

A historic term draws to an end at Aylesbury Mosque. The Executive Committee has set a date for elections and shared its decision to stand down at the end of this term

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The current Executive Committee at the Mosque has completed its three-year term and announced elections for 25 November 2018. This term has seen substantial improvements at the Mosque. This has included significant investments, restructuring of the education provision, record number of children across multiple sites and the completion of innovative capital projects. The team has placed a particular emphasis on community cohesion and developing deep ties with friends across other faith groups, local organisations, Schools, Clubs and elected representatives.

The Executive Committee delivered on their promise to improve Education by investing record sums of money into the current education system. This involved the appointment of multiple Imams and Teachers with a particular emphasis on the English language. The Mosque has also established a pioneering satellite facility at Aylesbury College. There are Diplomas and iGCSE programmes that run over the weekend. These investments have meant that the Mosque now caters for over 300 students across these two sites.

The Mosque has become a hub of the entire community and has been instrumental in building community cohesion and celebrating our diversity through exceptionally well attended family events such as the Eid Fayre, Community Iftar, Open Days and the 25th Anniversary celebrations. The Mosque has been fully engaged in the political discourse to ensure that its views and needs are properly understood and represented.



Upon reflecting on his tenure, the President of the Executive Committee Asad Mahmood said, *“Serving this Mosque and the community of Aylesbury has been the greatest honour and privilege of my life. I am grateful for the support that I have received over this term. I hope that my successors can build on the community cohesion and the deep ties that we have developed with our friends across Aylesbury Vale”*

The Executive Committee also introduced a new culture of openness and communication through a very active presence on social media channels and a record number of citations in local and national press. This coverage has attracted followers from across the entire community and generated enormous goodwill for initiatives such as the crowdfunding of an Ambulance for the people of Syria.

When asked about this, the General Secretary of the Executive Committee Masood Ahmed said, *“As someone who was born-and-bred in Aylesbury, I feel that this was my moment to give back to the community, which has afforded me so many opportunities. I have worked passionately and vigorously to make the Mosque accessible for all. I hope that the incoming administration also places the same emphasis on the need to develop deeper ties with our local community”*



The Mosque has undertaken significant capital projects during this term. An investment of approximately £150,000 has ensured that the Mosque has modernised its facilities and is now equipped to meet the needs of the wider community. Each project has had its unique challenges, ranging from engineering, planning and financial considerations. This has kept us engaged and stimulated in the delivery of these projects.



Zaffar Iqbal, the Treasurer of the Executive Committee said, *“I am delighted that the Mosque has addressed systemic challenges of the past by investing in innovative solutions which will be enjoyed by generations to come. This required strong and visionary leadership and our team has provided a direction, which was positively embraced by our community. This commitment translated into tens of thousands of pounds in donations. The Mosque should not retreat from the bold vision that we have set in motion”*

Mohammed Farooq, the Director of Education added, *“We have transformed the delivery of education through the changes we have introduced over this term. Our staff have been vital in realising this success. We remained focus on our goal to promote unity throughout our town. The infrastructure we leave in place will serve as a blueprint for successful integration and forward thinking”*



About Aylesbury Mosque

Aylesbury Ghausia Mosque was built in 1987 to serve the needs of the local Muslim community. As the first Mosque ever to be built in Aylesbury, it stands as a wonderful example of traditional Mughal architecture. The sumptuous white dome and towering minaret look breathtaking against the backdrop of the moon and the stars on a clear night. The Mosque has become a hub for the wider community and has built deep ties with local organisations.

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