in light of all the distress caused with Covid 19 disruptions. Children were delighted to receive so much in the way of gifts and contributions from people in the community, the goodwill of the town has been amazing. Alcester residents have been generous in providing support through:

- Vouchers for families distributed through the schools to families most in need
- Food Bank donations from residents that included lots of Christmas goodies
- Christmas Holiday Lunch Club provided by volunteers over the holiday period, giving away hot lunches every day in the local park.

It was all very welcome and appreciated.

KIDS HOLIDAY LUNCH CLUB

The Kids Holiday Lunch Club continued to provide a hot lunch and plenty of other goodies throughout the Christmas Holidays and February Half Term. Alcester Town Council are very grateful for the support of Anita Hellyer, Catering Manager at St. Benedict's High School and 6th Form and her team of wonderful and dedicated volunteers. Anita opened The Depot every day during the Christmas and Half Term holidays to welcome local children and provide them with a lovely hot lunch, drink and snack. Many other treats had also been provided by Alcester Food Bank and gifted by local residents. The Town Council are delighted to be able to support this worthwhile and important activity, adding an element of happiness and community spirit to the lives of those families who are supported.



ALCESTER & BIDFORD ROTARY

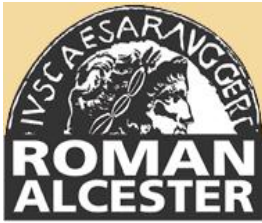


Alcester & Bidford Rotary have been restricted in all their fund raising activities due to the Covid pandemic. However, you may have seen the Rotary Tuk Tuk in and around Alcester with our two Rotary elves, Jane and Jeff Humphries. Jane and Jeff took to the streets of Alcester in their Tuk Tuk during the run up to Christmas to collect for Alcester Food Bank (the Trussell Trust) and raised £100. This was matched 2 for 1 by Rotary District 1060, making a total of £300, for our local food bank. Well done Jane and Jeff!!

Stratford on Avon District Council- There will be an annual charge of £40 per bin for the garden waste service from 1 April 2021.

For further advice you can contact:

streetscene@stratford-dc.gov.uk or phone 01789 260628



ALCESTER ROMAN MUSEUM

It has been a long, hard year for Alcester's Roman Museum as well as for so many volunteer led organisations across the town.

The museum has spent a large part of the year closed or operating under severe restrictions due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Whilst closed, essential repairs were carried out and some in-depth thinking has been done on life after Covid-19.

Covid-19 has had a severe impact on our own organisation, on tourism and on school visits. We need to develop new ideas for the future of our museum.

A grant application has been submitted to the Arts Council Heritage Recovery fund. There is stiff competition from much bigger museums, so it will be excellent if we are successful. Whatever the outcome, we will need to develop improved educational and digital materials for our schools and visitors and work more closely with our community.

The trustees welcome any residents who wish to be involved.

Heritage Open Day

A number of Alcester organisations are considering a weekend long event on 18-19 September as a special event, with a town trail from the museum through to the Greig Hall, subject to government regulations. Please contact me if you would like to be involved.

Susan Juned, Chair Alcester Roman Museum

Email: susan.juned@stratford-dc.gov.uk, 07971 343061



UPDATE ON THE ALCESTER NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

You may recall from previous newsletters that work on this Plan has been underway for a long time. A group consisting of local residents and town councillors worked hard to produce draft policies on Housing and the Built Environment; Economy; Transport and Infrastructure; Community, Leisure and Well-being and the Natural Environment. When the Plan is finalised, anyone submitting planning applications must follow the policies in order that future development respects the needs and character of the town.

Last year we were very close to finalising the Plan but the pandemic struck and the local referendum had to be postponed. Even in its current status the Plan carries significant weight when planning applications are being considered but, hopefully, the referendum will now take place in the next few months, and the Plan can then be completed. We will let residents know when we have a referendum date and deliver a summary leaflet to your home.

If you require more information please contact Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group, c/o Alcester Town Council. Globe House, Seggs Lane, Alcester, B49 5DZ, or by email to administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk.

