

Alresford Town F.C.
www.alresfordtownfc.co.uk

To: Recreational & Environment Committee
From: Alresford Town F.C. (ATFC)
Date: October 6, 2020
Re: Status of Club

General:

Since the new management and leadership team took over, we have been working hard at various levels within the club. The takeover was completed in the middle of May '20 and as everyone is aware, during a pandemic.

This led to many unknowns within the return to play models which the F.A. would adopt, but at all times the ATFC staff, players and officials observed and maintained the imposed government regulations for operations.

To date, as challenging as the situation has been, we are proud of the support the community has provided and pleased with our operations.

First Team:

During the summer a new management team was installed from Farnham Town F.C. after the resignation of previous staff. Only one player was retained from the previous season, so we have started from scratch regarding playing squad.

The squad is very young compared to the rest of the clubs in our league, but we feel this is essential to building a solid foundation. For the first time in many years, we have Alresford based players representing the team.

Due to the above, we have had mixed results but took points of Blackfield & Langley who came down from the southern league and Christchurch F.C. who are in the 3rd qualifying round of the F.A. Cup.

Arlebury Park:

The new leadership has spent a significant amount of funds on the playing pitch in order to provide the team with a high-level surface for competition. Close to five thousand pounds has been spent to date on improving and to maintain the pitch.

Additionally, new signage and provisions for COVID-19 have been put in place and paid for by the club.

Good communication has been established between the proprietors of Arlebury Park Club and our staff.

Parking protocols have been established to maintain flow of traffic and no parking is ever seen on The Avenue, parking details are sent to incoming clubs in the lead up to each week's home games. This includes have parking attendants for games where a large crowd is expected.

It has been requested to the working group that procedures and policies are created for any potential ground improvements which may be required by the Football Association, Wessex League, and/or Step System.

Southampton Women's Football Club:

The partnership between ATFC and Southampton Women's Football Club has been received extremely well by the community. For the first time, young female players have access in the community to high level football, players they can admire and look up to as role models.

This was a key goal of the leadership when looking at ATFC and we're very happy with how the community has welcomed the team. Chairman Craig Scriven is in constant contact with their club and represents them in all matters.

Alresford Town Youth Football Club:

Another strategic alignment has taken place since May with the youth club (ATYFC). The two clubs are now closer than ever, which has already seen a club recognition day coinciding with a first team game and Southampton WFC day at the youth club.

The Chairman's of both clubs speak regularly, and plans are in place to build more opportunities and experiences for the young players within the Town of Alresford. These will develop over time as we create a clear and precise pathway for both boys' and girls' players to progress through in their development, opportunities, education and advancement.

COVID-19:

The club has created policies and procedures (P&P) for all contests to maintain a safe match day experience for players (attached). In September, we had an unannounced guest in the chairman of the Wessex League who evaluated our game day procedures. We received a very positive review and one of the best within the league to date and the report is attached.

We continue to monitor local and national policies, procedures and guidelines and are within these at the present time. To date, we have no report of any transmission at an ATFC event.

Current P&P: Temperature check on entry to ground (contactless), track and trace (QR Code), one-way walking system, 2M viewing points around the ground (visibly marked), clear zones in team dugouts, additional chairs provided for staff and playing squad.

NATC Recreation and Environment Committee Meeting
(Wednesday 7th October 7:30pm)

Tennis Club Report

- Club membership for the current year stands at 157, including 35 juniors. This is a 15% increase on last year.
- We have introduced a web based court booking facility utilising the LTA ClubSparc system which is proving popular with both club members and members of the public.
- Now that the summer season is drawing to a close, we are planning to have the courts cleaned and treated with an anti-moss/algal biocide before winter sets in.
- The club is investigating the feasibility of replacing the current floodlights with LED units. The current lights are coming towards the end of their expected working life and replacement bulbs are increasingly difficult to find. LED units are also more energy efficient.
- The hedge along the back of the courts is becoming overgrown. Would it be possible for the NATC/ARC grounds staff to trim the hedge back to the fence inside the courts? (I believe this has been done in the past.)

MJH
3/10/20

Information for New Alresford Town Council on becoming a 'Pesticide free' town.

