



New Alresford Town Council

Alresford Recreation Centre, The Avenue, Alresford, Hants, SO24 9EP
Tel: 01962 732079. Email: deputyclerk@newalresford-tc.gov.uk Website:
www.newalresford-tc.gov.uk

Minutes of the Meeting of New Alresford Town Council held on Tuesday 28 February 2023 commencing at 7.30pm

Name	Present	Apologies	Absent
Cllr Weston (Chair) (MW)		✓	
Cllr Bean (Vice-Chair) (AB)	✓		
Cllr Divall (KD)	✓		
Cllr Byrne (MB)	✓		
Cllr Cavell (SJC)	✓		
Cllr Evans (SE)	✓		
Cllr Holmes (SH)			✓
Cllr Jeffs (BJ)		✓	
Cllr Sprott (AS)	✓		

IN ATTENDANCE: Tracy Predeth, Locum Clerk

Cllr Bean, Vice Chairman took the Chair in the absence of Cllr Weston, Chairman of the Council

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

22/193 APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

RESOLVED: To approve apologies from Cllrs Weston and Cllr Jeffs.

22/194 DISPENSATIONS FOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011.

The Clerk advised nothing received for this meeting.

22/195 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

Councillor Sprott – Non-Pecuniary Interest – Sun Lane Development.

22/196 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were 5 members of public present.

A resident expressed concern regarding the noise created by the bottle bank at Station Road Car park. An email had previously been sent regarding this matter and had been forwarded to the appropriate authority.

22/197 COUNTY AND CITY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

The reports were noted.

22/198 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes and recommendations of the Town Council Meeting held on 24 January 2023 are approved

22/199 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reminded Members of the voluntary litter pick taking place on the 4 March 2023 and the Town Assembly which takes place on the 6 March 2023.

22/200 SUN LANE DEVELOPMENT CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (CEMP)

Members consider whether the council should support the joint submission in relation to the Sun Lane development CEMP.

RESOLVED: This Council is not able to support the current proposal but would like to work with Taylor-Wimpy as an interested party in the interests of the residents of Alresford.

22/201 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

RESOLVED: To approve the January 2023 Accounts

22/202 AMENDMENT TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

RESOLVED: To change the threshold in obtaining Tenders for Contract in Financial Regulations to £30,000, to be correct in line with the Tender requirements for Contracts as per the Public Contract Regulation 2015 and the Council Standing Orders.

22/203 FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Members received and noted the 22/23 Financial Risk Assessment. Cllr Divall requested that line 29 regarding VAT remains.

22/204 LGA, CULTURE, TOURISM & SPORT CONFERENCE

RESOLVED: For Cllr Cavell to attend the LGA's Conference on Culture, Tourism and Sport at a cost of £220.

22/205 VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND AGENDAS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

RESOLVED: To withdraw the facility for attendance at virtual meetings due the IT problems being experienced and to commence sharing agendas via social media

22/206 TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTION RECEIVED FROM CLLR A SPROTT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 9 OF STANDING ORDERS.

Motion: In Relation to the Council's Communication with Residents, to acknowledge recent public disquiet and consider ways in which the council can improve its communication and provision of information to residents.

Members debated the above motion in detail.

RESOLVED:

- To simplify the agenda

- To expand on the Minutes so the public better understand the item being discussed.
- Review the Communication and Engagement Strategy.

22/207 NALC CIVILITY AND RESPECT PLEDGE

Members considered the NALC Civility and Respect Pledge.

By signing the Pledge, the council is agreeing that the council will treat councillors, clerks, employees, members of the public, and representatives of partner organisations and volunteers with civility and respect in their roles and that it:

- Has put in place a training programme for councillors and staff.
- Has signed up to the Code of Conduct for councillors.
- Has good governance arrangements in place including staff contracts and a dignity at work policy
- Will seek professional help at the early stages should civility and respect issues arise.
- Will commit to calling out bullying and harassment if and when it happens.
- Will continue to learn from best practices in the sector and aspire to be a role model/champion council through for example the **Local Council Award Scheme**
- Supports the continued lobbying for change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge including sanctions for elected members where appropriate.

RESOLVED: To sign up to the NALC Civility & Respect Pledge.

22/208 TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTION RECEIVED FROM CLLR A SPROTT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 9 OF STANDING ORDERS.

MOTION: In Relation to the Council's Mission Statement, to consider whether the council maintains, amends, or removes its Mission Statement and how we make good on our pledges to the residents.

Members debated the above and it was agreed that due to the forthcoming elections the Mission Statement should be agreed by the new Council.

It was agreed to take out the 2019 date and change the wording to Rights, Responsibility and Respect and remove the word Relationships.

22/209 ROTARY CLUB LITTER PICK

RESOLVED: To pay for two Hippo Bags and collection for the Rotary Club Litter Pick at a cost of £220.

22/210 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

Resolved: That the Town Council may exercise their right to exclude the public and press by resolution from a closed meeting due to the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted. (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 section 1(2) & 17.

22/211 HEALTH & SAFETY

Members received the Health and Safety Report issued by Worknest and it was agreed that the Operations and Resources Committee will further discuss the action list.

22/212 STAFFING MATTERS

Members received an update on staffing from Cllr S Evans.

Members considered a quotation from LGRC for an independent consultant to undertake a staff job evaluation and pay review.

RESOLVED: To defer this until appraisals have been undertaken and then bring back to a further meeting.

Due to the lateness of the hour the following items on the agenda were deferred.

- To consider a request for all staff to be enrolled into the Local Government Pension Scheme
- To further consider the request from staff for a cost-of-living increase.
- QUOTATIONS To receive and consider the following quotations:
 - Rialtas Cloud
 - To consider recommendation from Community and Open Space Committee in relation to quote for Arlebury Park playground timber trail
 - To consider recommendation from Community and Open Space Committee in relation to grass cutting and grounds maintenance contract
- VODAFONE MAST LEASE To further consider the Vodafone Mast lease.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.