

# Alcester Town Council



## Summer Newsletter

June 2022 Issue 66



**Alcester congratulates  
Her Majesty The Queen on her  
Platinum Jubilee 1952 - 2022**

*Photo courtesy Alcester Heritage Network/Alcester & District Local History collections*



The Platinum Jubilee celebrations start with an invitation to the Town to 'Come for a Picnic' at The Centenary Field from 6pm.

- 6:00pm – 6:30pm – Fancy dress competition and parade for all ages plus a pet dog section. The theme, loosely, will be "Jubilee". Prizes will be given for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places plus a small gift to all those taking part
- 6:00pm – Complimentary special Jubilee cakes, soft drinks, hot dogs and popcorn will be available on a 'first come first served' basis
- 6:00pm – Pimm's and cider will be on sale at a very special celebration price
- 8:15pm – Alcester Victoria Silver Band will provide a musical interlude
- 8:50pm – Alcester Town Crier will make The Royal Proclamation, followed by Alcester Town combined choirs performing "The Jubilee Anthem"
- 9:10pm – Prayer and thanks to Her Majesty the Queen
- 9:15pm – The church bells will ring; The National Anthem will be sung and the Beacon lit



The picnic theme continues on Sunday. Bring your own tables and chairs and enjoy an Alcester Street Party with local entertainment provided. Programme of events:

- 10:00am – Road closure in place
- 11:00am – Jubilee Celebration Church service followed by a quarter peal of the church bells
- 1:00pm – Alcester Town Crier to open the party
- 1:05pm – Reverend Cross to conduct Grace and Prayers for the Queen
- 1:10pm – Toast to the Queen given by Mike Gittus BEM followed by The National Anthem
- 1:15pm – Tarantara Choir
- 2:00pm – Sally Rose Duo
- 2:45pm – The Emma Skipp Band
- 3:30pm – Euphoria Dance Group
- 4:00pm – Closing comments from the Mayor, Councillor Kathryn Cargill
- 7:00pm – Road re-opens



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE



I am extremely honoured to have been elected Mayor of our wonderful town for a second year. I would particularly like to thank my fellow councillors for their trust in me, and for giving me the opportunity to have a (hopefully) more normal year as Mayor. Congratulations to Councillor Vaughan Blake, who has been elected as Deputy Mayor for the coming year.

Before looking ahead, I would like to look back on just a few of the Town Council's achievements during the past year. We produced our Annual Report for the Annual Parish Meeting in April, and I would encourage you to have a look through it. It is available on our website, or in hard copy from our offices. This document summarises our activities and achievements in the previous year and gives an insight

into the work carried out by staff and councillors.

We achieved a planning milestone last July, when our Neighbourhood Development Plan was formally adopted by Stratford District Council. This was a huge piece of work, undertaken by a dedicated team of volunteer residents, staff and councillors. It is of great significance, as the policies contained in that plan must now be taken into account by the planning authority when considering applications within the parish. The plan is available on the Town Council website.

Remaining on the Planning theme, we have been working closely and very positively with Bloor Homes on the Allimore Lane development. Bloors have been very generous with providing materials for the Greig Hall refurbishment and I would like to thank them for that support, which is very much appreciated. Also, if you are a regular visitor to our Abbey Fields site you may well have noticed the addition of 'snake-hotels' this year. These hibernacular and associated signage were provided by Bloors as part of their obligation to relocate a colony of Slow worms from the Allimore Lane site. As far as we can tell the 'refugees' have settled happily in their new homes!

We have employed a new youth leader, which has enabled the town's youth club to reopen with new enthusiasm and with a new emphasis on looking out for the mental health of our young people. This is very positive news, as many local youth clubs have been unable to reopen since Covid. We have now been able to secure grant funding to cover the leader's employment for at least another year.

And last but definitely not least we have been working flat out on the biggest project this council has ever tackled, and probably ever will. I'm referring of course to the Greig Hall restoration, but more on that shortly.

So looking ahead, we have plenty to keep us busy. We are restructuring the way that council meetings are organised, with fewer formal committees and making better use of more flexible working groups. One big advantage is that working groups can include volunteer residents working alongside councillors and staff to progress key projects for the town. We have seen this work incredibly well with the Neighbourhood Plan and the Greig Hall and I hope to see such groups operating across all our major projects, including our Health and Wellbeing work and improving our engagement and services for young people in Alcester. If you have interest or experience in any of our areas of work and would like to get involved, do please contact me or the Town Clerk.

