

ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL
TOWN CLERK'S REPORT – AUGUST 2026

Actions/Issues arising from Full Council

- Uploaded Planning Committee updated terms of reference to website.
- Uploaded updated Crime & Disorder Statement to website.
- Uploaded Abbey Fields Management Plan to website.
- Email to Chair of The Greig Hall CIO advising of new trustee.

ATC Operations

- Burials/interments in July 2026 – 2 (1 burial and 1 ashes)
- Income from EPCC in July 2026 - £2030 plus VAT.
- The Regulation 19 consultation on the South Warwickshire Local Plan launched on 21st July. The Planning Committee have already discussed this and will respond on behalf of ATC. All the information is available here:
<https://www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/publication-regulation-19-consultation.cfm>
- I have received the following email from SDC regarding the EV charging points in Bulls Head Yard.

"Last week an interim short term contract was signed with Connected Kerb and the process has begun of them adopting the EV charging points in SDC & WDC car parks. This process is expected to take approximately 4 weeks to work through for both Warwick and Stratford-on-Avon district council car parks. Representatives from both Councils have a meeting with Connected Kerb later this week where it is expected we finalise all the data Connected Kerb require to expedite this contract. Following the meeting and all necessary work required, the existing EV charge points should be up and running again by the end of August.

This interim contract involves the EV charging points being operated on a "run to failure" basis while a long-term provider is being sought. Therefore if there are physical or hardware faults with any charging point that involve repair or replacement then they will not be fixed under this contract due to the costs involved to the charge point provider (CPO) for such a short contract. We will have the option to get a quote for cost of fix or replacement but it is anticipated that enough of the charge points at each car park will be suitable for adoption and this will not be a requirement.

Our long-term provider should be in place well in advance of August 2027 to ensure a smooth handover process next year when the Connected Kerb contract ends. The long-term contract is currently out to tender. Once a new contractor has been appointed it is envisaged that there will be an increase in the number of charge points of different

speeds around our off-street car parks. Should any issues arise during procurement, there is an option to extend the short-term contract for up to a further 12 months.”

- A reminder that the kitchen project at the EPCC is booked to start on 3rd August.
- The weather conditions continue to be challenging for all staff. WCC have confirmed that they are happy for us to install a new air conditioning unit but the first appointment I can get for a survey from the contractors is in October!
- Sustainability West Midlands came to Alcester on 23rd July to undertake our Climate Change Audit on 23rd July. A very interesting day and I look forward to their report.
- We had a very successful “Grand Day Out” to the National Memorial Arboretum on 16th July with 46 attendees. This visit forms part of our commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant.
- Thank you to everyone who attended the Civic Service on 11th July.
- There was some flytipping reported on Birmingham Road on 21st July – grounds staff cleared the mess.
- Holiday Lunch Club started on 22nd July and will continue every Wednesday during the school summer holidays.
- Riverside Angling Club have completed some clearance work on the nettles growing on the riverbank in Jubilee Fields. This has been appreciated by most but did attract a complaint from one resident who felt that they should have been left in situ to protect nature.
- We are being given three chewing gum bins in Alcester. One is going by the MUGA in the EPCC car park, one by AGS and one in the Hopkins Precinct play area. They look like the picture below:



They are made from recycled gum and get emptied by Gumdrop. The sphere is removed and replaced with a fresh one once full.

The gum and the ball are then taken away to be recycled and turned into new products, including reusable cups and rubber soles.

- We received a very unusual email from the Home Office advising that section 161 of the Crime and Policing Act 2026, introduces a new offence of climbing on specified

memorials. The memorials covered by this offence are listed in Schedule 17 to the Act and includes Alcester War Memorial Town Hall (amongst a list of illustrious things like the Cenotaph and the Winston Churchill statue in Parliament Square). I have put the Home Office in touch with the Town Hall committee so that their ownership of the Hall is correctly logged in the system.

External meetings attended

NALC Smaller Councils Committee – 7th July
Meeting with Alcester in Bloom team – 10th July
NALC Project Keystone workshop – 21st July
Meeting with WCC Visitor Economy team – 24th July
Arrow Valley Solar presentation – 27th July

Vanessa Lowe
Town Clerk
28th July 2026