

Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society
Registered charity No. 246145

Minutes of the Committee Meeting 19th March 2024
8.00pm at Altrincham Town Hall

Present:

Committee members: Judie Collins (Chair), Paulina Lewis (Planning), Trevor Stone (Treasurer), Leslie Cupitt

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

Guests: None.

1. Apologies, Declarations of Interest.

1.1 Apologies: Richard Hagon (Sec), Robert Redford, Katie Bland

1.2 Declarations of interest – None

1.3 The minutes of the previous meeting on 16th January 2024 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 have won a national award in Celebrating Town Centres courtesy of Civic Voice which is good news.

Altrincham is also hosting the Greater Manchester Friends of Stations Awards at Altrincham Town Hall.

There was good news at Planning last night when Regent Road was finally signed off. I was there and stressed the need for the carpark to open as quickly as possible to benefit residents driving into town and business looking for trade, like Lisa who has just opened on the corner of New Street.

The memorial garden is also included so we will need to see the designs as what was there on Remembrance Sunday was very unsatisfactory. Refugees in temporary accommodation in the Graftons was also approved and the government will fund this.

I have spoken and written to Mike Kane the MP for Wythenshawe about helping out Wythenshawe by re-opening minor injuries. We have had several people refusing to go to Wythenshawe because of the long waits which could create great harm if head injuries are involved. Mike says there is a new executive lead for Wythenshawe and Trafford at MFT so we can follow this up.

Not much progress with L&Q though a renewed planning application for New Street is imminent though so allegedly is Altair so we shall see.

We need to think about a topic for our April newsletter-could be heritage or town centre. Suggestions are welcome. Our elections one still seems to leave Trafford unaware of the rules so interesting times.

Paulina again hosted Mandy and Kate from the BID. Easter is themed round Princesses and Pirates as Garrick have Treasure Island.

Ian can do a brief summary of the present situation good and bad at the Interchange.

Now that a May general election has been discounted we can look at a date for our parliamentary hustings and maybe send some questions to the May candidates for our three wards.

We are very pleased that Katie Bland has agreed to join the committee. As a previous manager for Altrincham BID her connections are very strong.

4. Planning Update from Paulina

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

5. (a) Town Centre update from Angela **see appendix 2**

(b) Membership and Treasurer's report.

Bank Accounts: Current: £1498.84 Deposit A/c: £1505.81 HLF A/c: £1.00

6. Last weeks Planning Meeting Update – See report from the Chair

7. Interchange update from Ian.

The long overdue repairs to the roof on platform 4 have at last been put in hand but we have no date for the completion. The refurbished rooms on platform 4 remain empty as a result of damp due to rainwater ingress with no information as to a possible tenant (could be a challenge as there is no toilet within 100 metres of the rooms!). They are likely to remain empty for a while after the roof repairs to allow for drying out and then re-decoration which will extend to the waiting room though it is now open for use by passengers.

8. Local General Election Hustings

These will be held in Late September 2024.

9. Items for the next online Newsletter

10. AOB

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

**Date and time of next committee meeting – Tuesday 21st May 2024
Altrincham Town Hall 8pm**

Appendix 1

PLANNING APPLICATIONS 22 JANUARY 2024 - 18 MARCH 2024

29 January 2024

112574/FUL/23 The Grafton Centre, Stamford New Road, Altrincham WA14 1DQ

Change of use of part of first and second floors from Commercial, Business and Service (Use Class E) to 9 no. residential apartments (Use Class 3), external alterations to include elevational changes, additional

windows, replacement and relocation of windows and doors and partial raising of the roof height, roof replacement, cycle parking, landscaping and creation of associated internal bin store.

Note: Comments submitted by The Design Forum

5 February 2024

112710/FUL/24 47A George Street, Altrincham WA14 1JR

Change of use of upper floors from offices (Class E) to residential use (Use Class C3) to form 4 no. apartments including 2nd floor rear extension, rear dormer and other external works.

Note: Comments submitted by The Design Forum

12 February 2024

112693/COU/24 Unit 1, Lloyd Street, Altrincham WA14 2SU

Change of use from Class E to Sui Generis (Tanning Salon).

Note: No external alterations.

19 February 2024

112835/FUL/24 87 & 87A George Street, Altrincham WA14 1RN

Retrospective application for conversion of 1st & 2nd floors to form 2 no. residential apartments with associated minor & external alterations and new rear rooflight.

4 March 2024

112935/FUL.24 Canal Warehouse, Bridgewater Retail Park, Broadheath

Many amendments to original application (111563/FUL/23) including Electricity substation and 8 vehicle charger hub.