We are really excited to be reopening the Greig Hall later this year, with a number of 'taster' events planned between September and Christmas. The Murder Mystery Medieval Banquet sounds particularly interesting! Look out for more details of our plans on our website, social media and posters nearer the time. If you feel that you can contribute in any way to the future running of the Hall and are not already on our volunteer list, do please contact us via the Greig Hall website or by calling the Town Council office.

I will continue to support Marathon Kids and the Plus5 project at Alcester Academy, and hope to hold a number of fundraising events for the project. Covid has inevitably created multiple difficulties, but we were able to complete the pilot and plan to move forward with the next phase soon.

It is fantastic to see Alcester's full programme of events beginning to return to normal. I hope to join you at many of these events and look forward to a wonderful summer.

*Cllr Kathryn Cargill, Mayor of Alcester*

### Alcester Town Council Contacts

**Office of the Town Clerk: Tel: 01789 766084**

Town Clerk: [clerk@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@alcester-tc.gov.uk)

Mayor's Secretary: [mayor@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:mayor@alcester-tc.gov.uk)

Office Administrator: [office@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:office@alcester-tc.gov.uk)

Planning: [administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk)

Health and Well-Being: [info@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@alcester-tc.gov.uk)

Website: [www.alcester-tc.gov.uk](http://www.alcester-tc.gov.uk)

## CLERK'S CORNER

At the April Full Council meeting, Councillors decided to introduce the role of Lead Councillor from May 2022.

The Lead Councillors are as follows:

TOPIC	COUNCILLOR
Planning	Cllr Mike Bowe
Cemetery	Cllr Gill Forman
Play Areas	Cllr Laura Pusey
Open Spaces	Cllr Erick Wilson
Allotments	Cllr Keith Greenaway
Greig Hall	Cllr Mark Cargill
Health and Wellbeing	Cllr Kathryn Cargill
Youth Engagement	Cllr Alison Leask Cllr Kathrin Foster
Communications	Cllr Wendy Mills
Community Engagement	Cllr Emma Randle
Business and Tourism	Cllr Vaughan Blake
Community Resilience	Cllr Clive Neal-Sturgess
Road Safety and Speedwatch	Cllr Andrew Foster
Public Footpaths	Cllr David Henderson
Trees	Vacant
Climate Change	Vacant

As always, if you would like to contact a Councillor directly, their details are on the back page. Queries can also be directed through the office as usual.

*Vanessa Lowe, Town Clerk*

## NAMING OF NEW ROADS LAND SOUTH OF ALLIMORE LANE



In Autumn 2021, Alcester Town Council welcomed nominations for road names suitable for roads on the southern section of the Bloor Homes Allimore Lane housing development. Roads on the northern section have already been named after late Mayors of Alcester with the main spine road through the estate being Mayors Drive.

Planning approval was granted in December 2021 for the southern part of the new housing development and seven new roads will be created in this last phase of the new build programme with work potentially commencing in June/July 2022. The new roads will take a while to complete.

The Town Council has therefore had time to carefully consider the huge response of 65 nominations and started in the new year to face the challenging task of selecting just seven road names. Councillors decided to name the new roads after members of the community who had made a significant contribution to Alcester in a wide variety of ways.

The Town Council is delighted to announce the following road names:

**Watts Close** (in memory of John Watts)

**Ward Avenue** (in memory of Derrick Ward)

**Calvert Close** (in memory of Peter James Calvert)

**Norris Close** (in memory of Edwina Norris)

**Stuart Place** (in memory of Stuart Davis)

**Palmer Gardens** (in memory of Sylvia Palmer)

**Barker Close** (in memory of Norman Barker)



## COMMUNITY GRANTS 2022-23

ORGANISATION	GRANT AWARDED £
1. Riverside Angling Club	300
2. Alcester in Bloom	1200
3. ABLE Christmas Lights	600
4. Alcester Victoria Silver Band	900
5. Alcester Baptist Church	300
6. Alcester Singers	450
7. Litter Free Alcester	250
8. Citizens Advice South Warwickshire	900
9. Oversley Green Residents Association	250
10. Bowmen of Alcester	500
11. Alcester Town Netball Club	500
12. Alcester Heart Safe	200
13. Alcester Town Football Club	900
14. Alcester Musical Theatre Company	450
15. Alcester Community First Responders	900
16. Alcester War Memorial Town Hall	900
17. Malt Mill Lane Residents Association	500
<b>Total</b>	<b>£10,000</b>

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT



Left to right: Piers Daniell (County Councillor for Alcester), Izzi Seccombe (Leader of County Councillor), Child Friendly Warwickshire Bear, John Coleman (Assistant Director Children's Service) and Ben Brook (Chief Fire Officer) at the 2022 Warwickshire Youth Conference.

