



# ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL

**The Annual Meeting of the Alcester Town Council was held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at The Alcester War Memorial Town Hall, Alcester.**

The Retiring Mayor, Cllr Mike Bowe took the Chair and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Cllr Bowe said that he had felt privileged to have been the Mayor of Alcester and had been delighted to represent the town on 92 occasions during the year.

Cllr Bowe announced that he had raise £7107.58 during his term of office which was being donated to The Crafty Lunch Club.

Mrs Beth Clarke from The Crafty Lunch Club thanked Cllr Bowe for all his support during the year and for the generous donation.

Cllr Bowe thanked his wife for her support during the year and presented her with a bouquet.

## **Present**

Councillors M Bowe, D Henderson, K Cargill, G Forman, M Cargill, C Neal-Sturgess, K Greenaway, A Leask, A Foster, C Chester and D Gordon.

**In attendance** Mrs V Lowe, Town Clerk

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

There was no public participation.

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

Cllr Mike Bowe, the Retiring Mayor, confirmed that, in accordance with Standing Order 5e, Cllr David Henderson was automatically elected as Mayor by virtue of his role as Deputy Mayor for the year 2024-2025.

Cllr David Henderson was therefore duly elected as Mayor for the year 2025-2026.

### **2. Presentation of Past Mayor's Badge**

The Town Clerk thanked Cllr Bowe for his service as Mayor and presented him with a Past Mayor's Badge.

### **3. Acceptance of Office**

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

The Town Clerk presented the chain of office to Cllr Henderson.

The Mayor took the Chair and said that he was very grateful to his fellow councillors for giving him the honour of being elected as Mayor of Alcester.

He said that his priority during the year was to improve community engagement – listening to views and opinions and acting on them where possible. Having spoken to many residents, he knew that they enjoyed living in a town which was so full of energy and life. He said that this atmosphere was special to Alcester and he thanked the many community groups who worked so hard throughout the year to ensure that this continued.

He thanked his wife Lesley for joining him as his consort for the year.

#### **4. Apologies**

Apologies had been received and were accepted from Cllr Wendy Mills and Cllr Ruth Ashfield.

#### **5. Presentation of Mayor's Consorts Chain**

The Mayor presented the chain to his consort, Mrs Lesley Henderson.

#### **6. Election of Deputy Mayor**

The Mayor reported that, in accordance with Standing Order 5e, only one nomination had been received by the Town Clerk for the position of Deputy Mayor. Cllr Gill Forman was therefore duly elected as Deputy Mayor for the year 2025-2026.

#### **7. Acceptance of Office**

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

The Mayor presented Cllr Forman with the chain of office.

Cllr Henderson said that it was an honour and a pleasure to be elected as Deputy Mayor. She said that she looked forward to supporting the Mayor during his term of office.

#### **8. Presentation of Deputy Mayor's Consorts Chain**

The Mayor's Consort presented the Deputy Mayor's Consort's chain to Mr Tim Forman.

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

The Mayor presented the Annual Report of the Town Council for the year 2024-2025. Hard copies were available at the meeting or via the Town Council website. The Mayor said that the Council would welcome feedback on the report.

#### **10. Presentation of grants**

The Mayor read out the list of community grants awarded to local organisations for the year 2025-2026 totalling £12,000.

The amounts awarded were: Alcester Bowling Club (£500); Alcester Town Football Club (£1000); Alcester Civic Society (£250); Alcester Bunting and Lighting (£500); Heart of England Town Criers (£500); Alcester War Memorial Town Hall (£1000); Oversley Green Residents Association (£500); St Nicholas Primary School (£500); FACES for All CIC (£1500); Shali Wellbeing CIC (£750); Alcester & District Community First Responders (£1155); Alcester Town Walking Football Club (£450); Riverside Angling Club (£250); Run Alcester (£800); Alcester in Bloom (£1000); Alcester Male Voice Choir (£745); The Crafty Lunch Club (£600).

#### **11. Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral Charity for 2025-2027**

The Mayor announced that he had agreed with the Deputy Mayor that they would have a joint charity over two years. Their nominated charity would be

Alcester Daycare. Mrs Carole Zambonini gave a brief presentation on the charity which provides daycare for adults with dementia and memory issues. Mrs Zambonini thanked the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for their support and for raising the profile of the charity by choosing it.

**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 invited everyone to stay for refreshments.

The next full meeting of Alcester Town Council is to be held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at Globe House.

The Mayor closed the meeting.