



**MINUTES OF THE ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd AUGUST 2021
AT THE ERIC PAYNE COMMUNITY CENTRE, ALCESTER.**

Present

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

In attendance Mrs V Lowe, Town Clerk, Cllr S Juned (District Councillor).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DISCRETION OF MAYOR

There was no public participation.

District and County Councillors' Reports

M Cargill (Ward Member for Alcester and Rural) gave an update on the recent fire at the SDC recycling plant. Fortunately, no one was injured but there was serious damage and it seems unlikely that the plant will reopen. He reported that the blue bin collection had been stopped for a period of 8 days but it had now restarted. He advised that blue bins should be left out as usual and residents were to be advised not to worry if collection was late as the backlog would take a while to be cleared. Cllr Pusey suggested that a message was put out on social media to explain the severity of the fire and to confirm ongoing arrangements.

Cllr Cargill reported that he had attended a strategic stakeholders event where the main issues raised by participants were the need for improved broadband and additional energy supplies.

Cllr Cargill had received a response from the Home Office to his letter regarding the illegal traveller encampment at the rugby club. This will be uploaded to the Town Council website so as to be available for residents.

Cllr S Juned (Ward Member for Alcester Town) reported that the plan to share services with Warwick DC was progressing with the final Head of Service position to be filled this week. A full joint Management Team will be in place for August 2021. She confirmed that there will be public consultation before any merger of the two district councils.

Cllr Juned had requested that an SDC task and finish working group should study affordable housing, housing waiting lists, and the relationship with the housing associations in the district.

Cllr Juned had received reports regarding speeding on Captains Hill and she had responded to the planning enforcement consultation from SDC.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs E Wilson, E Randle, M Hempell and Cllr P Daniell (County Councillor).

2. Minutes of Council Meetings

The Mayor asked Councillors to consider for approval the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 6th July 2021. They were proposed to be accepted by Cllr M Cargill, seconded by Cllr Greenaway and approved by Council; they were then signed by the Mayor.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest on the agenda items.



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4. Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported that she had received the resignation of Cllr Kathryn Soares as a Town Councillor. The Mayor said that she was very sorry that Cllr Soares was leaving due to moving away from Alcester and thanked her for her contribution, particularly with the community resilience group.

The Mayor also reported that Jenny Theobald was retiring after working for the Town Council for 12 years. The Mayor said that Jenny's experience and support had been invaluable when she was chair of the Community Care committee. The Mayor had attended the virtual WCAVA volunteer celebration event and had been delighted that Mandy Downes and Pantry Ann's had been recognised for their efforts during the pandemic. She had also attended the opening of the Game Fair at Ragley Hall.

The Mayor reported on her charity project "+ Five Years" and confirmed that the pilot phase had been completed. The participants had grown in confidence and would be involved as group leaders supporting younger children next term. Finally, the Mayor reminded Councillors that her Civic Service would be held on 26th September.

5. Presidium

The Mayor confirmed that she was satisfied Committee members approved the minutes from the preceding month, which were then signed. There were no questions about the minutes. There were no propositions from Presidium. The Town Clerk, as RFO, presented the management accounts for the first quarter of 2021-2022. There were no questions and the accounts were approved.

6. Community Care Committee

There had not been a Community Care meeting in July.

7. Community Facilities Committee

Cllr T Forman confirmed that he was satisfied Committee members approved the minutes from the preceding month, which were then signed. He updated Councillors on the issues discussed by the Committee. He confirmed that the resurfacing work on the path at Moorfields had been completed on the previous weekend. He also informed Councillors that the allotment judging was taking place over the weekend of 7th/8th August. There were no propositions from the Committee.

8. Planning Committee

Cllr Bowe confirmed that he was satisfied Committee members approved the minutes from the preceding month, which were then signed. Cllr Bowe gave a summary of the issues considered by the Committee at its three meetings in July. He confirmed that the Alcester Neighbourhood Plan had been "made" by Stratford on Avon DC. There were no propositions from the Committee.

9. Greig Working Group

Cllr M Cargill gave an update to Councillors on progress. He confirmed that work was due to start on the roofing repairs but had been delayed by the unavailability of the scaffolding. The electrical inspection work was being carried out by Dodd Group and would be starting on 9th August.



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He reported to Councillors that the working group had decided to adopt an Association model as prescribed by the Charity Commission for the new Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) which would enable residents to become members of the CIO.

10. Town Council Representatives

United Charities – The Mayor reported that Maggie Payne had stepped down as a Trustee and had been replaced by Kay Blake. The charity hoped to run a garden party in September.

Town Hall - Cllr G Forman reported on the meeting held on 22nd July. She gave a summary of the issues reported including that a hearing loop had been installed. Parking around the hall was still an issue particularly in front of the fire exits and notes were being posted on windscreens to try and improve the situation.

Church Street Property Trust – Cllr T Forman reported that the charity was due to meet on 7th September. Cllr M Cargill asked Cllr Forman to pass on his thanks to CSPT for their kind donation towards the Greig Hall.

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 Neal-Sturgess, 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 23rd August at 7 pm by Zoom

Community Care Committee – Tuesday 17th August at 7 pm at Globe House

Community Facilities Committee – no meeting in August

Presidium Tuesday 31st August at 7 pm by Zoom

Full Council Tuesday 7th September at 7 pm at Globe House

The Mayor closed the meeting.