So far this year, there has been a lot of activity as the concerns of the pandemic lessen and full capabilities at County return to normal. As support for Education in the Cabinet I have been greatly enthused by the work our teams at Warwickshire's Front Door have been doing in ensuring child welfare is paramount across the county and I also had the pleasure of attending our Youth Conference, held in Leamington Spa, which covered several topics from careers to the environment and mental health.

You will have seen Highways are catching up with their backlog and I have managed to get a few roads looked at including repainting, sign replacement and pothole repairs across Alcester. I have allocated the £35,000 made available to me for local repairs and initiatives for our roads for this year and will need submissions for next year's budget by the end of this year if you would like to make any suggestions. Also, entry for the Councillor's Grant has opened again with an increased budget of £8,000 so if you would like support for an initiative supporting the community, please put an application in before September.

If you are on social media, I post regularly to /AmazingAlcester/ for updates and news from District and County Council.

*Cllr Piers Daniell*

## RIVERSIDE ANGLING CLUB



Just a reminder to the Alcester residents who fish the Alcester Town Council stretch controlled by the Riverside Angling Club on the the River Arrow. You will require a 2022/23 FREE membership permit for the new season. Please contact the Honorary Secretary. Have a good season.

*Robert Jones, Hon. Secretary, Riverside Angling Club  
Tel: 07745358603*

## TWO MORE PRESTIGIOUS EVENTS FOR ALCESTER MALE VOICE CHOIR



*AMVC with Truro's Town Crier on the steps of Truro Cathedral*

In the Spring the choir enjoyed a successful tour of Cornwall where they took part in the Cornwall International Male Choral Festival. 50 choirs from around the world took part staging some 40 concerts with a total audience of around 45,000. The choir performed at several different locations, including Truro Cathedral over a busy four day period.

On 28 July, the choir will be joining other choirs from all over the West Midlands to sing at the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games being held at the Alexandra Stadium in Birmingham.

Judith Land BEM the choir's founder and Director of Music said "all choirs have had a difficult couple of years, and we are no

exception, but we are now back, and back strongly, and have concert bookings well into next year. We are delighted that we were accepted to sing at both these prestigious events. Part of belonging to the Alcester Male Voice Choir is to enjoy new experience and create new memories which both these event do".

The choir are always looking for new members and invite any gentlemen interested to contact Judith on 07886 139781 or email her at [judithamvc@hotmail.com](mailto:judithamvc@hotmail.com). There are no auditions, you don't have to read music and you will be made very welcome. The choir are organising a special recruitment evening at 7.30pm on 14 September at the Eric Payne Centre in St Faiths Road, Alcester, but those interested don't have to wait until then as you can join at any time!



**The choir has restarted rehearsals at the Catholic church hall on Priory Road, Alcester. We are rehearsing a selection of lighter pieces which will be sung at performances in the coming months. We are a friendly choir, open to all. If you wish to sample choral singing, simply come along to our weekly rehearsals.**

**On Thursday 2nd June the Alcester Jubilee Beacon Lighting Ceremony takes place. The Alcester Singers together with the Alcester Male Voice Choir will be singing the specially written Jubilee "Song for the Commonwealth".**

**On 9th July Alcester Singers' Summer Concert will be held in the afternoon at the Eric Payne Centre in Alcester. It will be followed by tea and scones.**

For Additional information email [events@alcestersingers.co.uk](mailto:events@alcestersingers.co.uk)



Alcester & District Friends of CRUK

# **30TH ALCESTER GARDEN WALKABOUT**

## **Sunday 26th June 2022**

ADMISSION from 12.00 to 5.00pm

Around 20 gardens large and small will be open for viewing behind the ancient houses in the centre of this historic town. Also open the award-winning Malt Mill Lane area and St Nicholas Church.

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENTS  
TEAS, REFRESHMENTS AND ICE-CREAMS  
PLANTS FOR SALE AT BARGAIN PRICES!

