

Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society
Registered charity No. 246145

Minutes of the Committee Meeting 21st March 2023
7.30pm at Altrincham Town Hall

Present:

Committee members: Judie Collins (Chair), Trevor Stone (Treasurer), Paulina Lewis (Planning), Richard Hagon, Martin Garrett, Leslie Cupitt, Robert Redford.

Co-opted Members: Angela Stone (Town Centre & Business Lead)
Ian Stuart (Friends of Altrincham Interchange)

Guest: Pauline Terry

1. Apologies, Declarations of Interest.

1.1 Apologies: Richard Simon.

1.2 Declarations of interest – None

1.3 The minutes of the previous meeting on 17th January 2023 were distributed prior to the meeting.

2. Matters arising from previous minutes not otherwise covered on the agenda: None.

3. Report from the Chair

Angela will submit town hall update separately but we have had an offer of help from Civic Voice.

Congratulations to Ian Stuart and his team for being the best railway station in Cheshire. There will be a new manager at the Interchange and it is hoped there can be a welcome and celebrations.

TMBC are about to go into purdah and as was with the Queen's death some of the cancellations don't make a lot of sense. Altrincham town centre is beginning to fade and will probably get worse but nothing can be done till after the elections although originally it could be.

Trafford Housing Trust are content for Citibranch to work with us on New Street.

We have met with Trafford College's new lead and a second meeting is planned, with Angela's jury service getting in the way. In the meantime we are meeting with Victoria Williams who is on a contract to seek out volunteers. I am also meeting with the Chair of Sale Civic Society next week.

The Methodist Church Organisation are having a consultation about which local churches to close. Looks like Altrincham may go which will be a huge site within the neighbourhood plan area.

Work on the Local Listing continues apace and a meeting is planned with Lis Lewis and Mark Watson from the Victoria Society to discuss the Town Hall's heritage.

Good news that Kirsten is returning to Dunham Massey so we can resume work with The National Trust.

Chair reported that she had met with the Chair of Sale Civic Society earlier today and he says some items relating to town hall are stored at a disused primary school in Partington. She has asked Cllr Michael Welton to arrange for us to venture there to see what there is. Local Studies are doing an inventory of what is actually in the town hall now and she understands George Cogshill is very concerned about the future of the war memorials. The Victoria Society are coming down to the town hall next week as part of a Local Listing project.

4. Treasurers Report

Finance: Bank Curr A/c £ 1501.61 Dep A/c £ 1446.27 HLF A/c £ 1.00

Membership renewals have been very slow.

5. Altrincham Town and Business Update.

Gails Bakery is taking the former Mustard unit & is planned to open 26th March.

One Central is now closed and the area is planned for re-development, which includes H&B & what was Milletts.

Unagi are going into the unit next to The Bricklayers

The former Bottle Shop is to become Papa Dutch, a pancake house with a licence and they're to sell Dutch beers. They have been trading on Altrincham Market

No progress on King Pong or Wild Goose to report

The Orange Tree closed a week or so ago due to poor trade and the Bricklayers is closed due to building faults

Work on the former Bistrot Pierre seems to be underway

Hex bar opened & closed withing a few days, they've now moved to Macclesfield but I do have someone interested in the unit as a children's cafe again.

Paperchase will be closing shortly.

Bayse Fitness opened in the former Ladbrokes unit

A shock closure was Kingfisher Chippy

The Massage Company are due to open in what was KFC on Lloyd St

Snugworld Bsd shop is shortly to become Bar Etna

Harcourt opened in what was Stamford Bistro on Stamford New Road

Hospitality

Trevor and I attended the Best Bar None Awards night at the House of Lords with Sir Graham Brady. We did have nominations in for awards but were up against much bigger schemes in Plymouth, Nottingham and Sheffield. Maybe next year there will be a small scheme award & we might stand a chance. We did meet Lord Smith of Hindhead and we have a lovely picture to remember the evening.

We both participated in the conference in the afternoon and it appears we are doing more than some schemes. I'm constantly on the look for new ideas to introduce to our hospitality.

We're one of few independent schemes, most are run by BIDs or Councils which was interesting to learn.

