



New Alresford Town Council

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Minutes of the Meeting of New Alresford Town Council held on Tuesday 24 January 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)		✓ (attended virtually)	
Cllr Sprott (AS)		✓	

IN ATTENDANCE: Tracy Predeth, Locum Clerk and Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

22/175 APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

RESOLVED: To approve apologies from Cllrs Sprott, Holmes and Jeffs

Apologies were also received from City Councillors Issacs, Power and Gordon-Smith and County Councillor Porter

22/176 DISPENSATIONS FOR DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS UNDER SECTION 33 OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011.

The Clerk advised nothing received for this meeting.

22/177 DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

Councillor Byrne – Pecuniary Interest – Agenda item 22/187 – Grant applications

Councillor Weston – Non-Pecuniary Interest – Agenda Item 22/190 - Rights of Way

Cllr Divall requested motion 18 on Alresford Town Football Club be withdrawn, to allow Council to continue negotiations with ATFC

RESOLVED: That motion 18 on Alresford Town Football Club is withdrawn

The Chair made a number of points:

- Council business is not discussed on social media, but at meetings which the public are welcome to attend in person or virtually.
- ATFC has been on the Council agenda since June 2021. Negotiations have been ongoing.
- Items which pertain to legal issues must be discussed in closed sessions.

- The ATFC license was drawn up in 2007 and no longer suits the Council or the Club.
- This is a completely separate issue to the Arlebury Park Rights of Way and is not to do with parking or development of the land
- Being a Councillor is a voluntary role. In May there will be elections for 11 Councillor roles

22/178 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were 17 members of the public present, 7 in person and 10 virtually.

A representative from Alresford Town Youth Football Club (ATYFC) highlighted ongoing discussions with regard to the joining together of ATFC and ATYFC as a community football club to provide a pathway for girls and boys from 6 years old to adults.

Hampshire FA said they want to see a sustainable facility, and are happy to work alongside NATC and ATFC to move negotiations forward.

A resident highlighted what they felt to be the severity of the agenda wording. This was echoed by another resident

ATFC stated that they are looking forward to continuing discussions with NATC about the existing licence agreement.

Another resident asked what has changed in relation to the costs since 2007. There seems to be an imbalance in costs and income.

A question was raised about whether closed sessions will be minuted. The Clerk responded that closed sessions are minuted, but do not include legal information.

Stephanie Swan, the new Event Manager for the Watercress Line stated that they are hoping to organise a programme of events, and would welcome the involvement of community groups and the Council. They are considering an event for the Coronation.

22/179 COUNTY AND CITY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

The reports were noted.

23/180 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes and recommendations of the Town Council Meeting held on 13 December are approved

22/181 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Members received an update on the following

- The Town Assembly is on 6th March, 19:30. Suggestions were to have a speaker on the environment and/or community defibrillators, along with reports from organisations who have received Council grants.

22/182 FINANCE REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2022

RESOLVED: That the Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure reports, Bank Reconciliation, Purchase Ledger and Payments List as of 30th November and 31st December 2022 are approved

22/183 INTERNAL AUDIT

The Internal Audit report was received.

Recommendations: That references to individual staff roles are removed from the Internal Audit report

22/184 BUDGET 2023/24

RESOLVED: That the Budget for 2023/24 is approved

22/185 PRECEPT 2023/24

RESOLVED: That a Precept of £342,855 for 2023/24 is approved

22/186 AMENDMENT TO FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

A discrepancy in the Council's Financial Regulations in relation to the threshold in obtaining Tenders for Contracts has been identified by the Internal Auditor.

RESOLVED: That the threshold in obtaining Tenders for Contract in Financial Regulations is amended to £25,000.

22/187 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Two applications were received from Friends of Sun Hill Infant School and Alresford Senior Citizens Lunch Club

RESOLVED: That a grant of £1000 is given to the Friends of Sun Hill Infants School for the provision of additional resources at the new pre-school, and a grant of £870 to Alresford Senior Citizen's Lunch Club to fund a day trip to include coach travel and lunch.

22/188 COUNCIL STRATEGY

RESOLVED: That the Councillor Survey and Stakeholder Survey developed as part of the Council Strategy are approved for circulation

22/189 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That members of the public are excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted. (Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, section 1

22/190 RIGHT OF WAY/ EASEMENT

No update received

22/191 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

A health and safety visit took place at the Council premises on 9th January. The report has been received but there was not sufficient time to circulate.

The item is deferred to the next meeting.

22/192 ALRESFORD RECREATION CENTRE BOILER

A report was received from Cllr Divall on a new boiler and associated plumbing works

RESOLVED: That the quote from Anchor Maintenance for £23,023 for the replacement of existing boilers and associated plumbing with a Remeha Quinta Ace boiler and quick recovery cylinder is approved

Date of next meeting will be 28 February 2023, commencing at 19.30 hours