

Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society
Registered charity No. 246145

Minutes of the Committee Meeting 16th May 2023
8.00pm at Altrincham Town Hall

Present:

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

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

Guest: Richard Simon

1. Apologies, Declarations of Interest.

1.1 Apologies: Pauline Terry, Robert Redford, David Eastwood MA

1.2 Declarations of interest – None

1.3 The minutes of the previous meeting on 21st March 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

We remain concerned about the current management structure surrounding London based L&G (previously Trafford Housing Trust), the two health facilities and the Interchange and have asked Tom Ross Leader of Trafford Council for some support but there has been no positive response so far.

Now that the local elections are over we are having to reschedule all our cancelled meetings with officers. We await news of the new executive line up.

We now need to look at replacements for Sir Graham Brady who is stepping down as an MP. The only confirmed one is Ben Hartley for Labour who we know as Chair of Planning Committee.

Angela can update everyone about the town centre and neighbourhood plan.

We look forward to the latest edition of the Magazine with Coronation photographs.

I've asked Richard to put the Kings Award for Voluntary Service on the agenda.

There is not much news on the planning front though the local listing work continues apace.

4. Treasurers Report

Finance: Bank Curr A/c £ 1370.61 Dep A/c £ 1454.46 HLF A/c £ 1.00

Membership this year has reduced, with several non renewals.

5. Altrincham Town Hall and Town Centre Update – May 2023

Business Update

Coffee and Cactus has opened in the former King Pong in Goose Green.

Paperchase has now closed.

There is talk that JD Sports are moving to the retail park, but this hasn't been confirmed officially.

Stutter and Twitch are only doing weekends trading from the glass front unit in the SQ & the caravan has been removed.

Il Caperno is opening in what was Frankie and Benny's.

Just Plonk has closed.

Oppio Lounge is now open in what was Bistrot Pierre.

A bowling rink is to be part of Foundation in the SQ.

Hospitality

Totties is closing to be converted to residential. Opening out onto the Causeway isn't the best place for residential, Cllr Welton has acknowledged our concerns about this not being a particularly pleasant area for residential and something perhaps the NBP can help with, or maybe the "Partnership" group?

Bar Etna is now open on Stamford New Road.

Dai Noi has closed.

Heather, from the Unicorn gave birth to a little boy, Joseph a couple of weeks ago. Both Mum and baby seem to be doing well & we're all looking forward to meeting him.

James who was the Manager at Traders Tiki is now at the Bowdon Rooms which gives Pubwatch and Best Bar None (BBN) a link to the 3 Bowdon bars.

We're planning to re-start BBN in June with the same committee & a stand in for Heather while she's on maternity leave.

We got a mention in the Annual BBN report and are arranging to get copies printed to help engage with more bars this year.

Sadly Sausage the cat, legend of The Roebuck had to be put to sleep, he's missed by regulars at the pub.

Other news

Paint Altrincham Pink raised about £10,000.

The community groups came together to talk about how we might set up a "Partnership" Group. This will include representatives from the Civic Society, BID, Altrincham Partnership, Neighbourhood Business Plan, the Pubwatch/BBN group, Adrian Fisher from Trafford Council, one or may be two Councillors once we know who the portfolio holders are. This follows on from what Matt Colledge talked about at our AGM.

As a pre-cursor to this we have a meeting with our CEO Sara Todd and Richard Roe to look at some of our Town Centre issues and why we want to establish the group, so that they know what we're concerned about and can help and support us. We're very grateful for their time & support.

Judie is pursuing a similar walk about with Council Leader Tom Ross. There may be others on our list.

The more support the new group can get the better, we acknowledge not everything we want can be done but at least if we're working together it's a start.

We're at around 20% vacant units.

Ben Hartley who has been selected as the candidate for Altrincham and Sale West for Labour wants to do a walk-about, We're arranging this and will offer the same invitation to other candidates once we know who they are.

Sir Graham Brady MP is stepping down next year, but he's promised he won't leave us! He and his office have provided very valuable support to all of us and our projects during his time as our MP.

