



**ANNUAL REPORT
OF
ALFRETON TOWN COUNCIL**

**PRESENTED BY THE TOWN MAYOR
COUNCILLOR MARY KERRY**

16TH MAY 2017

I am truly humbled by the support that I have received during my year as Mayor.

I have had a busy but interesting and dare I say it enjoyable year representing the town of Alfreton at a wide range, of events - around 40 in number.

This includes civic events, fun days both in Alfreton and Amber Valley and religious services for other Councils and in Alfreton to mark significant events in history and to commemorate those lost in war, the town organised the Remembrance Sunday event to do just that. I was asked to open the skate park on the Welfare of which this Council helped to fund and the Council held their first Fun Run which was a great success and attended by many.

I have attended sporting events, choral and theatre events. I was particularly pleased to participate in beating the retreat at Chatsworth. The Council held their third Christmas light switch on which increases in popularity each year and helped to raise funds for my chosen charity. Only last week I participated in the walk around Alfreton to mark 200 years since the Pentrich Revolution, of which an Interpretation Board is now in situ to be enjoyed by many for future years to come.

When I was considering which charity to support, personal reasons attracted me to 'mind' but I was particularly taken by their slogan "we won't give up until everyone experiencing a mental health problem gets support and respect", it was their statement that mental health sufferers don't just need help they also need **respect** that caught my imagination. I have had many events to raise fund on their behalf. I have raised £1398.44 through peoples generosity.

I want to place on record my thanks to my consort Mandy Oldknow, Mandy has accompanied and supported me at many of the functions I have attended as mayor. I should also like to thank the deputy Town Mayor, Councillor John Walker, who has always been available to support the work of the Town Mayor. Last but not least I would like to thank the other Alfreton Town Councillors and Council staff who have made my year as mayor gratifying.

MEETINGS AND ATTENDANCE

Alfreton Town Council met on 10 occasions last year with no meeting held in August 16 or February 17. Alfreton Town Council was served an Executive Committee

Attendance was as follows:

	No. of meetings	Possible member attendances	Actual member attendances	Percentage attendance level
Full Council	10	146	110	75%
Executive Committee	1	8	6	75%
OVERALL	11	154	116	75%

Member ship and outside bodies

ACTS

Alfreton Community Forum

Alfreton & District Heritage Trust

Alfreton Business Club

Alfreton Heritage

Amber Valley Access

Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre

Alfreton Community Hall

Police Liaison

Pubwatch

Pentrich Revolution Group

Local Council Award Scheme

The Council resolved in March 2017 to apply for the Local Council Award Scheme Gold level. The work has started on this and reports will be taken to Full Council throughout the year.



LIAISON WITH ALFRETON POLICE

The police are invited to each council meeting to update the Councillors on any issues and concerns. A 6 weekly update with Officers will take place throughout 2017/2018 and where possible the Police will attend the Council Meeting.

The Town Council wish to thank the Inspector and his team for servicing Alfreton.

CUSTOMER CARE

Alfreton Town Council has a Complaints Procedure. The Town Council have not received any complaints through this system.

ACCESSIBILITY AND COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter – ‘cATCh UP’.

The Council’s newsletter is published at least twice yearly.

The Town Council now have a Facebook and twitter page.

At their meeting in January it was resolved that a new website was designed and maintained by Officers, this is expected to be live in May 2017. More documents will be available to view allowing the Council to be ‘open and transparent’

A period of 15 minutes at the start of each full Alfreton Town Council meeting is dedicated to public participation. There are rules for participation at Council meetings. They are designed to be straightforward, simple and fair and allow business to proceed in a fair and orderly manner.

Questioners must be on the Electoral Register for the Town of Alfreton. A form must be completed a week before the meeting and can be found on the website.

PLANNING AND LICENSING MATTERS

Alfreton Town Council has a Planning Committee, which considered 50 Planning Applications. 3 objections and 9 observations to Amber Valley Borough Council, the Planning Authority were made generally in relation to heritage of historical building, noise, light pollution and parking issues. The Planning Committee is keen to ensure the growth of Alfreton as a vibrant shopping and residential town without compromising the quality of life of residents or the historical and conservation needs.

The last ‘Village Green’ to be approved in England under the Commons Act has now been secured on the land known locally as Outseat’s Farm site. An area of just over 5 acres has been set aside for wildlife, recreation and leisure. This will be maintained by the Town Council.

