

Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society
Registered charity No. 246145

Minutes of the Committee Meeting 14th November 2023
8.00pm at Altrincham Town Hall

Present:

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

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

Guest: None.

1. Apologies, Declarations of Interest.

1.1 Apologies: David Eastwood MA, Richard Simon

1.2 Declarations of interest – None

1.3 The minutes of the previous meeting on 19th September 2023 were distributed prior to the meeting.

2. Matters arising from previous minutes not otherwise covered on the agenda:

Correction: Under Chair's Report - 1st Line of the 4th Paragraph should read: I'm due to meet with Councillor Coggins this afternoon as the Green candidate for MP.....etc

3. Report from the Chair

Thanks to Richard for organising the AGM speaker and for his hard work and support.

Hopefully members of the committee will have much to contribute to the committee meeting about the future of our Civic Society. They will be aware that my workload has increased greatly due to a number of factors.

I have had a long telephone conversation with Peter Evans (Ex Chair of Bowdon History Society) who has returned to Altrincham after being in the Lake District for some years. I am hopeful that he may be of help to us on the Heritage front. As he is in Altrincham History Society, I will nip upstairs to the first half hour of AHS's meeting on Tuesday to see if he would be interested. I have forwarded to Lis Lewis and Council's heritage champion.

I suspect we're not doing too badly with up to date conservation area appraisals and management plans plus the local listing now complete.

As I did not have my summer break I will be taking some time off from 13th December to 15th January 2024.

Many thanks to Paulina for carrying on with planning matters.

4. Planning Update from Paulina

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

Paulina reported that there were no issues currently to discuss.

Regarding the LQ New Street situation, we are now waiting for the Planning Application and Consultation.

Lidl have advised that the new Broadheath Store will not be open until after Christmas.

The Latest on Altair is that the site is due to be taken back into Trafford's control by the end of the year. A new developer will be appointed.

The promised Regent Road Memorial Garden has not been created. Talks with the Council and Developer are ongoing.

5. Treasurers Report

Copies of the year end accounts were distributed to the committee. Mr. Stone reported it had been a disappointing year showing a deficit for the year of £339.77. This was due to a fall in membership and increased costs.

Bank Accounts: Current: £1092.13 Deposit A/c: £1492.89 HLF A/c: £1.00

6. Credit Card Payments for Membership & Donations for 2024

Mr Hagon suggested reducing the membership fees and introducing credit card payments to make it easier for people to join and pay through the website. Mr. Stone said he thought this would not make any difference, the essential thing is to make the public more aware of our existence and work.

7. Membership Fees for 2024 & Corporate Sponsorship

It was agreed that we should consider corporate sponsorship and the Secretary will draw up a list of possible local businesses and organisations to approach.

8. AGM Preparations

Mr. Hagon said all the arrangements were in place.

9. AOB

As Mr. Cupitt had not attended any meetings since May, it was agreed that the Secretary would contact Mr. Cupitt to find out whether he wished to remain on the committee as our Green Spaces and Heritage lead and retain his Trustee Status, as we had another candidate in mind.

The Friends of Altrincham Interchange are to have a training day, to enable them to safely enter and work in Station Areas.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

**Date and time of next committee meeting – Tuesday 16th January 2024
8pm-9pm at Altrincham Town Hall**

Appendix 1

PLANNING APPLICATIONS 25 September 2023 - 13 November 2023

2 October 2023

111849/HHA/23 44 The Downs, Altrincham WA14 2QQ

Retrospective application for installation of a letterbox to the front elevation of the property

9, 16 October 2023

None

23 October 2023

112010/VAR/23 87 & 87A George Street, Altrincham, WA14 1RN

Application under Section 73 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) for variation of condition 2 of planning permission 101261/FUL/20 (Change of use of first and second floors to form 2 no. residential apartments with minor external alterations,) to include opening roof light in the rear pitched roof slope.

Re-notification letter 26 October 2023

100707/FUL/20 2-8 Kingsway, Altrincham WA14 1PJ

Conversion of listed building from commercial (Class E) to mixed commercial (Class E) and 9 residential apartments (C3) with demolition of single storey rear extensions and construction of a new two storey rear extension together with installation of new shopfront to part of front elevation and internal and external amendments.

Note: The Design Forum has responded to this application.

30 October 2023

112041/FUL/23 The Grafton Centre, Stamford New Road, Altrincham WA14 1DQ

External alterations to include replacement and relocation of windows and doors and roof replacement, external landscaping, cycle parking, change to approved housing mix and creation of associated internal bin store.

Note: The Design Forum and Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society have responded to this and earlier application for this site.

6 November 2023

112079/FUL/23 The Southmark Building, 3 Barrington Road, Altrincham WA14 1HQ

Renovation of The Southmark Building, including replacement windows, replacement roof, new green wall feature, rooftop extension at 4th floor level, landscaping and associated works.

112220/PIP/23 Land between Gillespie House and 6 Back Grafton Street, Altrincham

Application for Permission in Principle for a residential development of land for up to 4 no. self-contained apartments, together with associated landscaping and infrastructure works.

13 November 2023

112050/FUL/23 47A George Street, Altrincham WA14 1RJ

Change of use of upper floors from offices (Class E) to residential (Use Class C3) to form 5 no. apartments including erection of second and third floor rear extensions and addition of dormers at rear and front elevations and other external works.

OTHER MATTERS

A Planning Enforcement Enquiry relating to the former B & J Warehouse adjacent to The Packet House pub, Canal Bridge, Navigation Road WA14 1LW Ref. 23/00238/UN The Planning Compliance Team is investigating.

The Downs Hotel, Railway Street, Altrincham

Cormac McGowan has confirmed that that the demolished building will be rebuilt to reflect the original building. They are looking to agree a more sympathetic brick finish rather than painted brick. The developer has been salvaging original features for re-use.