Wendy Mills, Chair Alcester NDP Steering Group



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION NEWS

The British Legion was formed on 15 May 1921, bringing together four national organisations of ex-Servicemen that had established themselves after the First World War:

*The National Association of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers

*The British National Federation of Discharged and Demobilized Sailors and Soldiers

*The Comrades of The Great War

* The Officers' Association

Over six million men had served in the War. Of those who returned, 1,750,000 had suffered some kind of disability and half of these were permanently disabled. The Royal British Legion was established to care for those who had suffered as a result of service during the First World War and has been helping the Armed Forces community and their families ever since. Locally 2021 is important to us as:

- The Alcester Branch of the Royal British Legion was formed on June 3, 1921 (and is the oldest branch in Warwickshire)
- The Alcester War Memorial in the grounds of St Nicholas Church Alcester was erected on the 25 September 1921 (having been erected by public subscription by the men and women of Oversley and Alcester)

To mark this special year the Royal British Legion has re-branded itself and a single poppy is placed at the centre of the new logo honouring the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces community and the font at the bottom is inspired by the grave of the Unknown Warrior in recognition of our heritage.

These are difficult times for the world and our nation will, I am sure, rise up like a phoenix from the ashes. We will be stronger and wiser recognising the need for peace and security within our world.

Mike Gittus BEM, JP, Chair, Alcester Branch Royal British Legion

ALCESTER'S HOT MEAL DELIVERY PROGRAMME RELAUNCHED



Following the new lockdown introduced across the UK in January, the **Alcester Community Resilience** team has, in partnership with our friends at **Pantry Anns**, relaunched our successful hot meal deliveries programme. This will continue until the end of March 2021.

The programme focuses on assisting people in the town who need a little extra help preparing meals for themselves. A lot of you will be aware of PantryAnns fantastic service to the community which really gained momentum during the first lockdown last year. For sure, without the willingness of Mandy Downes and her team to continue to help out, we would not have been able to offer this much needed local service.

Our small army of volunteers deliver on average 50 two course meals each Thursday. In addition to lunches Sara P, Nuala, Amanda, Cathy, Sara B, Louise, Mandy, Kate and Annie bring a smile and a bit of cheer to all of our clients. So, from everyone at the Alcester Community Resilience team a massive THANK YOU to each and every one of you!!

Many of you know that Alcester's history of helping the community stretches back over many years and each generation produces a new breed of youngsters who want to help maintain the unique community spirit which exists in our wonderful town.

With this in mind it is our pleasure to introduce Molly, the newest member of our team, who helps her mum Sara deliver 6 meals every week.

Molly is representative of all the young people of Alcester who continue to put themselves forward to help others thereby ensuring that the true spirit of the Alcester community is in safe hands for the future.

THANK YOU MOLLY!!



For practical assistance call Alcester Community Resilience helpline on 07707 598379 Mon- Fri

ALCESTER & DISTRICT LIONS CLUB SPONSOR ALCESTER TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB



Alcester & District Lions Club are proud to be associated with the young people of Alcester through our participation in local football with the Alcester Town Football Club

This year A&DLC are sponsoring the training kit for the Alcester Town Football Club juniors.

We have witnessed first hand how beneficial sport is to youngsters and wholeheartedly support the club in its community sporting activities

FISHING ON THE RIVER ARROW IN ALCESTER

Members of Riverside Angling Club please note:

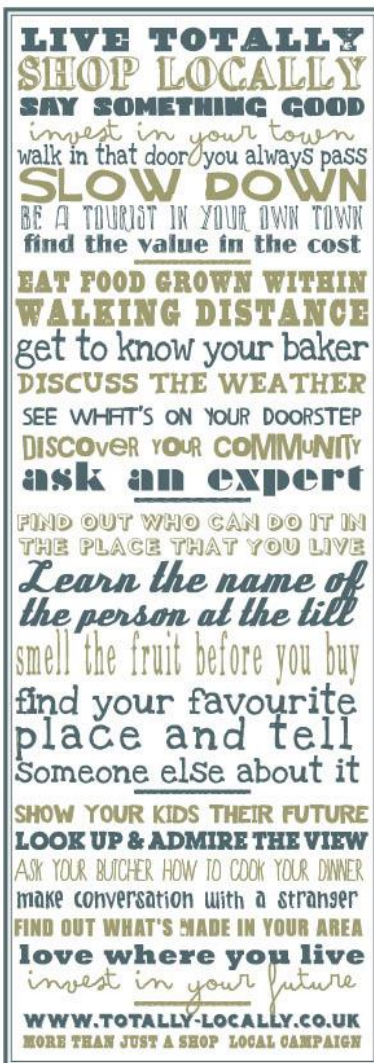
From 1 February 2021 Riverside Angling Club, with gratitude to Alcester Town Council, have obtained the fishing rights along a stretch of the River Arrow. Starting from below the B4089 industrial road bridge (top end of Westbury Park) downstream through Westbury Park to the disused railway bridge. Then from the railway bridge looking downstream, fishing continues on the LEFT BANK ONLY to the end of Jubilee Fields. Maps are available, please contact the Club Secretary.

