



**MINUTES OF THE ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2026  
AT GLOBE HOUSE, PRIORY ROAD, ALCESTER**

**Present**

Councillors G Forman (Mayor), K Cargill, M Cargill, L Boyd, W Mills, D Gordon, D Henderson, M Bowe, C Chester, V Holyland, J Andrews, A Leask and K Greenaway.

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DISCRETION OF MAYOR**

There was a presentation from Eleanor Cooke of River Arrow and Alne Revival CIC (RAAR) on the new River Charter for Alcester.

**District and County Councillors' Reports**

Cllr T Ballinger (Ward Member for Alcester West) reported on recent case work regarding housing issues and anti-social behaviour. He is also working on drainage issues in Moorfield car park and the EV charging points in Bulls Head Yard.

Cllr S Juned (Ward Member for Alcester East) reported that The Three Tuns pub was due to be auctioned. An emergency item had been included in the SDC Cabinet agenda to seek authority for Stratford District Council to buy the property either at or before the auction. Cllr Juned asked for the Council's support at the Cabinet meeting.

Cllr J Norris (County Councillor for Alcester) had submitted a written report in advance of the meeting. He confirmed that he was using his delegated budget to finance a feasibility study on speed reduction measures for Stratford Road. It was noted that the resurfacing work on Birmingham Road had not proceeded as planned. Finally, Cllr Norris confirmed that the former Moorfields school site was on the market.

**1. River Arrow and Alne Charter**

Following the earlier presentation, it was unanimously agreed to authorise the Mayor to sign the Charter Supporter Pledge. The Mayor duly signed. Eleanor Cooke of RAAR CIC was thanked for all her work in connection with the Charter.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies with reasons had been received from R Ashfield (Deputy Mayor) and Cllr S Bardha. These apologies were accepted by Council.

**3. Minutes of Council Meetings**

The Mayor asked Councillors to consider for approval the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2026. They were proposed to

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

#### **4. Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest on the agenda items.

#### **5. Mayor's Report**

The Mayor reported on activities during the previous two months. These included civic events in Solihull, Evesham, Whitnash and at the University of Warwick. The Mayor thanked councillors who had attended her Civic Service on 11<sup>th</sup> July. A recent highlight had been the High Sheriff's Changemakers Award Ceremony on 4<sup>th</sup> August. Awards had been presented to Alcester residents - Gary Williams of Alcester Town FC, Andrew Matheson of The Greig Hall CIO, David Malin, a Special Police Constable, Phil Hodges of the Depot Youth Club and Tom Cronin, a Community First Responder. The Mayor thanked Cllr Boyd for accompanying her on the allotment judging. Locally, the Mayor had attended an awards evening at St Benedict's, judged cakes at the Court Leet Family Fayre Day, presented summer reading challenge awards at the Library and attended the Alcester Town FC Walking Football barbecue.

She reminded Councillors about the Race Night in aid of the mayoral charity which would take place on 26<sup>th</sup> September at the Eric Payne Community Centre.

#### **6. Town Clerk's Report**

The Town Clerk presented her monthly report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. There were no questions regarding the report. Cllr Mills asked for volunteers to assist her with sessions on the High Street encouraging residents to complete the corporate strategy survey.

#### **7. Finance & General Purposes Committee**

The Mayor confirmed that she was satisfied that Committee members approved the minutes from the preceding month, which were then signed. There were two propositions from the Committee:

**7.1** To authorise the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to sign the lease from Stratford on District Council for the Bleachfield Street South allotment site. This was proposed by Cllr Greenaway, seconded by Cllr Holyland and carried by Council.

The Town Clerk will arrange for signing once the Deputy Mayor is available and will deal with completion in due course.

**7.2** To approve the new Privacy Policy dated August 2026.

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

#### **8. Planning Committee**

Cllr M Cargill, as Chair, confirmed that he was satisfied that Committee members approved the minutes from the preceding month, which were then signed. There were no propositions from the Committee and no questions about the minutes.

#### **9. Sexual Harassment Training**

Councillors noted the training which had been undertaken immediately before the meeting regarding sexual harassment and employer

responsibilities. The Council reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining a workplace free from harassment, discrimination and inappropriate behaviour.

#### **10. Code of Conduct**

The Code of Conduct was reviewed by Councillors. Cllr Chester proposed that it was re-adopted without amendment, this was seconded by Cllr K Cargill and carried by Council.

#### **11. Lead Councillors**

##### **11.1 Eric Payne Community Centre**

A report from Cllr M Cargill had been circulated in advance of the meeting including news that the new kitchen had been completed. Staff were thanked for their hard work in connection with this project. Further improvements to the Centre had been identified in a recent inspection and would be pursued via grant funding.

##### **11.2 Climate and Nature**

A report from Cllr Bardha and Boyd had been circulated in advance of the meeting. The report summarised the main achievements from the Alcester Connected for Climate and Nature project. The Town Clerk circulated a copy of the calendar which had been created following the children's photographic competition.

#### **12. "Welcome to Alcester" event**

Cllr Bowe updated Councillors on the event planned for 3<sup>rd</sup> October at the Greig Hall which will be a showcase for all the town's groups and societies.

#### **13. Town Council Representatives**

It was agreed that Cllr Henderson would be appointed as a replacement trustee on Moorfields Charity to replace the late Cllr Neal-Sturgess.

It was agreed that Cllr Chester would be appointed as a replacement trustee on Newport's School Foundation to replace the late Cllr Neal-Sturgess.

The Town Clerk will inform both charities of the changes.

Alcester War Memorial Town Hall – Cllr Forman informed Councillors that the charity is seeking a new treasurer and secretary. The Hall will be open on Heritage Open Day weekend on 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> September. The AGM is scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> October.

Royal British Legion – Cllr M Cargill informed Councillors that Merchant Navy Day would be marked by a ceremony on Centenary Field on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. A quiz has been organised on 11<sup>th</sup> September and the AGM will be held on 15<sup>th</sup> September.

#### **14. Payment of Accounts**

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

#### **15. Dates of future meetings**

Planning Committee – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7 pm.

Finance & General Purposes Committee - 29<sup>th</sup> September - cancelled.

Full Council - Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 7 pm.

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings at Globe House.

The Mayor closed the meeting.