FINANCE

The Town Council has no borrowings. An Internal Audit has been passed 2016/17.

ALFRETON TOWN COUNCIL BALANCE AS AT 31/03/2017

Opening Balance		106120.58	
INCOME			
Precepts	143049.00	.	
Precepts Support Grant(Capital Projects)	14697.00	.	
Compensation	122.87	.	
Alfreton House & Properties	15048.21	.	
Personnel	3450.00	.	
Vat Refund	8971.23		
Reinstated Cq's	165.00		
Refunds	29.24		
Mayors Charity	150.00		
Unity Interest	54.38		
TOTAL	185736.93	185736.93	
		291857.51	291857.51
	Bank A/c		
Salaries	66119.47		
Pensions	13319.19		
Personnel	1313.79		
Cleaning Contract	6854.40		
Administration	7241.85		
Insurance 2016-2017	5258.62		
Insurance 2017-2018	5370.20		
Mayors Allowance M Bennett	225.00		
Mayors Allowance M Kerry	1609.74		
Grants	16935.00		
Properties, Alfreton House + Utilities	18539.55		
Environment & Christmas Lights	34833.13		
Motor Vehicle	606.60		
Allotments	535.00		
Newsletter/Website	2230.45		
Sponsorship	3000.00		
Outseats/Eachwell Lane	500.00		
Elections	7029.06		
Christmas Event	4057.93		
Balances	746.00		
Environment (Capital Projects)	0.00		
Fun Run	799.90		
VAT	11643.27		
Petty Cash	2104.13		
Unity - Top up card	396.84		
Bank Charges	142.35		
TOTAL	145292.00		
BALANCE OF UNITY BANK ACCOUNT AS AT 31/03/17			145292.00
			146565.51
			82470.37
	Less Unpresented Payments		-2074.00
			80396.37
		Petty cash in hand	49.67
		TOTAL	80446.04

GRANTS AND COMMUNITY FUND

The Town Council has awarded, in 2016/2017, grants to: -

GRANTS 2016/2017 BUDGET SET

£17000.00

17000.00

ORGANISATION	AMOUNT GRANTED	DURATION OF GRANT
Alfreton Rendezvous Group	250.00	1 YEAR
Alfreton Party In The Park	3000.00	1 YEAR
Alfreton Town Junior Football Club	750.00	1 YEAR
D.U.W.C	2500.00	1 YEAR
Alfreton Cricket Club	1500.00	1 YEAR
1st Responders	1500.00	1 YEAR
Saturday Social Club	200.00	1 YEAR
Firs House Pensioners	320.00	1 YEAR
Firs Friendship Club	200.00	1 YEAR
Derbyshire Sports Scene	250.00	
Heritage Trust	500.00	
Friends Woodbridge	2000.00	
Play and Praise	1000.00	
Copthorne Community School	500.00	
A.D.A.S.C	1500.00	
South Normanton Food Bank	465.00	
Friends of Alf Park Special School	500.00	
TOTAL	16935.00	
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Grant application forms are available on the website.

The Town Council continues to sponsor Alfreton Town Football Club for £3000.00 and issues 10 match tickets to charity and local organisations.

STAFFING

The Town Council employs the following staff:

Town Clerk – David Holmes (Part time)

Assistant Town Clerk – Tina Crookes (Part time)

Office Assistant – Sharon Bidwell (Part time)

Garden and Maintenance Operative – Steve Else(Full time)

Cormac Molumby – Apprentice (Part-time til November 2017)

The Garden Maintenance Officer, Steve Degg retired in March 2017. The Council wishes to thank Steve for his hard work and dedication.

Office Availability

Access

Alfreton Town Council, as a service provider, is keen to ensure that its services are available to all residents and visitors to the Town. The office can be contacted in various ways (person, phone, email, letter).

Alfreton Town Council can be contacted at:

Room 12, Alfreton House, High Street, Alfreton DE55 7HH.

The offices are staffed between 9-00 am and 12-30 pm Tuesday to Thursday, if you have a query you can call in to the office between these hours, no appointment necessary or you can write to us at the above address, we pride ourselves in answering correspondence speedily.

If you would prefer to ring our telephone number is 01773 520032 or e-mail us on alfretontc@aol.com.