### **TICKETS £5 EACH**

(Accompanied Children under 12 Free)  
ON SALE AT OUR STALL IN CHURCH STREET  
or in advance from [www.cruk-alcester.org.uk](http://www.cruk-alcester.org.uk)

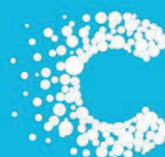
Sorry, but  
dogs are not  
allowed in the  
gardens.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT  
SUE BLACKBURN

**cruk.org**

TEL 01789 764756



In aid of

**CANCER  
RESEARCH  
UK**



Cancer Research UK is a registered charity in England and Wales (1089464) and Scotland (SCO416663).

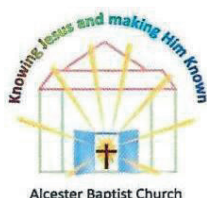


Food waste is a big issue in England. Each household throws away an average of £470 worth of food every year. And this is while over 4 million people are living in poverty. We are trying to address this problem by creating a 'Community Fridge' in Alcester. Food is collected that would otherwise be disposed of, which is then made available to anyone for free.

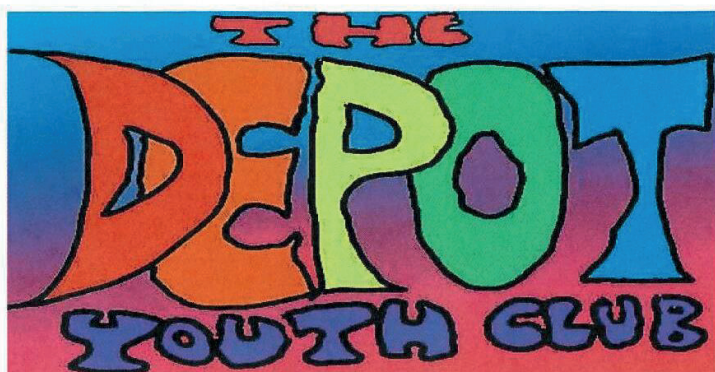
If you would like to help us, PLEASE volunteer. Various roles are required such as collection, cleaning, advertising, labelling and social media. This can be a weekly commitment or just a 'one off' support. Any help you can offer would be gratefully received.

For more information on how to volunteer, Please contact us below -

Email [alcesterfridges@gmail.com](mailto:alcesterfridges@gmail.com) or call Alison on **07808194044**



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Are you passionate about helping young people?

Interested in sport, mentoring, music or games?

Volunteer Youth Club Assistants needed at The Depot Youth Club in Alcester

Tuesdays between 6:30 - 8:30pm

For more information, either pop along one evening and ask for Becky or Phil, or email the Town Council: [info@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@alcester-tc.gov.uk) Tel: 01789 766084



## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION EVENTS 2022

- Falklands 40th Anniversary Ceremony. Saturday 11 June at 11am on Centenary Field
- Armed Forces Day Ceremony. Saturday 25 June at 11am on Centenary Field. Refreshments afterwards to be confirmed
- Merchant Navy Day Ceremony. Saturday 3 September at 10am on Centenary Field
- Poppy Appeal Launch. Saturday 29 October. Times and location to be confirmed. Volunteers required for collections etc
- Armistice Day Ceremony. Friday 11 November at 11am. St Nicholas Church Green
- Remembrance Concert. Saturday 12 November at 7pm. St Nicholas Church
- Remembrance Sunday Parade and Church Service. Sunday 13 November
- Remembrance Sunday Lunch. Afternoon of Sunday 13 November at Alcester War Memorial Town Hall



## ALCESTER BUNTING AND LIGHTING



Alcester Bunting and Lighting is a small group of volunteers who provide the summer High Street Bunting and Christmas Lights which do so much to enliven the High Street during the Alcester festival month of June and the festive season at Christmas.

For 2022 the bunting will be combined with a show of Jubilee flags which have been sponsored by the people of Alcester.

This year, we switch on our Christmas Lights at 4pm on Sunday 27 November. There will be carols at the Church gate followed by the switch on. The event will end with mulled wine and mince pies at the Town Hall.

We are grateful for the financial grant we receive from Alcester Town Council, but we are also very dependent on our own fund raising through the annual Alcester Duck Race. This year the race will be held at 4pm on Saturday 9 July starting on Centenary Field with the ducks racing to the old bridge at Oversley Green over the usual course. Please give us your support by 'buying' a Duck and you might also win a £100!

Additional support is always welcome, and you can sponsor a duck online at <https://alcesterduck.elygin.co.uk/>

*Mike Clark, Chair*

## ALCESTER HERITAGE OPEN DAY

Alcester will be celebrating Heritage Open Day once again in September. The Roman Museum, St Nicholas Church, the Memorial Town Hall, Church House and other venues will all be open over the weekend of 10- 11 September.