Background

Pesticide Action Network UK (PAN) is a charity concerned with the health and environmental problems associated with pesticide use. They are part of a wider international network of NGO's. PAN provides policy guidance, working with local authorities to support them through a 3 year phase-out process. PAN UK is keen to work with councils and other land managers to devise bespoke strategies for ending pesticide use tailored to fit their local context.

Why does it matter?

Pesticides – including herbicides, insecticides and fungicides are used to control weeds and vermin. They are used in schools, parks, playgrounds, hospitals and on our streets. These areas are used on a daily basis often by the most vulnerable to adverse effects of pesticides: elderly people, young children and pregnant women.

Pesticide use can have serious human health impacts, harm biodiversity and contaminate water courses. There is growing evidence that glyphosate, the most commonly used 'systemic' weed killer is classified as a probable human carcinogen and more and more countries, cities and towns are banning its use

Pesticides are endocrine disruptors and their use has been linked to many conditions from birth defects, lower IQ's, behavioural disorders and Parkinsons Disease.

Pesticides have contributed to the long term decline of animal numbers including pollinators, birds, butterflies, toads and hedgehogs.

Millions of pounds are spent removing pesticides from water.

There is no reason to use pesticides in our towns and cities – the only thing we grow there is our children.

Pesticide phase-out

PAN recommends a phased approach.

1. Introduction of 'chemical-free' weed removal and management methods by the council, its officers and contractors on all land that is directly or indirectly under its control.
2. Work with other stakeholders to follow suit in ending the use of pesticides on land under their control.
3. Encourage the general public to stop using pesticides in gardens, allotments and other areas.

What are the benefits?

- Protection of our residents, particularly the most vulnerable group of elderly people, young children and pregnant women, from the adverse effects from pesticide exposure.
- Boost and enhance biodiversity, supporting our pollinators and other wild animals whose numbers have been in serious decline. This is essential to mitigate against the effects of climate change - and a priority in Winchester City Council's Climate Neutrality Action Plan.
- Improved quality of our watercourses.

Useful Information

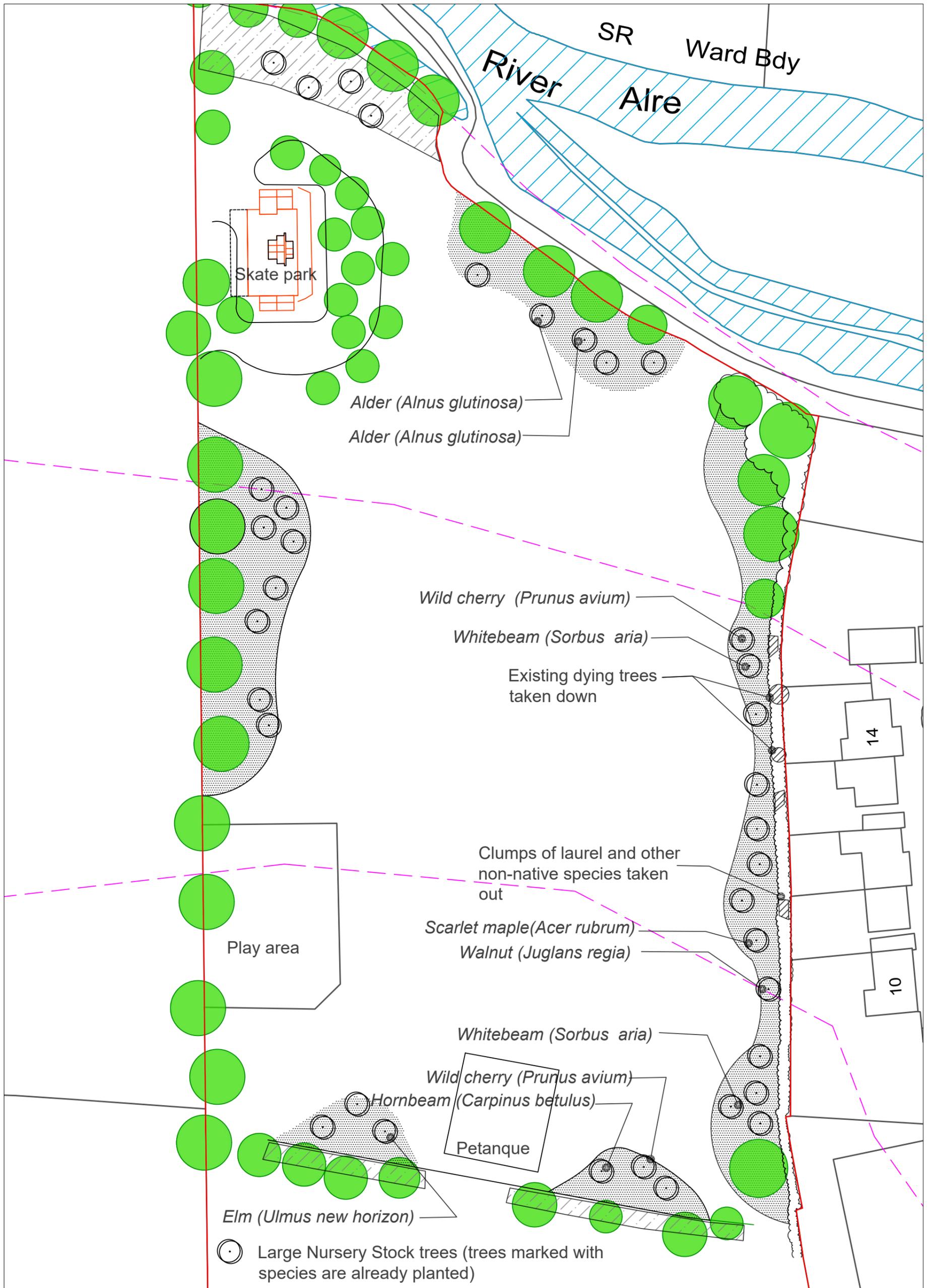
Pesticide Action Network UK (PAN) (<https://www.pan-uk.org/information-for-local-authorities/>).

