



# New Alresford Town Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of New Alresford Town Council held on Tuesday 25 April 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

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. She requested that everyone arrives on time for meetings so that they can commence promptly. The Chairman also requested that all discussion is by raise of a hand and thorough the Chair.

**22/232 APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

**RESOLVED:** To approve apologies from Cllrs S Holmes.

**22/233 DISPENSATIONS FOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011.**

The Clerk advised nothing received for this meeting.

**22/234 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.**

Councillor Weston declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Rights of Way.

**22/235 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no members of public present.

**22/236 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 28 March 2023 were a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman.

**22/237 COUNTY AND CITY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

The reports were noted.

## **22/238 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman expressed thanks to Cllr Divall and Cllr Holmes for their dedication towards the Council and stated that they will be missed going forward.

The Chairman asked for volunteers to assist with attendance at the Watercross Festival and suggested a rota is put in place. The gazebo needs to be set up ready for 9.00, Cllr Byrne offered to assist with this.

The Chairman stated that a request had been received from businesses in the town asking the Council to place bunting etc. to mark the Coronation. Members had been circulated some decorations that are available by Royal British Legion. The Chairman felt that the lamp post sign was the easiest option as bunting would require permission and a cherry picker to install.

Cllr Sprott stated that red, white, and blue lamp post signs would be more appropriate and sustainable for future use. The Officers will see what is available within such a short period of time.

Cllr Byrne stated that the school conveyed their thanks for the grant provided by the Council.

## **22/239 FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

### **RESOLVED:**

- To approve the March 2023 Accounts
- To approve two additional bank signatories. Cllr Jeffs and Cllr Weston offered to be signatories. Cllr Bean stated that in the past the Chairman of the Council is not permitted to be a signatory. The Locum Town Clerk will refer to standing orders and financial regulations and advise accordingly.
- To approve the movement in Earmarked Reserves.
- To ratify the cost for Cybit to move the Councils information onto a Cloud Server.

## **22/240 GRANT REQUEST**

Members considered a grant request from Victim Support for £100.

Members declined this request as it felt this application did not fit in with the conditions of the Grant Policy.

## **22/241 CIL FUNDING**

There has been no update on this matter.

## **22/242 NEW BOILER INSTALLATION**

Members considered the timescale for the installation of the new boiler.

It was requested that the company is asked to produce a programme of works outlining operational requirements and down time.

**22/243 ALRESFORD PIGS ASSOCIATION**

Members consider a request from Alresford Pigs Association to use storage space at the Sports pavilion at Stratton Bates. Following a site visit with the football club it was felt that this could be accommodated by moving the football goals into a secure area outside of the building, the PIGS offered to fund this.

**RESOLVED:** To defer this request at present as this area is overlooked by several residents and it was considered that outside storage would be unsightly and very unpopular. They were also mindful that they are currently seeking suitable work/storage space for their own Caretaker and Litter Picker which takes priority.

The Council are however open to helping the Alresford Pigs in finding suitable accommodation.

**22/244 COUNCILLOR VACANCY POLICY**

Following the results of the recent election, New Alresford Town Council is uncontested and there are four vacant seats remaining on the Council.

The Council has a statutory duty to co-opt Councillors to fill these seats and in accordance with their Councillor Vacancy Policy the Council will advertise for co-option to take place at the June 2023 Council meeting which is in keeping with the statutory 35 days without another cost of an election.

It was suggested that a meet and greet event for potential councillors will be arranged, the date to be confirmed.

It was requested that the co-option notices will be placed after the 4 May elections.

**22/245 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC**

**RESOLVED:** 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)*)

**22/246 QUOTATIONS**

Members received 3 quotations to lay new flooring in the foyer area of the Recreation building.

This item was deferred until the next meeting whereby designs of the floor could be provided.

**22/247 WAYLEAVE REQUEST**

This matter is ongoing.

**22/248 STAFFING MATTERS**

Cllr Evans updated members on staffing issue and stated that he together with the Locum Town Clerk, and the Chairman had met with the Deputy Clerk. Full details are held in confidential notes.

*Cllr Weston left the meeting; Cllr Bean took over the Chair.*

**22/249 RIGHT OF WAY/EASEMENT**

Members received an update on the Right of Way/Easement and noted recommendations from their valuer.

**22/250 FOOTBALL**

Members received an update on the Football Club.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

Chairman .....

Date: .....