Each year English Heritage picks a theme. The theme for this year is a celebration of the rich history of invention, industry and innovation and we would like to reflect some of this in our event.

Alcester's history stretches from Roman and Medieval to the town we see today. We will be opening our buildings to display our considerable history.

But, as part of this year's preparation, we would like to involve local makers and artisans, archive and history groups and clubs to see if they have stories that they wish to share that highlights the invention, industry and innovation of the town.

Perhaps someone can highlight the legacy of a local inventor or innovator? We would welcome contact and offers of collaborations with local organisations to make our event extra special.

We look forward to an extra special weekend.

*Susan Juned, Chair Alcester Heritage Trust*

## ALCESTER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Interested in the W.I.? **Alcester W.I.** meets on the second Thursday evening of every month in Malt Mill Lane Community Centre. Membership includes a magazine, interesting speakers at meetings and access to courses and activities organised by the County Federation. If you like to be part of the community and would like to make new friends, it's well worth considering. If you would like more information, please contact our secretary on 01789 763129.

## ALCESTER COMMUNITY RESILIENCE VOLUNTEERS



The Royal Oak pub and Alcester Town Council were pleased to host a COVID-19 volunteer celebration event in April. The event was held to thank the many volunteers who gave their time at the height of the pandemic in supporting others with practical support including shopping, prescription collection, dog walking, companionship calls and meal deliveries.

The Mayor of Alcester Cllr Kathryn Cargill, Town Councillors, volunteers and residents came together to reflect on the amazing community effort and to recognise the selfless contribution from members of the community often at their own personal risk.

One resident, Jen Hopkins who brought along her family, had been keen to meet the volunteers who had supported her family during lockdown and to thank them personally. Her family had been shielding at the time which also meant that they were unable to provide the usual level of support to her grandparents who also lived in Alcester.

Jen gifted a wonderful cake (see photo) to the volunteers as a thank you for their contribution. Jen explained that the cake included some of the main landmarks in Alcester including an artistic representation of St Nicholas' Church and flanked by the bunting that so often brings a joyous feeling to the High Street.

*Cllrs A Foster and E Randle*

## ALCESTER COUNTRY MARKET



The Alcester Country Market was opened in 1969 and celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> year in 2019.

It trades as a commercial co-operative enterprise and gives an opportunity for local producers to sell their produce in a market setting. The market runs with producers carrying out the operational tasks of the market.

There are approximately 45 members producing the following: home baking, preserves, including fresh jars of honey, a variety of unique handmade crafts, very local, super fresh fruit and vegetables, garden and house plants and finally fresh flowers. All these items help the environment by not incurring air miles.

The market is ideally suited in its permanent situation in the High Street and is open from 09.00 until 13.00 every Friday,

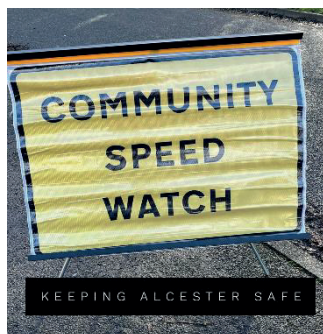
and 10.00 until 13.00 on the first and third Saturday of the month.

Alcester is one of three markets in Warwickshire and is the largest.

New producers are always welcome and are required to assist with the markets.

*Ian Flear, Manager*

## ALCESTER COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH



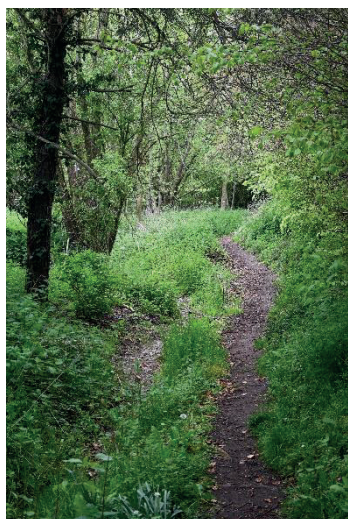
The Alcester Community Speed Watch group consists of local volunteers who have been monitoring speeding motorists over the past few years in collaboration with the Police and Alcester Town Council. Now that COVID restrictions have been eased we are looking to recruit more volunteers so that we can operate additional checks in the area.

This is a great way to get outdoors, meet new people and help keep our roads safe. If you are interested in getting involved, please get in touch either by calling me on 07521 970812 or emailing [afoster.atc@gmail.com](mailto:afoster.atc@gmail.com) where I'd be more than happy to provide further details.

