

## **Alcester Town Council**

### **Strategic objectives and action plan 2023-24**

<b>Alcester Town Council aims to:</b>	<b>How do we do this?</b>	<b>Which committee or partner organisation?</b>	<b>Action Plan 2023-24</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<b><u>Objective 1</u></b> <b>Protect, enhance and improve the local environment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide allotments</li> <li>• Provide open recreational space</li> <li>• Support Alcester in Bloom to provide hanging baskets/planters</li> <li>• Support ABLE with provision of Christmas lights and bunting</li> <li>• Provide litter and dog bins</li> <li>• Maintain the Cemetery</li> <li>• Provide safe play areas and suitable equipment</li> <li>• Ongoing review of Neighbourhood Development Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning Committee re NDP</li> <li>• Lead Councillors for Open Spaces, Cemetery, Allotments, Play Areas, Footpaths</li> <li>• Community groups e.g. Alcester in Bloom, Litter Free Alcester, ABLE</li> <li>• Environment Agency</li> <li>• Stratford on Avon District Council</li> <li>• Warwickshire County Council</li> <li>• Bleachfield Street North allotment association</li> <li>• Alcester Youth Project</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planning Committee to start the review of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> <li>2. Provide grant funding to Alcester in Bloom and pay for watering</li> <li>3. Draw up management plan for maintenance of Abbey Fields site</li> <li>4. Work with the Environment Agency regarding plans for repair of flood defences</li> <li>5. Form Cemetery Working Group to look at opportunities to create additional burial space at edges of Cemetery</li> <li>6. Respond on all planning consultations, referring to the NDP when applicable</li> <li>7. Give community grants to organisations which protect, enhance and improve the local environment</li> <li>8. Implement first year recommendations of three yearly tree survey</li> </ol>	

