



**Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting Meeting**  
**Held on Tuesday 8th April 2025 at Lutterworth Town Council office at 6:30 PM**

Those present :

Chairman : R Coleman

Vice-Chairman : V Cooper

Councillors : J Ackerley, J Bennett, D Gair, N Green, T Hirons, B Poulter, S Simms

Officers : A Masters - Deputy Clerk, C Mobbs - Town Clerk

\* Attended remotely

**25/ATM/1 Apologies**

Apologies have been received from Councillors D Jones, R Nunn, S Lonsdale, G Robinson and they were accepted.

**25/ATM/2 Declarations of Interest**

Councillor R Coleman declared a non-pecuniary interest as he is a Town Council trustee of the Lutterworth Town Hall Charity, the Lutterworth and District Museum and the Lutterworth Town Estate Charity.

Councillor S Simms declared a non-pecuniary interest as she is a Town Council trustee of the Lutterworth Town Hall Charity and the Lutterworth and District Museum.

Councillor J Ackerley declared a non-pecuniary interest as she is a Town Council trustee of the Lutterworth Town Estate Charity.

**25/ATM/3 Chairman's Report**

Members noted the Chairman's report for 2024/25.

Please find enclosed report.

**25/ATM/4 Lutterworth Town Hall Charity**

Members noted the update from the Lutterworth Town Hall Charity for 2024/25.

They confirmed that the Lease has been agreed and is in place for the management company Live at the Lodge.

Repairs are being carried out internally and awaiting grant funding for further repairs.

**25/ATM/5 Lutterworth and District Museum**

Members noted the update from the Lutterworth and District Museum for 2024/25.

**25/ATM/6 Lutterworth Town Estate Charity**

No update was given from the Lutterworth Town Estate's Charity.

**25/ATM/7 Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday 14th April 2026 at 6.30pm and will be held at the Town Council office.

Meeting Closed - 6.42pm

**Signed:.....**

**Dated:.....**

# Annual report 2024-25

The Council have had a very successful 12 months which has seen a period of growth resulting in progress and gains for the residents of Lutterworth.

For a considerable time, there have been key issues and priorities that the Council felt were being neglected by the actions of the District Council and decided it needed to collaborate and build a close working partnership with H.D.C to focus on the community and projects that would bring positive results for the Town.

In December the District Council agreed with our comments that one of the major issues had been the sale of the De-Verdon site to a property developer, HDC agreed that the Council was to receive an ex-gratia payment of £100K towards the Council's cost in having to supply alternative allotments.

We have also gained a sum of £241,019 from several S106 projects and Community Funding options. The administration officers at HDC responsible for S106 agreements have visited the Council and agreed we should be working closely to align the call from developers to the needs of the Town. The Council is presently compiling a 10-year plan of projects it would like to undertake, Finance permitting.

Following applying for and receiving the authority from the Secretary of the State, the Council applied and received

authority to apply for a Public works loan in the sum of £140,000 to enable us to bring many projects forward to completion. The Council received a commendation from the Local Council authority that their PWLB application was exemplary which resulted in prompt acceptance, which has not been seen for a long time.

The Council's priority project will be the recreational equipment on Crescent Road. Following agreement with H.D.C for the Town Council to take ownership of the land it means we can expect to see building work commencing shortly. As expected, the Council consulted with its residents before confirming the final design. We have since considered additional landscaping of the area and after its completion, everyone should see an attractive area on which they can sit and watch our Children and Grandchildren play.

The transfer of smaller areas of land in the town is under negotiation between H.D.C. the current owners and us. It is the intention that the Council along with its residents take ownership and make use of them at a lower cost to the rate payer.

You will have already seen work starting on The Coventry Road Recreational ground to replace an aging skate park with something more befitting of today's youth. I think this will not be a facility which will get much use from our aging Councillors. We are consulting both with the youth and the town's residents to allow them to decide what equipment they would like.

The lease for the Police beat office has been finalised. The presence of Police 24/7 in the town can only be good for the community. The Police are already reporting a reduction on year-on-year of all crimes in the district except for domestic violence. We welcome seeing further reductions in the coming years.

There are further major projects in the design stages including the refurbishment of the Pavilion on the park. This facility is no longer used for changing rooms and poses a potential health risk of legionnaires disease from unused showering facilities. The current finances and S106 grants awarded will enable us to refurbish the building and offer community rooms for small and large parties or meetings, this summer.

The Council offices were showing severe signs of decay, a rotten frontage, which has resulted in it being replaced, and the internal spacing reorganised and regenerated. This should give us an economic environment in which to work plus a new community room that can be hired out to the public.

Soon the Town Centre will see a newly revitalised relaxation area to be created on the Town Hall carpark. This has been funded by Central Government Levelling-up funding. This is another initiative that the Town Council has worked closely with H.D.C. to keep the reduction of parking spaces to a minimum. Street furnishings and the overall streetscape have been chosen to fit the aesthetics of the Town Centre.

In 2001 the atmosphere in the center of the town was considered unsafe and we were referred to DEFRA for special investigation and measures, then later in 2011 & 2013 additional areas were added. The latest report in 2024 saw that we had cleaned our air significantly, despite increases in the traffic through the town center. Although no longer a legal requirement the air quality will continue to be monitored for the foreseeable future.

As a Council, we would like to thank the many Volunteer groups who make our town so much better to live in. A special mention goes to Blooming Lutterworth who year-on-year gives us a superlative floral display.

The Town Museum, which the Council supports has now seen approx. 8000 visitors from over 38 Countries since opening at High Point. The governance of Museums has equated this to an economic gain of approx. £80k/annum to the local economy.

Like a Phoenix rising from the ashes, one of our local businesses The Shambles re-opened after a significant fire in 2023. I am sure we would all welcome their success.

Finally, The Council is mindful of the traffic and parking problems which affect our Town. With the likelihood of the Traffic getting worse with the future development of East Lutterworth and the proposed quarry at Misterton, the Council is and will continue to work closely with H.D.C and County Highways to mitigate this issue.

RWC  
Town Mayor  
May 2025





LUTTERWORTH & DISTRICT MUSEUM  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING REPORT

Since opening in October 2022, the Museum has received nearly 8,000 visitors, both for the benefit of the Museum but also traders and the town itself. The visitors have been from across the world, nearly 40 countries so far. As well as a timeline of the history of Lutterworth & District, a number of temporary exhibitions have been staged to keep the attraction as 'fresh' as possible. At present there is a major exhibition devoted to George Spencer, probably the greatest benefactor to Lutterworth and a V.E. Day will be on show in early May.

Grateful thanks must go to our non-Council Trustees and our wonderful volunteers.

At the beginning of 2025, the Forge Café (our neighbours), announced that they would be leaving Highpoint and moving to the Churchgate Centre. Following negotiations, we have now reached agreement with The Lutterworth Town Estate Trustees for the Museum to take over the whole building. It is planned that the café area will become a 'Story of Flight', incorporating Percy Pilcher, the Merlin engine and, of course, The Sir Frank Whittle collection.

This has only been achieved through the financial support and enthusiasm of Lutterworth Town Council and we extend to them our very grateful thanks.

Tony Hirons

Chairman – Lutterworth & District Museum      08/04/2025