*Cllr A Foster, Chair Community Safety Group*



## OVERSLEY GREEN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION



Spring has arrived in Oversley Green and that means that our own favourite footpath has come alive, with undergrowth blooming, blue tits nesting in the nest boxes and the occasional bluebell adding brilliant colour. If you have never visited this hidden wonder it starts at the Old Stratford Road, 100 yards east of Oversley Bridge and runs past the football field, through Oversley Hill Farm and eventually to Oversley Wood. For much of its length it follows the path of the Roman Saltway, which in Roman times ran from the Droitwich salt works through Alcester and along the line of the present A46 towards Stratford and eventually London. Our own piece of history still providing pleasure.

Like many other towns and hamlets Oversley Green will be holding it's own celebration on Friday 3 June when a section of the old Stratford Road will be closed for the "Oversley Green Jubilee Picnic." Residents have been invited to attend and more details soon. A national celebration of a remarkable reign which we intend to mark in style. It is also time to think about The Scarecrow Contest again. This year the competition is from 4-10 July with a very loose

theme of Jubilee, Red, White and Blue and "70 Glorious Years." Make a date to walk through Oversley Green and see the entries.

*Richard Slatter, Chair Oversley Green Residents Association*

## FRIENDS OF OVERSLEY WOOD



Oversley Wood is a mixed woodland, 20-minutes walk from Alcester. It is owned and managed by Forestry England and is a working woodland. In April 2020, due to the lockdown, it became apparent that lots of people were visiting to enjoy the tranquil atmosphere. Alongside the increasing visitor numbers, litter became a huge problem.

We decided to do something about it and started to litter pick and clear the debris from many years of picnics and general neglect. In just a few weeks forty bags of rubbish were collected and working closely with Forestry England, progress has been made.

In December 2021, we set up "Friends of Oversley Wood" Facebook group to inform, communicate and engage with the many users of the woodland. The group now has over 650 members.

Last year a part-time Ranger was appointed by Forestry England, whose area includes Oversley. This means that any actions can be dealt with effectively.

One of our on-going projects has been to clear the wood of hundreds of plastic tree-guards, dating back to the 1980s. New saplings are now planted with biodegradable tree guards.

Oversley Wood is bursting with diverse fauna and flora, including roe deer, muntjac deer, foxes, badgers and hares. Several species of owls and birds of prey are resident around the woods. Of course, the bluebells in Spring are the most stunning in the whole of the UK!

All we ask is that everyone respects and enjoys the woodland, and leaves no trace of being there!

*Cllr S Blackman*

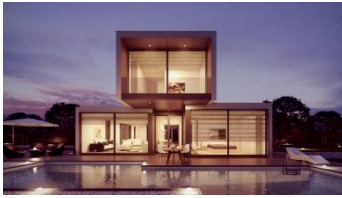


## ALCESTER & BIDFORD ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Our March BIG BREAKFASTS were both very successful and we had many compliments from our customers. THANKS to those of you who helped at both events, we could not do it without you!

Another recent success was winning the YOUTH SPEAKS District competition. A team of three from year 10 at Alcester Grammar School triumphed despite being the youngest of 7 teams in the final. Well done girls!

Are you looking to make a difference in our local community? Why not join your local Rotary club and make some new friends? For more information see our website [www.alcesterbidfordrotary.co.uk](http://www.alcesterbidfordrotary.co.uk) or contact Jackie Walsh Secretary: mobile 07775975316 or email: [alcesterbidfordrotary@gmail.com](mailto:alcesterbidfordrotary@gmail.com)



## A BEHIND THE SCENES LOOK AT PLANNING MATTERS

**The purpose** of the Planning Committee is to assess if current planning applications that affect the parish, comply with, the National Planning Policy Framework, Stratford District Council's Development and Planning Policies -

Core Strategy Document, and the Alcester Neighbourhood Development Plan. The committee are required to formulate responses on behalf of Alcester Town Council and report to the Full Council on all related matters.

**Objectives of the committee** include evaluating planning applications from Alcester residents, businesses, and groups, resolving on behalf of the council, and commenting to the appropriate Planning Authority.

**During March and April**, the committee reviewed a total of twelve applications, a response of NO OBJECTION was decided on 7 occasions, on 3 other applications the committee response was of OBJECTION. The committee chose to respond in SUPPORT of the remaining two applications in respect of the refurbishment of a dilapidated Grade II listed building.