Fishing will remain free of charge on this stretch for the people living in the parish of Alcester, but they MUST be in possession of a current permit and abide by the Riverside Angling Club rules. Permits and rules are available free of charge by contacting the Club Secretary.

Anyone fishing may be asked by a Riverside member, permit holder or officers of Alcester Town Council to show either their current Riverside Club or an up to date permit.

R A Jones, Hon. Secretary, Riverside Angling Club Tel: 07745358603

TOTALLY LOCALLY IS COMING TO A TOWN NEAR YOU!

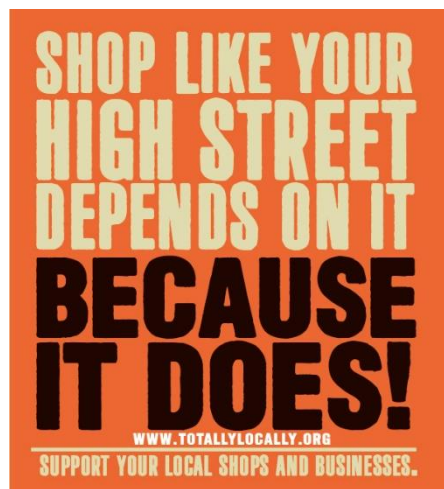


We are pleased to announce a new initiative coming soon to Alcester. As part of a plan with the Town Council, the Business and Tourism group are looking at creative ways to help Alcester, and its local business, trade back to success after COVID.

We are looking to bring Totally Locally to the town. This not for profit scheme is perfect for supporting market towns such as ours, with national festivals (such as the Fiver Fest) and lots of central support to help advertise what we do here and bring in new visitors.

We are also looking at a new centralised website which we are hoping to launch which will provide a hub for all independent businesses and services in the town. A place for locals and visitors to see everything we have to offer in one place. While the scheme in its pure form clearly supports high street traders, the website, if we are lucky enough to be successful in securing funding from the council to support it, will support all independent business and services and become the central place for information on all things Alcester. The more people see the more they will be unable to resist us!

We are desperately missing a list of all independent businesses in our town. If you are an independent business based in Alcester, and so that we can share what is happening with you as the project develops, please join our Facebook group [Totally Locally Alcester](#).



MARATHON KIDS

Our Kids Run Marathons- Join Us!

We can't wait until we can once again invite the children and families of Alcester to reconnect at our weekly parks event in Jubilee Fields. Government guidelines permitting, our parks events take place every Saturday at 9:30am and

inspire children and their parents to take part in games that are Covid safe, such as relay races and a lapped endurance challenge. Before the latest lockdown, the Alcester event was hosting as many as 30 children from all ages, abilities, and skill sets. The events are designed for all children to take part and best of all they are FREE!

We know it has been a difficult few weeks of home schooling, PE with Joe Wicks and separating the weekdays from the weekends. Head of Programming Christopher McShane said, 'We at Marathon Kids UK cannot wait to welcome back our families to the parks events across the country and support them on their journey to becoming happier, healthier and more confident through running.'

Marathon Kids UK is also excited to announce that Raceways CIC will be holding the Alcester 10k on October 10th 2021. After a tough year for the charity with reductions in funding we are proud to advertise this event as all proceeds of Raceways goes towards the Marathon Kids UK charity. So why not dust off your running shoes, find a running partner and [sign up](#) to the event and know that your money is going to a very worthy cause.

For more information about the Marathon Kids UK charity please check out www.marathonkids.co.uk where we will document some of the incredible journeys your Marathon Kids are embarking on in 2021, as well as keep you up to date with regular newsletters and shout-outs. Please follow us on social media to find out more.

census 2021

Households across England and Wales will soon be asked to take part in a once-in-a-decade survey of housing and population.

Census2021, run by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), aims to give the most accurate estimate of people and households. The information will help decide how everyone from local authorities to charities spend funds and put services in place. This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, housing or new bus routes.

The census has been carried out every ten years since 1801 with the exception of 1941 due to the Second World War.

Early in the new year, households will receive a letter about the census with a unique access allowing them to complete the questionnaire online on their computers, phones or tablets. Paper questionnaires are available on request. Census day is March 21 but households with access codes can take part from early March.

