



# ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL

**The Annual Meeting of the Alcester Town Council was held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 at The Alcester War Memorial Town Hall, Alcester**

The Mayor, Cllr Kathryn Cargill, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DISCRETION OF MAYOR**

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

### **Present**

Councillors K Cargill, G Forman, M Cargill, C Neal-Sturgess, K Greenaway, L Pusey, M Bowe, E Randle, W Mills, A Leask and V Blake

### **1. Election of Mayor**

In accordance with Standing Order, 5e the Town Clerk confirmed that only one nomination had been received for the position of Mayor.

Cllr Kathryn Cargill was therefore elected as Mayor for the year 2022-2023.

### **2. Acceptance of Office**

Cllr K Cargill read and signed the acceptance of office as Mayor which was witnessed by the Town Clerk.

The Mayor said that it was an honour to be elected as Mayor of Alcester for a second year. She thanked all her friends and colleagues for attending the meeting to support her. She also thanked her fellow Councillors for giving her the opportunity to have a more normal mayoral year following the Covid-19 pandemic during the previous year. She thanked the Town Clerk and her staff for all their support.

In responding to her election, the Mayor reported on the highlights of the previous year including the adoption of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, the appointment of a new youth leader, the "Get A Move On!" exercise classes for the Over 60's, the relocation of a slow worm colony to Abbey Fields and the Greig Hall restoration project. The Mayor said that she was particularly looking forward to HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June.

### **3. Apologies**

The Town Clerk read a list of apologies received from invited guests.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs E Wilson, A Foster, K Foster, S Blackman and D Henderson.

### **4. Election of Deputy Mayor**

The Town Clerk reported that in accordance with Standing Order 5e, only one nomination had been received for the position of Deputy Mayor. Cllr Vaughan Blake was therefore elected as Deputy Mayor for the year 2022-2023.

## **5. Acceptance of Office**

Cllr V Blake read and signed the acceptance of office as Deputy Mayor which was witnessed by the Town Clerk.

The Mayor presented Cllr V Blake with the chain of office.

Cllr Blake said that he was delighted to be elected as Deputy Mayor and thanked his fellow councillors for their trust in appointing him. He said that he would work hard to support the Mayor during the year to ensure that Alcester remains a great town to live in.

## **6. Presentation of Consorts Chain**

The Mayor presented the Deputy Mayor's Consort's chain to Mrs Kay Blake.

## **7. Annual Report of the Town Council**

The Mayor presented the Annual Report of the Town Council for the year 2021-2022. She thanked staff and councillors for their efforts in producing the report.

The Mayor asked Cllr M Cargill to give an update on progress on the Greig Hall restoration project. Cllr Cargill explained that this was the largest project ever undertaken by the Town Council and it required a huge amount of work and money. He thanked Stratford DC for their support and the Friends of the Greig Hall for raising £100,000 towards the costs. He also thanked the building sub-group of the Greig Working Group for their efforts in planning the construction work. Cllr Cargill confirmed that it was anticipated that the Hall would have a "soft" opening in September 2022 with an official opening in Spring 2023 when the Hall would be handed over to The Greig Hall CIO.

## **8. Presentation of grants**

The Mayor read out the list of community grants awarded to local organisations for the year 2022-2023 totalling £10,000.

The amounts awarded: Riverside Angling Club £300; Alcester in Bloom £1200; Alcester Christmas Lights (ABLE) £600; Alcester Victoria Silver Band £900; Alcester Baptist Church (for the Community Fridge) £300; Alcester Singers £450; Litter Free Alcester £250; Citizen's Advice South Warwickshire £900; Oversley Green Residents Association £250; Bowmen of Alcester £500; Alcester Town Netball Club £500; Alcester Heart Safe £200; Alcester Town Football Club £900; Alcester Musical Theatre Company £450; Alcester Community First Responders £900; Alcester War Memorial Town Hall £900; Malt Mill Lane Residents Association £500.

## **9. Mayoral Charities for 2022-2023**

The Mayor explained that when she became Mayor in 2021, she decided to support a local charity to set up a health and wellbeing project in Alcester. She announced that she intended to continue with this project during her second mayoral year.

The project works in partnership with Alcester Academy, to tackle the drop off in physical activity when young people move to secondary school. The project seeks to explore the pupils' barriers to physical exercise and to enthuse them with understanding the need to increase their level of exercise.

The Mayor invited Martine Verweij to report on the project so far.

**The Remaining items on the agenda were deferred to a meeting of the Council to be held the following week at the discretion of the Mayor**

The Mayor thanked visitors for attending and then invited everyone to stay for refreshments.

The next full meeting of Alcester Town Council is to be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at Globe House.

The Mayor closed the meeting.