**Not a lot of people** know that the committee also respond to Street Market applications. With this in mind **The Markets Licensing Policy** was reviewed and redrafted in areas referencing Licensing Agreements, Advertising Policy, and clarification of payment terms.

**To round off this update** I thought you would be interested to know that the Bloor Homes Development South of Allimore Lane is beginning the construction phase which will create several new roads, 7 of which will be named after deceased residents of Alcester who were nominated by members of the community.

*Details of meeting dates and agendas can be found on the Town Council website. For further information contact the Planning Committee Clerk at [administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:administration@alcester-tc.gov.uk)*

*Cllr Mike Bowe, Chair, Planning Committee*

## THE GREIG HALL

The restoration of the Greig Hall has been a fascinating project- consuming both huge amounts of time and money.

Funding has now been secured from various grants and allocations to a sum which we anticipate will allow us to open

the Hall in September. This will be a 'soft opening' to allow us to assess what we still need to do to have a fully functioning venue. Bearing in mind that it is only 14 months since we took over the Hall this is a massive tribute to the volunteers and also Alcester Town Council, the Greig Working Group and in particular the Building Sub-Group. There are of course many, many others who have helped. The skills and enthusiasm of our volunteers has resulted in a Hall that is currently weather tight. Other work such as new electrics, lighting, insulation and most importantly a new heating system are being installed now. This will give our community a Hall that will last well into the future. The main working group aim is to hand over the reins later this year to a new charity, The Greig Hall (a Charitable Incorporated Organisation) set up to operate the Hall. The CIO has founding trustees but is open to interested members of the public to join and who may wish to oversee and contribute to the running of the Hall. If you wish to or know someone who would like to volunteer then please let us know.

As mentioned previously, the Hall will reopen in September for limited events and bookings are already being taken. Please see the website for details [www.greighall.org.uk](http://www.greighall.org.uk)

*Cllr Mark Cargill, Chair, Greig Working Group*

## MINOR INJURIES UNIT AT STRATFORD HOSPITAL



South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust and Coventry and Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) are working together to safely restore the Minor Injuries Unit at Stratford Hospital. Re-opening this service has been challenging due to on-going staff shortages, which we continue to experience across our services. However, working with the CCG, the Trust are developing a joint staffing model with support from external providers. This will ensure the unit is able to operate safely, whilst keeping the level of staff needed to run the main emergency site in South Warwickshire at Warwick Hospital. Both partners recognise how valued the service is by the local community and we are keen to mobilise the plan as quickly

as possible with a phased re-opening of the Minor Injuries Unit by summer 2022.



## CLIMATE ACTION ALCESTER

It could be so easy in Alcester, South Warwickshire to believe "Climate Change" has little relevance to our lives, however this is not the case. Climate change is the single greatest challenge facing the entire population of the planet.



*Photo courtesy of Diana Jackson, Litter Free Alcester (copyright)*

In and around Alcester, we see clear evidence of rising temperatures and the blending of the seasons. We see extreme weather patterns often with rising river levels and the threat of flooding. We see the cost-of-living crisis, at the centre of which is the high dependence on fossil fuels.

Positive action is happening in and around Alcester, including the refurbishment of the Greig Hall which has sustainability at its heart, with significant heating provided by heat source pumps rather than fossil fuels. Tree planting, Litter Free Alcester and the Alcester Repair Café all play a role in helping to create a sustainable future.

There is a lot we can do if we see climate

change as a series of local problems that can be tackled by us as individuals. By taking one small action together we can bring about significant change overall.

Alcester Town Council has set up a working group to develop a Climate Action Plan together with residents to create a guide and new initiatives.

Please get in touch with Cllr Steve Blackman and Cllr Kathrin Foster to share your own ideas and success stories on what changes you have already made.

You can contact us via email

Cllr Steve Blackman - [sblackman.atc@gmail.com](mailto:sblackman.atc@gmail.com)

Cllr Kathrin Foster- [kfoster.atc@gmail.com](mailto:kfoster.atc@gmail.com)

## CLEAN AIR DAY- 16 JUNE 2022



Air pollution dirties every organ in the body. It is the biggest environmental threat to our health, no matter who you are or where you live.

Air pollution can harm every organ in your body and can shorten our lives, contribute towards chronic illness, and put us more at risk from COVID19.