Heather, the Manager at The Unicorn has left us as she's due to have a baby soon, she has been a huge support to the bar committee.

Other news

Paint Altrincham Pink finished on Sunday. Prevent Breast Cancer are still to confirm totals and we need to round up donations from the bars and retailers.

Sarah Leary (Juice) and I are now Ambassadors so we helped the 2 weeks.

The "Pubcrawl" didn't go as well as in previous years but Pink the Rink did really well.

The BID fashion show was well attended and raised a lot of money. BID also organised a "Flamingo in the window" trail which was a fun addition. Kitson Architects and Albex, though not part of the "official flamingo event" did join in.

Judie and I have been talking to Councillors and Council Officers about bringing back a version of Altrincham Forward, currently named "AF2" following our AGM when Matt Colledge pointed out that a community that comes together is the most successful.

We have had dialogue with Richard Roe & Cllr Michael Welton. Adrian Fisher at Trafford Council has been tasked with helping us, Mike Shields who was part of the original AF is interested in helping us. Currently the initial group is AaBCS, Altrincham Partnership, the NBP and the bar groups. We have yet to agree with Trafford College but Judie and I did have a productive meeting a week or so ago & Joan is back on the scene who was also an "AF original".

We're thinking start with a blank piece of paper and start again.

Trevor and I have been out and we think there are about 20% vacant units and this is set to increase from conversations I've had with businesses

Laura Sharrock has been appointed as the new Chair of BID. Laura is a Solicitor at McHale and owner of Skanda. We look forward to working with her.

Loretto Prep school is closing in the summer.

6. Altrincham Town Hall

Angela reported that at the last Trafford B.C. executive meeting, it was decided to go with a full tender process for the lease. Submissions have to be made by August.

Angela also reported that she intends to apply for a grant from the Government for a start up Community Ownership Fund, although we would establish a separate Community Interest Company (CIC) to initially receive this money if successful.

7. Planning

Paulina reported that the owners of the Southmark Building had applied to add an extra storey and a roof terrace. She expressed concern that this would tend to make the building tower over the immediately adjacent buildings.

For current planning applications **see appendix 1**.

7. Broadheath update from Leslie Cupitt

Lidl had added some additional doors to their plans for their new store next to Homebase. The council advised that should apply for planning consent after the current works are completed.

Progress is being made on the formation of a Friends of Woodstock Park Group with a meeting of interested parties to take place shortly.

It was agreed that the Broadheath Partnership Meeting minutes will be shared with the Civic Society.

8. AOB

Chair reported that the Best Kept Station Awards Event last week went well, although it was regretted that the Mayor of Trafford did not attend the event. Altrincham Interchange was among the winners.




The meeting closed at 9.15pm.


**Date and time of next committee meeting – Tuesday 16th May 2023
8pm-9pm at Altrincham Town Hall**


Appendix 1


PLANNING APPLICATIONS

13th February – 13th March 2023

- [Works to trees within The Downs Conservation Area, specifically the felling of 1 no. Conifer Tree and 1 no. Bay Tree.](#) 
62 The Downs Altrincham WA14 2QJ
Ref. No: 110292/S211/23 | Received: Wed 15 Feb 2023 | Validated: Wed 15 Feb 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Application for approval of details reserved by conditions of grant of planning permission 106198/FUL/21. Condition numbers: 9 \(Travel Plan\), 16 \(Waste Management\) and 17 \(Energy Efficiency\).](#)
2 George Street Altrincham WA14 1SG
Ref. No: 110256/CND/23 | Received: Thu 09 Feb 2023 | Validated: Wed 15 Feb 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Erection of single storey side and rear extension with associated external alterations to provide additional living accommodation.](#)
 1 Urban Avenue Altrincham WA15 8HS
Ref. No: 110233/HHA/23 | Received: Wed 08 Feb 2023 | Validated: Mon 13 Feb 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Application for variation of conditions 7 \(opening hours\) and 12 \(delivery hours\) on planning permission 100009/FUL/20 \(Change of Use from Amusement Arcade \(Sui Generis\) to Licensed Restaurant \(Class A3\) with associated external works including new shop front-incorporating retractable awning - and external plant equipment \(external flue to rear\).\). To amend the opening hours to Monday - Sunday 07:00 - 00:30 and to amend the delivery, servicing and waste collections to Monday - Sunday 05:00 - 22:00.](#)
5 - 7 Shaws Road Altrincham WA14 1QU
Ref. No: 110190/VAR/23 | Received: Fri 03 Feb 2023 | Validated: Tue 14 Feb 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Advertisement consent sought for 1no externally illuminated fascia lettering sign.](#) 
5 - 7 Shaws Road Altrincham WA14 1QU
Ref. No: 110172/ADV/23 | Received: Tue 31 Jan 2023 | Validated: Tue 14 Feb 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision


