



**MINUTES OF THE ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 14th MAY 2024
AT GLOBE HOUSE, PRIORY ROAD, ALCESTER.**

Present

Councillors M Bowe (Mayor), D Henderson (Deputy Mayor), K Cargill, A Foster, G Forman, M Cargill, K Greenaway, K Foster, C Elliott, C Neal-Sturgess, E Wilson, A Leask and D Gordon.

In attendance Mrs V Lowe, Town Clerk.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DISCRETION OF MAYOR

None.

District and County Councillors' Reports

There were no reports as Councillors were absent.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr V Blake, Cllr W Mills and Cllr P Daniell (County Councillor). Cllr S Juned (District Councillor) and Cllr J Harmer (District Councillor) 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 16th April 2024. They were proposed to be accepted by the Cllr Neal-Sturgess, seconded by Cllr K Cargill 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. Resignation

It was noted that Cllr Gavin Smithers had resigned from the Town Council on 1st May 2024. The Town Clerk confirmed that she had notified Stratford on Avon DC and posted the appropriate vacancy notice.

5. Appointment of Lead Councillors

The following Lead Councillors were appointed:

Planning	Cllr Mark Cargill
Cemetery	Cllr Gill Forman
Play Areas	Cllr Kathrin Foster
Open Spaces and Trees	Cllr Erick Wilson
Allotments	Cllr Keith Greenaway
Health and Wellbeing	Cllr Kathryn Cargill
Youth Engagement	Cllr Alison Leask
Communications, Engagement and Corporate Strategy	Cllr Wendy Mills
Business and Tourism	Cllr Vaughan Blake Cllr Corin Elliott



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Community Resilience	Cllr Clive Neal-Sturgess
Road Safety and Speedwatch	Cllr Andrew Foster
Public Footpaths	Cllr David Henderson
Eric Payne Community Centre	Cllr Mark Cargill
Climate Change	Cllr Dougie Gordon

6. Town Council Committees

Membership of Committees was confirmed as:

a. Finance and General Purposes Committee

Cllrs M Bowe (Chair), V Blake, K Cargill, G Forman, A Foster, D Henderson

b. Planning Committee

Cllrs M Cargill (Chair), C Neal-Sturgess, G Forman, W Mills, E Wilson, D Gordon

c. Staffing Committee

Cllrs M Bowe (Chair), K Cargill, G Forman, V Blake, A Leask

7. Dates of Meetings

The list of meeting dates for 2024-2025 was approved.

8. Mayor’s Report

The Mayor said that although he had only been Mayor for a week, he had already attended some events. He will report further in June.

9. Town Clerk’s Report

The Town Clerk presented her monthly report which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. She will circulate details of how to report issues (such as missed grass cutting) to WCC after the meeting.

10. Finance & General Purposes Committee

The Mayor confirmed that he was satisfied that Committee members approved the minutes from the preceding month, which were then signed. There were no questions about the minutes. The Mayor asked Councillors to note the comments in paragraph 6b of the minutes regarding the general reserve.

There was the following proposition from the F & GP Committee:

10.1 To approve the Maternity Leave and Pay Policy dated April 2024.

This was proposed to be adopted by Cllr Forman, seconded by Cllr Elliott and carried by Council.

11. Planning Committee

The Mayor confirmed that he was satisfied Committee members approved the minutes from the preceding month, which were then signed. There were no questions about the minutes and there were no propositions from the Committee.

The Mayor reported that the Planning Committee had considered 86 applications during the year. The Committee’s response had been accepted by Stratford DC in all cases except for one, on the High Street for the development above Superdrug. In this case, ATC had supported the application but had not provided reasons so the response did not trigger a referral to the Stratford DC Planning Committee as would have been expected. The Committee had noted this outcome and had adjusted its procedures accordingly.



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12. Local Council Charter

Councillors discussed the draft Charter which had been supplied by WALC. The Town Clerk suggested some additions which were approved. The Town Clerk will respond to WALC. The Town Clerk was asked to invite the Parish Champion, Cllr Manuella Perteghella to a Council meeting.

13. 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 Cllr K Cargill and carried by Council.

14. Dates of future meetings

Planning Committee – Monday 20th May at 7 pm by Zoom

Finance & General Purposes Committee - Tuesday 28th May at 7 pm.

Full Council - Tuesday 4th June at 7 pm.

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings at Globe House.

The Mayor closed the meeting at 7.20 pm.