This #CleanAirDay there are simple steps we can all take to cut down on the #airpollution we cause and use our voices to fight for a cleaner air future, such as walking those short distance trips and leaving the car at home where we can. You can find more information on the website [www.cleanairday.org.uk](http://www.cleanairday.org.uk)

*Cllr K Foster*

## RECYCLING

### • Waste and recycling further information

For more information about all of WCC's waste and recycling services, visit <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/recycling>

- To refill reusable coffee cups and reusable drinks bottles when out and about, download the Refill App at [www.refill.org.uk/](http://www.refill.org.uk/) – there are plenty of locations across Warwickshire taking part.
- Eight recycling centres in Warwickshire have reuse shops- seven of them are run by Age UK Warwickshire [www.ageuk.org.uk/coventryandwarwickshire/shops/reuse-shops/](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/coventryandwarwickshire/shops/reuse-shops/)
- For the specifics about your local kerbside recycling collections, including green garden waste collections, visit your district or borough council webpages via [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/kerbside](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/kerbside)
- Find out the latest information, news and events from Warwickshire Recycles on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Pinterest](#)





**Another happy customer with a fixed radio!!**

**Repaired successfully at Alcester Repair Café**

**Takes place every fourth Thursday of the month at The Depot, Eric Payne Community Centre, St. Faiths Road, Alcester.**

**2pm until 5pm**

**repairs undertaken for free by a skilled volunteer**

**Café available with tea, coffee and cake**

**For more information contact Wendy,**

**Tel: 01789 766084**

**Email: [info@alcester-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@alcester-tc.gov.uk)**

**The Crafty Lunch Club took the group out for a trip to All Things Wild in Honeybourne**

**A fun time was had by all**

**The Crafty Lunch Club is for adults with learning and/or physical disabilities.**

**Its an opportunity to socialise, take part in fun craft activities and play group games with lots of laughter and music**

**A hot meal is provided for everyone  
(carers included)**

**For more information or to get involved contact Beth,**

**Tel: 07717569948**

**Email: [lizlorne@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lizlorne@hotmail.co.uk)**







## SAFER STREETS IN ALCESTER FOR WOMEN

Agencies across Warwickshire have secured £249,000 from the Home Office's Safer Streets fund.

The money is allocated to projects designed to reduce violence against women and girls and to increase feelings of safety in public spaces.

The agencies involved, including Warwickshire County Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner, Warwickshire Police and Stratford District Council are using the funding for five areas across the county, including in Alcester.

A new lamp column with a CCTV camera has been installed at the Hopkins Precinct.

Residents can access further information and have their say at [www.safeinwarwickshire.com/safer-streets/](http://www.safeinwarwickshire.com/safer-streets/)



## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ALCESTER

### Fake Ukraine Charity Alert

Fraudsters are sending fake charity emails to raise money for the victims of war in Ukraine and pocketing the money. Action Fraud reports that recipients are asked for bitcoin donations to buy T-shirts. The links take them to websites designed to steal your personal information and cash. Look out for spelling and grammatical mistakes and forward suspicious emails to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk). Do your research about who you are paying. Check the charity's name and registration number on [gov.uk/find-charity-information](http://gov.uk/find-charity-information). Most charities with an annual income of £5000 or more must be registered. The Fundraising Regulator also has a directory of charities at [fundraisingregulator.org.uk/directory](http://fundraisingregulator.org.uk/directory).



### 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:

SGT 1685 David Ebbs

PC 1672 Beat Manager Rob Davies

PCSO 6327 Carolyn Davis

PCSO 6111 Gary Johnson-Jones

[alcestersouth.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:alcestersouth.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)

[david.ebbs@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:david.ebbs@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)

[robert.davies4@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:robert.davies4@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)

[carolyn.davis1@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:carolyn.davis1@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)

[gary.johnson-jones@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:gary.johnson-jones@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)

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)

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

To join **Neighbourhood Watch Alcester**, contact [nhwalcester@gmail.com](mailto:nhwalcester@gmail.com) or telephone Dorrie Manders on 01789 762999

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




















## TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Full Council meetings are held in person at Globe House. Planning Committee meetings are generally held online via Zoom or by email.

Agendas are published on town noticeboards and online at [www.alcester-tc.gov.uk](http://www.alcester-tc.gov.uk) three days before each meeting. Members of the public are welcome to attend Council meetings 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.

Alcester Town Council Facebook page is another source of information regarding council matters [www.facebook.com/alcester.towncouncil](https://www.facebook.com/alcester.towncouncil) and we are also on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/AlcesterTown](https://www.twitter.com/AlcesterTown)

### Town Councillor's Contact Details

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