			<p>9. Budget for future tree work in accordance with tree survey</p> <p>10. Replace play equipment in Bleachfield St play area</p> <p>11. Form a Working Group to look at management of land to improve biodiversity</p> <p>12. Carry out strategic review of play areas</p> <p>13. Monitor use of allotments to identify plots not being cultivated which can be relet.</p>	
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<p><b><u>Objective 2</u></b>  <b>Play an active role in the promotion and future development of the town</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work in partnership with WCC, SDC, local business and community organisations to promote the area.</li> <li>• Support local events such as the Food Festival and duck race</li> <li>• Support Alcester Bunting and Lighting Executive to provide bunting and Christmas lights</li> <li>• Encourage new ways to promote Alcester's history and heritage</li> <li>• Organise Remembrance Sunday</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead Councillors for Business and Tourism, and Communications</li> <li>• Community groups eg Alcester Bunting and Lighting Executive</li> <li>• Food Festival</li> <li>• Mayor and Deputy Mayor</li> <li>• Warwickshire Towns Network</li> <li>• Roman museum</li> <li>• Stratford DC</li> <li>• Warwickshire CC</li> <li>• Civic Society</li> <li>• Court Leet</li> <li>• Royal British Legion</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. B&amp;T Lead Councillors to engage with local businesses to form relationships, develop a shared vision for the development of the town and offer support</li> <li>2. Organise Remembrance Sunday.</li> <li>3. Look for opportunities for press coverage of Council events</li> <li>4. Loan out gazebos to local groups</li> <li>5. Liaison for major local events</li> <li>6. Liaise with local hotels to promote Alcester</li> <li>7. Produce the annual Events Guide</li> <li>8. Councillors to attend local events</li> <li>9. Mayor and Deputy Mayor to attend events in Alcester and by invitation in nearby towns</li> <li>10. Form a Working Group to consider the "visitor experience" and to consider production of a new version of the Town Guide</li> </ol>	
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<p><b><u>Objective 3</u></b>  <b>Support and promote the health and wellbeing of our community</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and Wellbeing projects</li> <li>• Employ the Health and Wellbeing Coordinator</li> <li>• Employ the Youth Club leader to run the Depot Youth Club</li> <li>• Mayor's Award for Young Person of the year</li> <li>• Grants to community groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health and Wellbeing Partnership</li> <li>• Lead Councillors for Health and Wellbeing and Youth Engagement</li> <li>• Health and Wellbeing Coordinator</li> <li>• Community groups eg Alcester Youth Project, Elderberries, Dementia Cafe</li> <li>• Youth Club</li> <li>• Schools</li> <li>• Local charities</li> <li>• Alcester Youth Theatre Company</li> <li>• Newport's School Foundation</li> <li>• SDC</li> <li>• WCC</li> <li>• Citizens Advice South Warwickshire</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide support to Youth Club by advertising for volunteers</li> <li>2. Seek ongoing funding for H&amp;WB projects as required</li> <li>3. Young Trader initiative</li> <li>4. Police and Crime Commissioner grant – delivery project on drugs and exploitation</li> <li>5. Take forward projects from the H&amp;WB Partnership as appropriate</li> <li>6. Explore project to deliver a Community Shed</li> <li>7. Investigate running an additional night at the youth club</li> </ol>	
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<p><b><u>Objective 4</u></b>  <b>Improve the resilience of the area and strengthen our community</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work closely with Environment Agency regarding flooding issues affecting Alcester.</li> <li>• Maintain Flood Warden Group in line with Flood Plan</li> <li>• Town Councillors to represent Council on outside organisations strengthening community capacity.</li> <li>• Recruit volunteers</li> <li>• Co-ordinate Speed Watch and maintain equipment</li> <li>• Work with Speed Watch volunteers</li> <li>• Develop support for local vulnerable people</li> <li>• Engage with local flood groups for joint working and information sharing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead Councillors for Community Resilience, Road Safety and Speedwatch</li> <li>• Environment Agency</li> <li>• Warwickshire County Council</li> <li>• Health and Wellbeing Co-ordinator</li> <li>• Community groups such as Flood Wardens and Speed Watch volunteers</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Annual review of the Emergency Plan</li> <li>2. Annual audit and maintain emergency supplies</li> <li>3. Feed into all consultations on flooding related issues</li> <li>4. Appoint trustees to local charities when required</li> <li>5. Arrange first aid courses for Flood Wardens if required</li> <li>6. Maintain speed gun and support SpeedWatch</li> <li>7. Work with EA and WCC to repair flood defences</li> <li>8. Run Volunteer recruitment event to support local groups and societies</li> </ol>	
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<p><b><u>Objective 5</u></b>  <b>Maintain effective and efficient governance and management of resources</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and update policies as required</li> <li>• Develop new policies to meet changing needs</li> <li>• Ensure councillor and staff training is up to date.</li> <li>• Ensure Health and Safety policies are up to date.</li> <li>• Maintain status as a Quality Council</li> <li>• Comply with local government transparency rules</li> <li>• Comply with accounting and audit requirements</li> <li>• Operate the Eric Payne Community Centre</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Town Clerk</li> <li>• Lead Councillors for EPCC</li> <li>• Finance and General Purposes Committee</li> <li>• Staffing Sub-Committee</li> <li>• Mayor and Deputy Mayor</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approve and adopt new policies as required.</li> <li>2. Check staff and councillor training completed and logged.</li> <li>3. Training policy to be updated to include provision for new staff and councillors</li> <li>4. Council to remain members of WALC and SLCC</li> <li>5. Undertake appraisals for all staff</li> <li>6. All minutes to be published on website within 4 weeks of meeting</li> <li>7. Apply for Quality Gold Council status</li> <li>8. Review operations at EPCC and identify future development opportunities</li> </ol>	
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<p><b><u>Objective 6</u></b>  <b>To improve Community Engagement</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website</li> <li>• Social media</li> <li>• ATC notice boards</li> <li>• Quarterly newsletters</li> <li>• Produce directory of local groups and organisations</li> <li>• Community Engagement Strategy</li> <li>• Annual Parish Meeting</li> <li>• All Town Council meetings are open to the public</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead Councillor for Communications and Community Engagement</li> <li>• Stratford-on-Avon District Council</li> <li>• Warwickshire County Council</li> <li>• Local groups and organisations</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Publish social media posts to update residents on Council activities and signpost the work of other authorities and organisations which is relevant to our residents</li> <li>2. Publish quarterly newsletters</li> <li>3. Add information to ATC notice boards</li> <li>4. Councillors to complete profiles and photos for the website</li> <li>5. To produce the annual Community Engagement Action Plan setting out timetable for action and review and budgetary requirements</li> <li>6. To produce a printed Annual Report for presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting</li> <li>7. To update website to provide a better user experience and comply with accessibility requirements</li> <li>8. To continue with various H&amp;WB initiatives to engage with different groups within the community</li> </ol>	
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<p><b><u>Objective 7</u></b>  <b>Help to create a future that is resilient to the impact of climate change</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide information to residents that can help them take decisions and actions to reduce the impact of climate change</li> <li>• Share good practice from other areas to inform residents on how they can reduce the impact of climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead Councillors for Climate Change</li> <li>• WCC</li> <li>• SDC</li> <li>• Act on Energy</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Review sites owned by ATC to establish what steps can be taken to reduce the impact of climate change</li> <li>2. Obtain quote for improvements to ATC premises and seek funds</li> <li>3. Stage an event – Alcester CAFÉ – to engage with residents on what is important to them regarding climate change</li> <li>4. Respond to Climate Change consultations from SDC/WCC</li> <li>5. Promote Clean Air Day</li> <li>6. Set up a Climate Change Working Group to produce an action plan</li> <li>7. To consider working with other neighbouring parishes on climate change initiatives.</li> </ol>	
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