The census will include questions about your sex, age, work, health, education, household size and ethnicity. And for the first time, there will be a question asking people whether they have served in the armed forces, as well voluntary questions for those aged 16 and over on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Results will be available within 12 months although all personal records and any detail that would identify an individual will be locked away for 100 years and kept safe for future generations.

For more information visit: census.gov.uk



ALCESTER REPAIR CAFE IS BACK!

COLLECTION, REPAIR & RETURN SERVICE

Reduced repair service during lockdown to include essential only items such as Hoover, kettle, laptop.

No need to throw them away!
Get them repaired via the Alcester Repair Cafe!

To register your broken item, contact Wendy using the details below (email preferable).

You will be told when your item will be collected and returned.

✉ info@alcester-tc.gov.uk
☎ 07434664435
(messages on facebook will not be checked)

LITTER FREE ALCESTER

If the regulations allow, Litter Free Alcester is planning a socially distanced, Covid-safe litter pick in March. We have seen a rise in litter across some parts of the town in recent months. Details will be on the Litter Free Alcester Facebook page once we know more.

Susan Juned, Chair, Litter Free Alcester Email: susan.juned@stratford-dc.gov.uk, 07971 343061

THE GREIG HALL



**WE NEED
YOUR HELP**

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR
VOLUNTEERS TO
HELP US RENOVATE,
REFURBISH & REOPEN
"THE GREIG HALL" FOR
THE PEOPLE OF ALCESTER**

**CALL 07746 774253
EMAIL THEFRIENDSOFTHEGREIGHALL@BTINTERNET.CO.UK
OR THEGREIGHALL@OUTLOOK.COM**

with PosternyWall.com

In these difficult times it is particularly pleasing to be able to offer some good news and we are delighted to be able to advise that at the time of writing Alcester Town Council will shortly be finalising a lease for THE GREIG HALL, this will enable the start of the restoration, refurbishment and working towards the reopening of the Hall.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the closure of the Hall, and with your help and support, it will hopefully also see the reopening and a great new era for the Hall and the people of Alcester.

The Greig Working Group, comprising councillors and representatives from the Friends of the Greig Hall, have been working together to achieve this much awaited milestone in the history of this iconic building. We will soon be forming a Community Committee to run and manage the Hall, if you feel you have the time and expertise and wish to join us please let us know.

We are confident the wonderful community spirit here in the town will prevail and residents will pull together to make this possible.

The next few months will see news and updates in the local press, radio and social media. We welcome any offers of help, from volunteers, fundraisers, publicists, advisors and of course local businesses, local organisations, clubs and groups.

The Friends of the Greig Hall Fundraising Shop will reopen as soon as permitted in order to continue with fundraising, with this in mind we would ask for anyone wishing to make donations or offers of help with fundraising to contact us.

We are currently creating a register of prospective volunteers and helpers, in readiness, if you feel you may be able to help in anyway please contact us. This is a huge task but together we will succeed.

Email: thegreighall@outlook.com

Facebook: @friendsofthegreighall

Cllr Andrew Foster and Sheilagh Goode (Friends of the Greig Hall)

COMMUNITY FACILITIES



In September 2020, a large veteran oak tree on Jubilee Fields was set on fire. The fire brigade were called to deal with the fire and it was extinguished but the tree has been severely damaged. This tree is next to the informal BMX track, and many Alcester residents will remember playing in this area in their younger days.

The Town Council has sought professional advice on the viability of the tree and we are advised that a crown reduction is the best means of reducing stress on the tree. The Town Council will seek to retain the tree is at all possible but significant reduction work is likely.



Cllr Tim Forman, Chair Community Facilities

WE NEED YOUR OLD TECH!



PrinTech, based in Alcester, Warwickshire, are appealing for old laptops, tablets and PC's which you no longer require or use.

We want to help all those families who are home schooling and in need by donating your tech for **FREE**. Don't worry if you think the tech you are donating is too old as we will do a complete software wipe and install new components where required.

If you have any old devices please drop them in to the following address: **That Pet Place, 61 High Street, Alcester B49 5AF**

We are not asking for any donations, but if you'd like to, we are accepting food that we will donate to the local Food Bank.

We would like to thank all those who have already donated and we hope you can all help towards this worthwhile cause.