Judie and I met with NHS management at the Health & Wellbeing Centre which still remains a concern. There's some dubious plywood panels appeared across the road from our office yesterday. Greenwood St were all concerned. It appears the work is in relation to the conversion of the 2nd floor into the dental training centre.

The Neighbourhood Business Plan group met with Caroline Wright, who's the Strategic Planning Manager who has offered her support in helping us sort out our priorities.

Altrincham Town Hall

Angela and Martin reported that work on our submission for the Town Hall is still work in progress. Financial information supplied by Trafford is a concern and has to be clarified.

6. Planning

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

With the application to convert the former Totties into residential, some discussion took place regarding making the town safer in certain areas with CCTV coverage. The Back Graftons or the Causeway is not an ideal place for entrances to residential properties.

7. King's Award for Voluntary service

Chair said she thought this would be a good thing for us to apply for. Not many organisations in our area have applied for it. Richard said he would look into getting a copy of the form, before approaching some of our contacts to do the actual proposal on our behalf.

8. Don & Hilda Bayliss Award

It was agreed that no award would be given this year as no suitable candidates had come to our notice. Richard will inform Roger Bayliss.

9. AOB

Chair reported that the NHS Properties had taken over the Health & Wellbeing Centre on a long lease from the owners Canada Life. Both Trafford Council and the Hospital Trust had rented space. The top floor is going to be converted into a Dental Training Academy.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

**Date and time of next committee meeting – Tuesday 20th June 2023
8pm-9pm at Altrincham Town Hall**

**We will take our Summer Break during July & August, reconvening on
Tuesday 19th September 8pm-9pm at Altrincham Town Hall**

Appendix 1

PLANNING APPLICATIONS
27 March 2023 - 9 May 2023

27 March 2023

10483/FUL/23 72 Stamford New Road, Altrincham WA14 1BS
Change of Use from Commercial (E) to Educational Centre (F1)

3 April 2023

110528/TEL/23 Land at corner of Oakfield Road and Oakfield Street, Altrincham
Proposed telecommunications installation: 20 metre high slim line phase 9 monopole c/w wraparound cabinet at base, 3 no. additional ancillary equipment cabinets and associated ancillary works. Notification for prior approval under Part 16 of Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015.
Objection submitted.

11 April 2023

110595/FUL/23 16 Market Street, Altrincham WA14 1QB
Change of Use of the first and second floors from office use to 3 no. apartments (C3). Works to include bricking up of 2 no. windows to side/rear elevation and associated internal alterations.

110596/LBC/23 16 Market Street, Altrincham WA14 1QB
Listed Building consent sought for the change of use of the first and second floors from office use to 3 no. apartments (3). Works to include bricking up of 2 no. windows to side/rear elevation and associated internal alterations to create the new flats including creation of stud walls and replacement floors and ceilings.

2 May 2023

110537/HHA/2023 and 110538/LBC/23 9 Sandiway Road, Altrincham WA14 1HU
Part demolition of rear outrigger and erection of a single storey rear extension and installation of two conservation style rooflights to existing rear loft area; and Listed Building Consent sought for the partial demolition of rear outrigger and erection of single storey rear extension and installation of two conservation style roof light to existing rear loft area. Internal alterations also include creation of new access stairs to loft and installation of a stud wall to the master bedroom.

110664/FUL/23 and 110665/LBC/23 Davenport Green Hall, Shay Lane, Hale Barns WA15 8UD
Conversion of two existing outbuildings, the Coach House and the Cheshire Barn to form 6 no. residential dwellings, works to include increase to roof ridge height of the Cheshire Barn. Formation of new vehicular access onto Brooks Drive, with new car parking, landscaping, new vehicular and pedestrian gates and associated development thereto; and Listed Building Consent sought for works (see above).

9 May 2023

110828/HHA/23 Holmeside Cottage, 50 Woodville Road, Altrincham WA14 2HD
Remodelling of the existing dwelling to include: Erection of a two storey side extension, new roof and an increase of the ridge height, remodeling of the existing single storey garden room, erection of a single storey double garage and leisure suite along with a single storey link to the main dwelling.