



**ALCESTER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW STEERING GROUP MEETING
WAS HELD ON 20 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 10.30AM
AT GLOBE HOUSE, PRIORY ROAD, ALCESTER**

Present

Andrew Matheson (Chair), David Wall, Ian Greig, Colleen Chester, Kevin Bell, Cllr Kathryn Cargill and Town Clerk, Vanessa Lowe

The meeting was attended by two representatives of the Civic Society.

1. Apologies

Cllr Wendy Mills and the Deputy Town Clerk, Sarah Duran

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes of last meeting

Approved and signed by the Chair.

4. Review of the scope of current NDP policies

Andrew Matheson explained that if new policies were required, there would have to be evidence gathering to establish the need. He also explained that there was an expectation that NDP's would not simply duplicate higher level planning documents but should address local issues.

Community, Leisure and Wellbeing policies

There was a discussion regarding the existing CLW policies.

It was agreed that the introductory text (paras 6.4.1 – 6.4.12) needed updating.

CLW1 – agreed that there should be a list of existing “facilities” which should include the football and rugby clubs. Colleen Chester to start work on this.

The group can then consider which facilities are in need of improvement.

It was noted that Alcester was a growing town and the latest census information may provide useful up-to-date information.

CLW2 – Agreed that recent closure of vehicular access to Oversley Wood was relevant.

Discussion about accessibility to Abbey Fields and whether this could be linked to flood bund improvements by the Environment Agency.

Discussion about access to the countryside – the Two Shires Greenway cycle track project was mentioned.

CLW3 – agreed policy could be improved by referring to particular support for use of buildings/land in town centre for support for those with disabilities or dementia.

Discussion regarding old Moorfields school site.

CLW4 – noted the new allotments being created on Alcester Park

Natural Environment policies

Discussion deferred until next meeting.

5. Proposed additional Local Green Spaces

It was noted that there was no value in having multiple protections for the same space and that spaces should be proportionate to the scale of the town.

The following were proposed:

a. Land adjoining old Stratford Road opposite old football pitch (route of heritage walk) including osier bed.

b. Bleachfield St north allotments (and other allotments)

6. Next steps

Agreed to cover Natural Environment policies and Transport and Infrastructure policies at the next meeting.

7. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 26 March 2024 at 10.30am in Globe House.