KINDLY SUPPORTED BY:

That
PET PLACE
• ALCESTER •

B | G
CREATIVE SOLUTIONS
GRAPHIC & WEBSITE DESIGN

WINDOW WANDERLAND



Despite the Covid 19 pandemic, Alcester Window Wanderland 2021 was a stunning display of colourful imagination from 26 entries from around the Town. This year's event lasted a week from 16 to 23 January, during which time residents could enjoy the displays whilst taking their daily exercise.

The Mayor of Alcester, Cllr Gill Forman, had the difficult task of deciding the winners in each of the four categories. The overall winner was an ocean scene by Moorfields residents Sean and Sally Macreavy who were presented with a bottle of champagne.

The business category was won by Cherry Trees Care Home with an imaginative display of six silhouettes reminiscent of a 1940's Edward Hopper painting.



The Community Award went to the residents of Gerard Road for their collective Disney displays.

With so much having to be cancelled due to the pandemic, it was good to see the community coming together with a Coronavirus proof event.

My thanks to everyone who got involved, and I look forward to making this an annual event.

Cllr Vaughan Blake, Chair Business & Tourism Working Group

PLANNING MATTERS

Over the Christmas period the Planning Committee has been quite active, we have considered 25 applications by email with a Zoom meeting on the 1 February. The vast majority of the applications were approved by us as consultees, the Holding Objection has since been lifted on the Swan Hotel; the details can be seen on the SDC website.

We objected to one application, **20/03479/FUL Oversley Mill Services Alcester Bypass Arrow B49 6PQ**. The proposal, by Bridge End Limited, is the redevelopment of existing petrol filling station, comprising of a replacement shop/canopy, new pumps/pipework, car/jet wash area, extended car park and new coffee drive thru store. It was acknowledged that there had been some attempt to address concerns raised by the Town Council from the previous application 19/03580/FUL with respect to the provision of an electric charging point for disabled users and consideration of an impact assessment on Alcester businesses. However, major concerns were still expressed and a decision of **OBJECTION** was reached.

The Planning Committee has been holding regular update meetings via Zoom with Bloor Homes: Bloor Homes are now the principal contractors across both the northern and southern sites, the area is now named Alcester Park.

Northern site:

- Good progress has been made with roads and houses
- The sales centre will open in April 2021 and first occupation is anticipated June- July 2021
- Excavated attenuation swales
- Play area will be completed and will be available to early occupants
- Access from the Birmingham Road will start March-April
- Further plot substitutions are proposed (8)

Southern site:

- Site being prepared for slow worm translocation in April, which will be carried out/under supervision by Ecologists
- A fence line has been created and reptiles will be trapped between May and July and relocated to the Abbey Fields site. Hibernacula have already been established in the nature reserve in readiness
- Some slow worms will remain on site
- Bloor Homes have agreed a financial contribution of £20,000 with Alcester Town Council for the maintenance of Abbey Fields in a Unilateral Undertaking. Information boards will also be provided
- The Reserved Matters application will be coming forward. It will be similar to the Gallagher layout.

Prof Cllr Clive Neal- Sturgess, Chair Planning Committee

YOUTH GROUP LEADER APPOINTED



My name is Becky Gribben. I have recently been appointed as the Alcester Town Council Youth Leader for the Depot Youth Club. I have lived in Alcester for 3 years and work at Stratford Upon Avon School as a College Leader responsible for the pastoral care and safeguarding of all the students in the college. I have been in education for over 20 years- my career started at Redditch College teaching a course designed for disaffected and disengaged young people who had just left school. Over the last 6 years I have left the classroom and had more of a pastoral role in secondary school with a focus of helping students overcome barriers to education. I am really looking forward to working with the already amazing team at the Depot and getting to know the young people of Alcester whilst proving the opportunities of engaging activities, meeting new friends and learning new skills. Look out for more information in the future on our reopening date and activities we will be offering.

If you would like to become an adult volunteer at any of the sessions please contact us at info@alcester-tc.gov.uk

NEW BENCH HONOURS NHS WORKERS

Look out for this lovely bench when you are out walking in Alcester. This has been purchased by the Town Council in recognition of the amazing work carried out by all NHS staff in the face of such challenging times. You will find it outside the cemetery near the corner of the Birmingham Road and School Road.





NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ALCESTER

Engaging Communities, Targeted Activity & Promoting The Right Culture

PC 1672 Rob Davies reports... Alcester South SNT with the support of Stratford SNT attended two locations in South Warwickshire and recovered drugs. The information on the addresses came from the community and were actioned in partnership with Orbit. The first was where there were environmental issues and concerns to the community. Working in partnership drug misuse was taking place and action was taken to address this and the environmental issues.