- [Application for Certificate of Proposed Lawful Development for erection of single storey rear extension.](#) 

38 Grosvenor Road Altrincham WA14 1LE
 Ref. No: 110086/CPL/23 | Received: Fri 20 Jan 2023 | Validated: Thu 16 Feb 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Advertisement consent sought for 1 no. non-illuminated fascia sign.](#) 


99 George Street Altrincham WA14 1RN
 Ref. No: 110334/ADV/23 | Received: Mon 20 Feb 2023 | Validated: Thu 23 Feb 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Installation of new shop front.](#) 

99 George Street Altrincham WA14 1RN
 Ref. No: 110333/FUL/23 | Received: Mon 20 Feb 2023 | Validated: Mon 20 Feb 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Works to trees within the Linotype Conservation Area, specifically the crown reduction of 2 no. Lime Trees by 2 metres.](#) 

21 Lawrence Road Altrincham WA14 4E
 Ref. No: 110379/S211/23 | Received: Mon 27 Feb 2023 | Validated: Mon 27 Feb 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed change of use of the first and second floors from Commercial, Business and Service \(Use Class E\) to 2no Dwellinghouses \(Use Class C3\) under the Town and Country Planning \(General Permitted Development\) \(England\) Order 2015 \(as amended\) - Schedule 2, Part 3, Class MA.](#) 

80A Stamford New Road Altrincham WA14 1BS
 Ref. No: 110341/PMA/23 | Received: Tue 21 Feb 2023 | Validated: Fri 03 Mar 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Erection of a single storey rear extension with a maximum projection of 6 metres beyond the original rear wall, a maximum height of 3.99 metres and eaves height of 2.99 metres. Application for prior approval under part 1 of schedule 2 class A of the Town and Country Planning \(General Permitted Development\) \(England\) Order 2015 \(as amended\).](#) 

4 Holcombe Close Altrincham WA14 4XB
 Ref. No: 110422/PAH/23 | Received: Mon 06 Mar 2023 | Validated: Thu 09 Mar 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Replacement of existing kitchen window on side elevation with new door and steps in front.](#) 

81 New Street Altrincham WA14 2QP
 Ref. No: 110382/HHA/23 | Received: Mon 27 Feb 2023 | Validated: Wed 08 Mar 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Erection of single storey rear extension, a new front porch and conversion of garage into living accommodation.](#) 

60 Norman Road Altrincham WA14 4EB
 Ref. No: 110329/HHA/23 | Received: Mon 20 Feb 2023 | Validated: Tue 07 Mar 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Advertisement consent sought for 1no non-illuminated projecting sign attached to current fascia sign.](#) 

30 - 32 Church Street Altrincham WA14 4DW
 Ref. No: 109561/ADV/22 | Received: Mon 07 Nov 2022 | Validated: Thu 09 Mar 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

- [Application for Certificate of Proposed Lawful Development for erection of single storey rear extension](#) 
42 Great Oak Drive Altrincham WA15 8UH
Ref. No: 110404/CPL/23 | Received: Thu 02 Mar 2023 | Validated: Thu 16 Mar 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision
- [Application for non-material amendment to planning permission 109160/FUL/22 to allow for revisions to the pedestrian access and landscaping works to the front of the building \(Oakfield Road\)](#) 
Altrincham Leisure Centre Oakfield Road Altrincham WA15 8EW
Ref. No: 110316/NMA/23 | Received: Fri 17 Feb 2023 | Validated: Tue 14 Mar 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision