



**MINUTES OF THE ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd FEBRUARY 2026
AT GLOBE HOUSE, PRIORY ROAD, ALCESTER.**

Present

Councillors Cllrs D Henderson (Mayor), G Forman (Deputy Mayor), M Bowe, C Neal-Sturgess, C Chester, W Mills, D Gordon and J Andrews.

In attendance Mrs V Lowe, Town Clerk and Cllr J Norris (County Councillor)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DISCRETION OF MAYOR

There was no public participation.

District and County Councillors' Reports

Cllr J Norris (County Councillor for Alcester) had sent a written report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

He reported that the former Moorfield school site had now been deemed surplus to requirements by WCC Cabinet. The site will be passed to agents to be put on the market.

Cllr Norris was delighted to report that the proposal to expand on-street Pay & Display parking in several towns including Alcester had been cancelled. He thanked residents and the Town Council for their support in fighting this proposal. This cancellation should be confirmed in the WCC budget announcement on 5th February.

Cllr Norris reported that WCC had taken the decision to proceed with the closure process for Great Alne Primary School. Cllr Norris will continue to object but he feared that the decision had already been made.

Cllr S Juned (Ward Member for Alcester East) had sent a written report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

1. Apologies

Apologies with reasons had been received from M Cargill, K Cargill, R Ashfield, K Greenaway, V Howells and S Bardha. These apologies were accepted by Council. Apologies had also been received from Cllr S Juned (District Councillor). Cllr A Leask and Cllr T Ballinger (District Council) sent apologies after the meeting both having been unexpectedly delayed.

2. Minutes of Council Meetings

The Mayor asked Councillors to consider for approval the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 6th January 2026. The minutes were proposed to be accepted by Cllr Neal-Sturgess, seconded by the Deputy Mayor and approved by Council; they were then signed by the Mayor.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Chester declared an interest in item 6.2 on the agenda as her husband is a director of Alcester Town Football Club. There were no other declarations of interest on the agenda items.



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4. Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported that it had been a busy month. He had attended civic functions at Coleshill Town Council, Warwick Town Council and Solihull Borough Council. He had also attended the Warwick Holocaust Memorial Service. He thanked everyone who had attended his Burns Night event in aid of Alcester Dementia Day Care. He had also attended a coffee morning in Long Marston to support the charity. Finally, he reported that the Court Leet wassail event had been a huge success.

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. She reminded Councillors about Window Wanderland which runs for a week from 28th February.

6. Finance & General Purposes Committee

The Deputy Mayor, as Chair, 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.

The Town Clerk presented the management accounts and bank reconciliation statements for the third quarter of 2025-26 which were approved as drawn.

There were no questions about the accounts.

There were the following propositions from the Committee:

6.1 To approve the updated Community Grants Policy and application form for 2026.

This was proposed by Cllr Bowe, seconded by Cllr Chester and carried by Council.

6.2 As Landlord, to give consent to Alcester Town Football Club to construct a supporter stand in accordance with the proposal in planning application 25/02995/FUL.

This was proposed by Cllr Gordon, seconded by Cllr Mills and carried by Council. The Town Clerk will inform the Football Club.

Having already declared an interest, Cllr Chester took no part in the discussion or voting on this item.

6.3 As Landlord, to give consent to The Greig Hall CIO to construct a glass veranda at The Greig Hall in accordance with plans submitted to the Council. *As trustees of The Greig Hall CIO, Cllrs Mills and Andrews declared an interest and took no part in the discussion or voting on this item.*

Cllr Bowe congratulated the CIO on their continuing outstanding performance. The motion was proposed by Cllr Neal-Sturgess, seconded by the Mayor and carried by Council. The Town Clerk will inform the CIO.

7. Planning Committee

Cllr Mills, as Vice-Chair, confirmed that she was satisfied that Committee members approved the minutes from the preceding month, which were then signed. Cllr Mills summarised the three applications which had been considered



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at the Committee meeting explaining the objection which had been lodged in respect of the proposal to develop the Seggs Lane depot.

8. Lead Councillors/Working Groups

8.1 Cemetery and Play Areas

Reports from the Deputy Mayor on both topics had been circulated in advance of the meeting. All Councillors agreed that the new roof on the lychgate looked excellent. The Deputy Mayor confirmed that quotes were being obtained for replacement gates.

8.2 Allotments

A report from the Facilities Manager had been circulated in advance of the meeting which was noted.

8.3 Asset Mapping Task and Finish Group

A report from the Task and Finish Group had been circulated in advance of the meeting together with a spreadsheet of assets owned by Warwickshire County Council and Stratford-on-Avon District Council within Alcester. Following the recommendation of the Task and Finish Group, the Deputy Mayor proposed that the Town Clerk be authorised to make initial contact with Stratford-on-Avon District Council regarding the possible transfer of certain assets. This was seconded by Cllr Gordon and carried by Council.

8.4 Community Grants Working Group

It was agreed that Cllr M Cargill, Cllr K Cargill, the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Andrews and Cllr Neal-Sturgess would be appointed to the Working Group. The Town Clerk will advertise the Community Grants in March and call a meeting in April to agree distribution of grants.

9. Employer Recognition Scheme Bronze Award Certificate

The Town Clerk was pleased to report that following the signing of the Armed Forces Covenant in November, the Town Council had been awarded the bronze award from the Defence Employer Recognition Scheme. The Town Clerk will post the award on the website.

10. Town Council Representatives

Alcester War Memorial Town Hall – The Deputy Mayor updated Councillors on the recent meeting. She reported that year-end figures were healthy but costs continued to rise so hire costs would be increased by 5% from 1st April. The double yellow lines had still not been installed.

11. Payment of Accounts

The Town Clerk presented the Payment of Accounts for the preceding month. The accounts were proposed to be approved by the Mayor, seconded by the Deputy Mayor and carried by Council.

12. Dates of future meetings

Planning Committee - Monday 16th February 2026 at 7 pm (if required).

Finance & General Purposes Committee – Tuesday 24th February 2026 at 7pm

Full Council - Tuesday 3rd March 2026 at 7 pm.

All meetings at Globe House.

The Mayor closed the meeting.