At the second address intelligence again was provided by the community and Orbit which led to the arrest of the occupants for cultivation and possession. By working in partnership and attending the addresses together, there was no need for obtaining warrants, closer working arrangements were formed, and this in turn increased public confidence.

A similar joint visit was conducted on 5 February 2021 whereby two occupants of the address were arrested and large amounts- approx. £3000 worth of cannabis was seized. Joint agency working is proving to be useful, made possible by intelligence provided by the public!

Policing Budget finalised after securing support of Police and Crime Panel

Continued development of an improved policing service for residents and businesses in Warwickshire has been assured thanks to the approval of the budget put forward by Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Secombe. **Over the next financial year 2021/22, the approved budget will deliver:** A further 41 police officers to keep people safe and provide extra visibility in local communities. More Special Constables to support police teams across Warwickshire. Extra resources for teams working with vulnerable victims and tackling child exploitation and trafficking. The opening of a new force control room, with state-of-the-art facilities to improve the way in which calls from the public are responded to. Improved forensic services to support police investigations, delivered through a new collaboration. More warranted officers to strengthen the force's capability to investigate crime and catch offender. Extra financial support allocated to increase the number of Independent Sexual Violence Advisors, to support victims of sexual offences and domestic abuse. The exact budget figures are subject to final confirmation of Warwickshire's share of national policing funding but will be notified to households when they receive their Council Tax notices from their district or borough council in late February/early March.

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 to your local Police. Calls cost 15p per call (landlines and mobiles).



Alcester South Safer Neighbourhood Team dial 101 or 01789 444815/444816

Please feel free to contact the team direct by email:

alcestersouth.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

SGT 125 Stacey Naughton - stacey.naughton@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

PC 1672 Beat Manager Rob Davies - robert.davies4@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

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

PCSO 6111Gary Johnson-Jones

gary.johnson-jones@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 6336 Mark Lucas - mark.lucas@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk (Covers north & south areas)

Online reporting services are also available on our website - <https://www.warwickshire.police.uk/>

Alcester Office - 01789 444816

Twitter- [@AlcesterCops](https://twitter.com/AlcesterCops)

Facebook- [Alcester Police](https://www.facebook.com/AlcesterPolice)

Instagram- [southwarwickshiresnts](https://www.instagram.com/southwarwickshiresnts)

Facebook- [Warwickshire Police](https://www.facebook.com/WarwickshirePolice)

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 Warwick Trading Standards on 01926 414040 to report a rogue trader. For general advice on scams and rogue traders contact 0845 4040 506.

Action Fraud Report a Fraud or Cyber Crime to 0300 123 2040

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

Town Council Meetings

In line with government legislation, Full Council meetings are being held remotely (via Zoom software). Committee meetings have been cancelled with the the exception of the Planning Committee who are reviewing planning applications by Zoom and email meetings.

Agendas are published online at: www.alcester-tc.gov.uk three days before each meeting.


















Members of the public are welcome to attend Council meetings via Zoom and are given time at the start of the meetings to speak. Draft and approved Minutes from meetings can also be found on the Town Council website.

The Alcester Town Council Facebook page is another source of information regarding council matters:

www.facebook.com/alcester Please click "like" and share with your friends.

We're also on Twitter: www.twitter.com/AlcesterTown

Town Councillor's Contact Details

Alcester West Ward	Alcester Oversley Ward (contd)
 <p>Mark Cargill 07988 485050</p>	 <p>Gill Forman (Mayor) 01789 763828</p>
 <p>Laura Pusey 07928 327923</p>	 <p>Tim Forman 01789 763828</p>
 <p>Emma Randle randle.atc@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Andrew Foster 01789 766708</p>
 <p>Clive Neal-Sturgess 01789 764416</p>	 <p>Keith Greenaway 01789 766818</p>
 <p>Erick Wilson 01789 764366</p>	 <p>Mat Hempell 07939 797582</p>
Alcester Oversley Ward	
 <p>Vaughan Blake 01789 764128</p>	 <p>David Henderson 01789 765271</p>
 <p>Mike Bowe 07775 500993</p>	 <p>Kathryn Soares 07551 311528</p>
 <p>Kirsten Forbes 07810 522920</p>	
Oversley Green Ward	
<p>Delivered by LL logo and printed by PSW logo</p> <p>on behalf of Alcester Town Council</p> 	 <p>Kathryn Cargill (Deputy Mayor) 07745 608567</p>