Petersfield Town Council: Peter Bisset, Town Councillor

pgbisset@gmail.com, peter.bisset@petersfield-tc.gov.uk

<https://easthampshire.greenparty.org.uk/peterbissettown.html>

'We have adopted a no-pesticide policy on all PTC property and green spaces and are working with HCC and EHDC to extend this across the town. PTC is in the process of developing new policies for the management of its green spaces. I am working to ensure biodiversity is at the heart of these policies.'



Location Plan 1:1500

Arlebury Park
Planting Proposals Sketch Plan Sk 001

Working Group Report

Name of Group: Sports club licences working group		
Members: Cllr Sprott (Chair), Cllrs Jeffs and Byrne Clerk to WG – Sarah Johnson – Deputy Clerk		
Purpose of the Working Group		
20/056 APPROVE THE SETTING UP OF A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW THE SPORTS CLUBS LICENSES/LEASES RESOLVED: That the Working Group is created to review Sports Club Licences/Leases is made up of members of the Recreation and Environment Committee.		
Project Scope		
To review the sports club licenses/ lease to ensure excellent provision to the resident users of the services and to the clubs generally, ensure recreation is encouraged in New Alresford and to ensure value for money for the Council and that the Council's interests are protected generally.		
Date of meeting: Email concensus	Time commenced:	Time concluded:
The contract in most need of review is with the football clubs as there is doubt over its validity. The club is now two separate entities, Alresford Town Football Club (ATFC) and Alresford Town Youth Football Club (ATYFC). There are issues that have been raised as a result of the new administration of ATFC, most notably the arrival of Southampton Women's Football Club. The tennis club agreement does not appear to be entered into with any legal entity. The rugby documents are complex given the size and nature of the various tenures involved. The clerk will ask ATFC and ATYFC to confirm their status/constitution and their 'wish list' of provision that they would ideally be given under a new agreement with NATC.		
Recommendations		
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To review the contract with the football club first2. To ask Town Council for approval to obtain NATC lawyer's advice on what form of agreement should be entered into with ATFC and ATYFC. And to ask the lawyer to provide a precedent agreement, to make sure all factors are taken into account when discussing the agreements. Specific reference will be made to the lawyer in relation to the Football Foundation Grant.		