

ALCESTER TOWN COUNCIL

LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORT

NAME:	Kathryn Cargill
TOPIC:	Health and Wellbeing
DATE:	July 2024
UPDATE SINCE LAST REPORT:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Holiday Lunch Club has continued to take place on Wednesdays during school holidays. Funding has been sought from Waitrose, Tesco and the Household Support Fund so that we can continue through the summer holidays.• The SPEND support group continues to be well attended. Ideas are being discussed to continue to source varied and relevant speakers and activities. <p>We are also considering the future organisation of the group. It was intended for ATC to run the group for the first year, which we are now half way through. It is hoped going forward that the group can be run by some of its current members. ATC will continue to provide the Depot free of charge whenever the group wish to use it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• On the back of the SPEND group, we have started a new project to look at the possibility of Alcester becoming a Neuro Diverse Friendly Town. The project is called ND Alcester. The first stage is information-gathering from parents, local businesses and other ND projects. <p>Initial feedback is very promising. Of 48 local businesses approached, 100% were supportive and positive, and indicated that they would be happy to participate in online ND awareness training.</p>

	<p>We have a work experience student joining ATC shortly, and she will be tasked with working on a toolkit to guide town businesses and organisations in becoming neurodiverse-friendly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new Thursday evening sessions at the Youth Club for older children are continuing to go well. Volunteers will be using the Wellbeing Room for confidential discussions and condom distribution. • The Grand Days Out trip in May was to Dobbies and this once again proved popular. Current funding for this initiative is now all spent, but we do have a pending grant application to Moorfields which, if approved, would pay for six more days out. • Bikeability sessions have been booked at the EPCC in July and August, for children to complete their Level 1, 2 and 3 Bikeability. These are free for children to attend. • The Repair Café continues to thrive, with around 40 repairs undertaken at each session. • The Well Connected group continues to be popular. There have been several ‘special’ sessions to cover particular IT topics. A new volunteer has been recruited. • Volunteers from our regular groups are invited to a ‘thank you’ afternoon tea at Hillers on 26th June.
<p>FUTURE PLANS:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ND Alcester project is looking for volunteers to get involved by joining the working group.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cancer Research are offering free cancer awareness workshops, to be attended by people who work or volunteer in public-facing roles. Wendy is applying for a workshop to be held in Alcester. • The next Working Group meeting is arranged for 12th September 2024
<p>FOR CONSIDERATION/ DISCUSSION AT FULL COUNCIL:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are thinking about possible intergenerational projects that we could initiate or support. Ideas include taking children’s craft or music sessions into care homes or older people’s accommodation centres. Other thoughts would be very welcome.