112805/HHA/24 Mulberry House, St Margarets Road, Bowdon

Widening of vehicular entrance and installation of new gate posts and gate.

18 March 2024

None

Appendix 2

Altrincham Town Centre Update

Compiled by Angela Stone – Our Town Centre Lead

Altrincham Business Update

March 2024

New openings

It seems to be a couple of months for health and well being!

Calma Salons for nails, skin, brows and massage at Old Market Place

Lido Advanced Aesthetics has opened on Market St offering facial and skin care treatments

Does, a coffee shop and selfcare studio was opened on Kingsway

The Stretch Station – complementary therapy to work out to the gyms in the area has opened in Old Market Place

Gharaana a South Asian restaurant has opened in Goose Green where King Pong was. Goose Green is now full again in time for summer when it is a popular weekend venue,

Mathnasium has opened on Stamford New Road offering a maths learning school for children. Described as a “maths gym” and providing a fun and immersive learning environment.

Cheshire Cupcakes on Market St, the pretty pink shop offering a range of tasty looking delights.

Nostro Italian brunch a concept café has opened on Hale Road on the bridge heading out of Altrincham

Pho You will be opening on Railway St where the dry cleaners used to be.

Rudy’s Pizza has been announced as coming to where One Central was on Central Way. Planning has been approved. We are currently ensuring that the public quinnel access remains in place.

Otters in a Pot are to open in the former Smooch for bubble tea and light snacks

Masa, an independent art gallery has opened on The Downs.

California Coffee have opened a unit in Two Four Nine.

Broadheath

Temple Place Claypot Rice takeout opened on Manchester Road in Broadheath.

EZH has opened in Broadheath offering gifts from Independent producers across Manchester. Based on Viaduct Road. The Viaducts are becoming very popular for start up businesses in our area.

Businesses For Sale

In addition to those reported in January

Ikon Bar, LD24, and the Corner Shop in Broadheath are up for sale.

The building housing Old Market Tavern is up for sale. Sales particulars state the bar is unaffected. The County Galleries building is now up for sale.

Hospitality

In addition to a number of new openings and anticipated new openings there has been little in the way of closures or sales which is positive for our Night Time Economy.

Best Bar None – Altrincham were shortlisted in the Town Category at the Award Ceremony in London following the Annual Conference. We’re about to start the 2024/25 scheme with some new additions to the Committee and extending our area to include additional bars in the South Trafford area. We’re looking to continue existing initiatives and new ones to enhance our scheme.

Altrincham is still very much an active participant in the National Organisations Pubwatch and Best Bar None.

Totties have reapplied for their licence following rejection of plans to turn the unit into apartments.

West Beverley now offers a private space for private parties on the first floor. On Shaw's Road. They also now offer yoga classes.

The Railway in Broadheath was closed following a police raid and is up at Trafford Council Review this week.

The Navigation has new landlords who are keen to revitalise the bar.

The Bowdon Rooms continue to offer a variety of events including an Adult Disco featuring music from the 80s!

The BritFest have now finalised their line up and tickets are still on sale.

Events and activities

Altrincham vs Cancer, organised by Alex at Altrincham HQ took place in February involving businesses, local community volunteers and local schools the fundraising for The Christie stands at £8,366.

Paint Altrincham Pink for Prevent Breast Cancer took place in March. Events and activities took place across the town and was supported by BID. The final totals are yet to be announced.

Altrincham won the Sustainability award at the Visa "Let's Celebrate Towns" ceremony in March.

Stockport won the Sunday Times award for Best Place to live. This year Altrincham failed to get a mention.

Manchester Marathon is on the 14th April will see runners enter Altrincham from Myerson's up Stamford Street, along Market St, down Regent Road, onto Stamford New Road and leaving Altrincham over Moss Lane Bridge & past the Leisure Centre, Entertainment and Children's groups are being organised to cover the Altrincham section of the route. There will be around 24,000 runners taking part and road closures will be in place for the bulk of the day, there will also be changes at the Interchange, though Metrolink and Rail services remain,

BID are organising an Easter Town Trail, this time the theme is Pirates and Princesses – expect to see plenty of Disney Princesses searching out clues on the streets of Altrincham 😊

Local teams Altrincham Football Club and Manchester Storm are both finishing their seasons strongly with late wins. The teams are strong community supporters.

Manchester Storm Painted the Rink over the weekend of 9th and 10th March and took part in the collection of money from bars across Altrincham on the 8th March for Paint Altrincham Pink.

It's National Non-League Day on 23rd March and Altrincham FC have a number of activities planned including encouraging Altrincham to "go red" to celebrate our local football team. The unit on George St is being used for community activities as well as providing a town centre location for ticket and merchandise sales.