



**MINUTES OF THE ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 2nd DECEMBER 2025
AT GLOBE HOUSE, PRIORY ROAD, ALCESTER.**

Present

Councillors D Henderson (Mayor), G Forman (Deputy Mayor), C Neal-Sturgess, W Mills, M Bowe, M Cargill, K Cargill, C Chester, D Gordon and A Leask.

In attendance Mrs V Lowe, Town Clerk, Cllr S Juned (District Councillor), Cllr T Ballinger (District Councillor) and Cllr J Norris (County Councillor)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DISCRETION OF MAYOR

None.

District and County Councillors' Reports

Cllr T Ballinger (Ward Member for Alcester West) reported that discussions were ongoing with the new owners of The Three Tuns. He reminded Councillors about the consultation into the future of Great Alne Primary School which closes on 12th December. Cllr Ballinger reported that the new double yellow lines outside the Town Hall would be completed once weather conditions allowed.

Cllr S Juned (Ward Member for Alcester East) had sent a written report to the Town Clerk. She reported that the Councils in Warwickshire had formally submitted their proposals to Government for the creation of two new unitary councils (North and South). The two unitary proposal is supported by Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, North Warwickshire Borough Council, Stratford-on-Avon District Council and Warwick District Council.

Cllr Juned reported that free children's activities were available at the Greig Leisure Centre over the Christmas holidays as part of the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme. Cllr Leask asked if this could be advertised locally.

Cllr J Norris (County Councillor for Alcester) had sent a written report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. He reminded Councillors about the WCC consultation on its Home to School Transport Policy. He reported that it would no longer be necessary to book a slot to visit the Warwickshire Household Waste Recycling Centres. Cllr Norris also reported that he had met with the Town Clerk and WCC Highways Officers on the morning of the meeting where pending issues in Alcester were discussed. The Town Clerk will share the notes from the meeting with Councillors.

1. Apologies

Apologies with reasons had been received from Cllrs J Andrews, R Ashfield and S Bardha. These apologies were accepted by Council. Cllr V Holyland and Cllr K Greenaway were absent

2. Minutes of Council Meetings

The Mayor asked Councillors to consider for approval the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 4th November 2025. They were proposed to



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be accepted by the Deputy Mayor, seconded by Cllr Mills and approved by Council; they were then signed by the Mayor.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest on the agenda items.

4. Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported that he had attended 19 events during the month. He had been honoured to lay wreaths on both Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day, where BBC Midlands Today had reported direct from Alcester. He had been pleased to attend the launch of the River Arrow & Alne Revival (RAAR) project.

The Mayor thanked the ATC staff team for their efforts in arranging the road naming ceremony at Alcester Park, which had been both memorable and moving. He reported that the Cocktail Masterclass had been a great success. The Mayor and the Deputy Mayor had been delighted to attend the Lord Mayor of Coventry's Festive Civic Dinner.

The Deputy Mayor had attended the Mayor of Evesham's quiz night. She had also attended the Alcester Academy production of "Grease" together with other councillors. The Headteacher had asked the Deputy Mayor to pass on her thanks to all who had attended.

Councillors were asked to note that the next Mayor's charity fundraising events which would be the Burns Night on 24th January and a concert at The Greig Hall on 11th April.

5. Town Clerk's Report

The Town Clerk presented her monthly report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. There were no questions about the report.

The Town Clerk reported that Cllr Ray Howells had resigned as a Councillor on 27th November. The Town Clerk confirmed that she would notify Stratford-on-Avon District Council and post the appropriate vacancy notice.

6. Finance & General Purposes Committee

The Deputy Mayor, as Chair of the Committee, confirmed that she was satisfied that Committee members approved the minutes from the preceding month, which were then signed. There were no questions about the minutes. There were no propositions from the Committee.

7. Planning Committee

There had not been a scheduled Planning Committee meeting in November. Cllr M Cargill, the Chair of the Committee, confirmed that an extraordinary meeting of the Committee had been held on the previous evening to discuss the planning application for an Aldi store on the former Broad Lane Caravans site. The Committee had agreed to submit a holding objection to SDC as insufficient information was yet available in connection with highways issues to enable the Committee to respond to the application.

8. Lead Councillors/Working Groups

8.1 Health and Wellbeing

A report from Cllr K Cargill and Cllr A Leask had been circulated in advance of the meeting. There were no questions about the report. Cllr Cargill requested



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that any Councillors who wished to get involved with the Alcester Connected for Climate and Nature project should contact either herself or Wendy Sherwood. It was noted that the Youth Club now met on Thursday evenings over one extended session. Cllr Leask reported that the youth club team did an excellent job.

8.2 Open Spaces

Cllr Gordon had issued a report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Cllr Gordon was thanked for his report. The Town Clerk confirmed that she would report the broken fence to WCC.

8.3 Communications and Corporate Strategy

A report had been issued by Cllr Mills in advance of the meeting. There were no questions about the report which was noted with thanks.

9. Neighbourhood Development Plan

Cllr Mills reported that, following approval by Council in October to the proposed amendments to the Neighbourhood Plan, an updated version had been prepared by the Town Clerk. The Pre-Submission Consultation on the updated Neighbourhood Plan under Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 would be undertaken between 15th December 2025 and 30th January 2026.

10. Town Council Representatives

Church Street Property Trust – Cllr M Cargill reported that the charity had met and had awarded various grants including to The Crafty Lunch Club, The Greig Hall, the Court Leet and Alcester Town Council (for the Visit Alcester website).

United Charities – Cllr K Cargill reported that the transfer to the new clerk had been completed. Christmas hampers were being prepared for residents.

The Greig Hall – Cllr Mills reported that new windows were being installed in the main Hall. Following a recent inspection, it had been noted that more fire wardens were required for large events.

Moorfields Charity - Cllr Bowe confirmed that he had attended his first meeting.

Newport School's Foundation – Cllr Bowe reported that the trustees had met.

Cllr K Cargill proposed that in future the Armed Forces Covenant Champion could report during this section of the agenda. This was agreed.

11. Payment of Accounts

The Town Clerk presented the Payment of Accounts for the preceding month. The accounts were proposed to be approved by Cllr Neal-Sturgess, seconded by the Cllr M Cargill and carried by Council.

12. Dates of future meetings

Planning Committee – Monday 15th December at 7 pm (if needed).

Finance & General Purposes Committee - Tuesday 9th December at 7 pm.

Full Council – Tuesday 6th January 2026 at 7 pm.

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings at Globe House.

The Mayor closed the meeting.

A "coffee morning" in aid of the Mayor's Charity, Alcester Daycare, was held immediately after the meeting which raised £72.00.