



**MINUTES OF THE ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON TUESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026  
AT GLOBE HOUSE, PRIORY ROAD, ALCESTER.**

**Present**

Councillors Cllrs D Henderson (Mayor), G Forman (Deputy Mayor), M Bowe, C Chester, W Mills, D Gordon, J Andrews, K Greenaway, A Leask, R Ashfield, S Bardha and L Boyd.

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DISCRETION OF MAYOR**

There was a short presentation by Liz Nicholson of Stansgate Planning on behalf of her clients Rosconn Group, who have recently submitted a planning pre-application enquiry to Stratford District Council for a housing proposal on land north of Captain's Hill, Alcester.

The proposal comprises 40-50 houses with 50% affordable housing.

There was no other public participation.

**District and County Councillors' Reports**

Cllr J Norris (County Councillor for Alcester) reported that WCC had finished the consultation process regarding the closure of Great Alne Primary School. It was anticipated that the WCC Cabinet would vote to close the school at its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr Norris had met with the Head of Service who had assured him that the remaining 9 pupils will be relocated. Cllr Norris is hoping that the site may be used for SEND provision.

Cllr Norris was asked to chase the long outstanding double yellow lines for the Town Hall.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies with reasons had been received from Cllrs M Cargill, K Cargill and V Holyland. These apologies were accepted by Council. Apologies were also received from Cllr S Juned and Cllr T Ballinger, District Councillors who were both attending a meeting at Stratford District Council. Cllr Neal-Sturgess was absent.

**2. Minutes of Council Meetings**

The Mayor asked Councillors to consider for approval the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026. The minutes were proposed to be accepted by Cllr Mills, seconded by Cllr Gordon 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 on an extremely busy final month as Mayor. He had attended events in Coleshill, North Warwickshire, Stratford, Studley, Leamington, Whitnash and Solihull.



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Within Alcester, he had enjoyed judging the Window Wanderland competition, attending the Alcester Youth Theatre spring show, and the opening of the Alcester Town FC clubhouse, which he attended with the Town Clerk. He thanked Councillors for their attendance at the Civic Dinner and the Annual Parish Meeting.

Finally, he reported on the Era Boys concert held at The Greig Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> April in aid of the Mayor's charity. This had raised a considerable sum which would be added to the total to be announced at Mayor Making.

The Deputy Mayor reported that she had attended the Shipston Civic Service. Councillors were asked to note the Royal British Legion coffee morning on 18<sup>th</sup> April and the Bee Festival at Coughton Court on 30<sup>th</sup> May.

**5. Town Clerk's Report**

The Town Clerk presented her monthly report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. She highlighted the useful meeting which had been arranged by Cllr Tom Ballinger with the local police and the Community Safety team from Stratford DC. Cllr Ashfield reported that she was following up on a complaint to the local police about the noise created by vehicles "racing" on the A46.

There were no questions about the report.

**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.

There were the following propositions from the Committee:

**6.1** To adopt the updated Publications Policy dated March 2026.

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

**6.2** To adopt the Social Media Policy dated March 2026.

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

**6.3** To adopt the updated Publication Scheme dated March 2026.

This was proposed by Cllr Leask, seconded by Cllr Greenaway and carried by Council.

**7. Planning Committee**

There had not been a Planning Committee meeting in February. Cllr Mills, as Vice Chair, confirmed that there was nothing significant to report.

**8. Neighbourhood Governance**

The Town Clerk presented the briefing paper received from Warwickshire Association of Local Councils seeking the support of the Town Council in raising concerns with the MP regarding clarification of the position of town and parish councils within the references to "neighbourhood governance" in the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill. The Town Clerk was asked to write to Dr Manuela Perteghella MP in response to this request.



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**9. Lead Councillors/Working Groups**

**9.1 Footpaths**

A report from the Mayor as Lead Councillor had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The Mayor had identified two issues, one in Westbury Park and one on Jubilee Fields, which he will raise direct with Tim Forman, Facilities Manager. The Town Clerk gave an update on the progress with the repairs at the lychgate.

Cllr Ashfield asked a question regarding the drop into the river from the footpath between the Greig Hall and Jubilee Fields. The Town Clerk explained that the ownership of this section of path was not known but that, as it was part of a public footpath, she would report the concern to Cllr Norris and Warwickshire County Council again.

Cllr Boyd asked a question about the responsibility for pavements on Alcester Park. The Town Clerk will refer this to Bloor Homes to seek a definitive answer.

**9.2 Open Spaces**

A report from Cllr Gordon as Lead Councillor had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Cllr Gordon was thanked for this report.

Cllr Chester reported that the footpath through School Road allotments over the flood bund was eroding the bund. The Environment Agency were aware of this issue and she was seeking a solution from them.

**10. Community Grants**

The Deputy Mayor presented a report from the Working Group on the allocation of community grants for 2026-27. She reported that there had been requests totalling over £20,000 with a budget of only £12,000. The allocations by the Working Group were noted. The grants will be formally announced at Mayor Making.

**11. Town Council Representatives**

Alcester War Memorial Town Hall – The Deputy Mayor reported that the chairs at the Hall were being replaced. Quotes were being obtained for redecoration of the Jurors Hall. Sponsorship was being sought for the hanging baskets.

**12. Payment of Accounts**

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

**13. Dates of future meetings**

Planning Committee – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7pm (if required).

Finance & General Purposes Committee – Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7pm

Mayor Making – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7 pm at the Alcester War Memorial Town Hall

Annual Meeting – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7pm

All meetings at Globe House except where otherwise stated.

The Mayor closed the meeting.