The Town Council has a website which can be accessed at

www.alfretontowncouncil.co.uk

The Town Council also has a facebook and twitter page



ALFRETON STATION AND TRAIN SERVICES THROUGH ALFRETON

The Town Council were disappointed to learn that the promised work on Alfreton Train Station was once again suspended and Network Rail has failed to deliver an accessible platform. No further details are currently available.

ALFRETON BUS STATION.

Alfreton Town Council is responsible for the sweeping of the bus station and cleaning of the shelters. The Grounds and Maintenance Operative along with the Apprentice carries out the sweeping and contractors undertake the specialist cleaning which the Town Council pays for. The Town Council continues to monitor the use of Grange Street and Marshall Road by buses.

TOUR OF THE TOWN

This is a route taken to areas in Alfreton predominantly owned by the Council but also gives the public the opportunity to meet with their elected Members.

PROPERTIES:**Alfreton House**

Alfreton Town Council maintains and manages Alfreton House which is the oldest property in Alfreton. Due to the age of the building increased running costs are incurred by The Council.

The building is used for all Council Meetings and events, along with rooms within the house being let to commercial tenants. The Council Chamber is let out at an affordable rate. Maintenance of the building is ongoing.

War Memorial

Alfreton Town Council organised alongside the Royal British Legion, a parade and church service for Remembrance Sunday. This was attended by over 2000 people and was a very successful event. Road closures were in place, supported by the Police to ensure the safety of the public.

House of Confinement.

Is managed and maintained by the Council. A process was identified including an indemnity, for access to the property for members of the public.

Watchorn Bus Shelter

This is managed and maintained by the Council.

ALLOTMENTS

Alfreton Town Council is the owner of 4 Allotment Sites. They are under the management of individual allotment associations. Alfreton Town Council will continue to support those associations so that they can offer allotments at a very reasonable rent.

SUMMER AND WINTER PLANTING SCHEMES

The Town Council provides and maintains planting schemes throughout the Town, particularly the grounds of Alfreton House and the House of Confinement. The Garden and Maintenance Operative also maintain the planters at Alfreton Railway Station, Alfreton Grange Arts College, opposite the Watchorn Church on Derby Road and at the War Memorial site.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND SWITCH ON EVENT

The annual light display and event was held again in Alfreton in 2016. An upgrade of lights is proposed for the High Street for 2017 and another Christmas Event.

STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

Officers carried out a Financial Risk Assessment as did too a Member Financial Regulations were reviewed and updated in November 2016 A Health and Safety Policy and Rules were adopted in November 2014 Insurance was reviewed in March 2016

COUNCIL MEMBERS

MEMBERS OF ALFRETON TOWN COUNCIL CONTACT LIST		
<u>COUNCILLOR</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>TELEPHONE</u>
Mrs.M.Bennett	11, Birch Close, Alfreton, Derby's DE55 7ET	01773 834414
Mrs.P.Bennett	54, Ellesmere Avenue, Alfreton, Derby's DE55 7HW	01773 835867
Mrs.G.Dolman	47, Alfred Street, Alfreton, Derby's DE55 7JD	01773 835065
J Dolman	47, Alfred Street, Alfreton, Derby's DE55 7JD	01773 835065
G Gdula	28, Cressy Road, Alfreton, Derby's DE55 7BR	01773 834206
Mr P Hunt	50 Prospect Street Alfreton, Derbys DE55 7GY	01773 835732
Mary Kerry	12 Chatsworth Close, Alfreton, Derbyshire DE55 7PH	01773 521110
S.Marshall-Clarke	28, Cressy Road, Alfreton, Derby's DE55 7BR	01773 834206
Kat Moss	9 Furnace Row,Somercotes	07971 880130
Cheryl O'Brian	15 Colin Street Alfreton Derbyshire DE55 7HT	01773 830240
A.Richardson	43, Firs Gardens, Alfreton, Derby's DE55 7FU	01773 835508
J.Walker	40, Ley Gardens, Alfreton, Derby' s DE55 7GZ	01773 831727
S.Walker	5, Meadow Court, Priory Rd, Alfreton, Derby's DE55 7JF	01773 830028
Keith Wood	3 Ley Gardens Alfreton Derby's DE55 7LA	07941 620772
Philip Woodhouse	36 Milton Avenue Alfreton Derbyshire DE55 7LA	01773 836749