

Invitation to Help Create a Local Heritage List for New Alresford

Introduction - Simply put, heritage is what physically remains of our history. The **Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group for New Alresford (NPAG)** is seeking nominations from local residents for such a list that will record local built and natural assets that help create and sustain our 'sense of place', are important to residents and visitors (which also contributes to the local economy), and are irreplaceable.

Historic England defines a Local Heritage List as including buildings, monuments, parks, gardens or other areas considered to be of special interest because of their local history, archaeological interest, architecture, design, townscape or landscape value and setting, and includes amenity and recreational value.

Local 'vs' national lists - Such *locally* identified assets are not as historically important as the better known category of *nationally* important buildings, monuments, and structures. There are many in New Alresford such as the Grade 2* St John's church, Grade 2 Toll House, the medieval bridge in the Soke and Bell House in Tichborne Down, formerly Alresford Union Workhouse. See <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/> Such assets are already carefully protected in planning law, so are not repeated on a Local List. Areas such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest are also protected for their wildlife, habitats and natural features.

What's the benefit and what's included in a Local List? - Creating a *local list* of heritage assets will be an important adjunct to the Neighbourhood Plan because the significance of such an asset, *including its setting*, specifically acknowledges that it makes a positive contribution to the character and local distinctiveness of the town. That 'local distinctiveness' may be modest and quirky, rare and exciting, or a widely cherished and familiar part of the local scene.

How are such heritage assets identified? They must meet robust and impartial selection criteria. These ensure that the list provides a good basis for planning decisions and is defensible at a planning appeal if necessary. Not every piece of our heritage is as important as the next: an item might be interesting but is it *significant* to the area's local heritage?

How will this list be compiled? – The Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group will assemble such a list, based on nominations and evidence provided by residents, together with input from local history experts. Such a list is created in conjunction with the Local Planning Authority, Winchester City Council, which 'adopts' the list of properly evidenced items that meet the criteria. Any such asset will then be a 'material consideration' in determining any planning application that may affect it.

Other preliminary notes

Owners - A 'Local Listing' does not result in any additional legal requirements for owners. But they may provide valuable information that can influence the decision about whether to add the item to the Local Heritage List or not.

Single or 'Group Value' - Assets can be single items or have 'group value' because there is an historic functional relationship between the assets, even if under different ownerships/use.

Age – For them to be listed, assets usually need to be over 10 years old unless of exceptional architectural, historic and/or townscape/landscape interest and usually more than 30 years. Before this, relatively little time will have elapsed for an objective and consensus view on their special interest to form.

Location – This list is for New Alresford. There are many other assets in the wider area but they cannot be included in Neighbourhood Plan list which specifically covers the settlement boundary of New Alresford as currently defined. It is hoped though, this project can help provide an example for other local areas wanting to create a Local List.

Include map of Settlement Boundary



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Guidance on criteria for inclusion

NB It is possible that local assets will meet the criteria under *several* of the headings below.

A - Architectural, Design and Artistic Interest: means the design and general aesthetics of an asset to be nominated, and how people are aware of it through senses such as sight, hearing, and how and why it interests them. To meet the criteria of Architectural, Design and Artistic Interest, an asset should demonstrate at least one of the following:

1. A good example of a regional approach to its design, construction, planning, craftsmanship, decoration and/or materials
2. A good quality and/or rare example of a particular type of building, style or period of design
3. An asset demonstrating innovation in its design, construction or decoration, that may have led to the development of new styles or trends
4. A good example of work by a national or local notable architect, engineer, artist or company
5. An asset with aesthetic interest derived either from conscious design, or through how it has evolved over time.

B - Historic and Evidential Interest

Historic interest derives from how a particular aspect of past life is illustrated or associated with notable people, groups or historic events and the evidence that supports this, whether documentary or through analysis. An asset should demonstrate at least one of the following:

1. Close association with a notable individual, group or historic event of regional and/or national importance, which is uncompromised by its current appearance
2. An asset which influenced, and/or whose former use illustrates the physical, social and economic development of New Alresford, where this is uncompromised by its current appearance
3. Significance enhanced through the survival of associated contemporary or historic records
4. The surviving fabric reveals important evidence about human activity
5. An asset whose present form is the outcome of a series of phases of development or a continuous sequence of change, where the apparent phases reveal evidence about changing human activity.

C - Townscape Interest

Townscape interest derives from the contribution an asset makes to the townscape. It may also include group value. To meet the criteria of Townscape Interest, an asset should demonstrate at least one of the following:

1. Within a Conservation Area, making a positive contribution to the character and appearance, but atypical in style, design and/or materials
2. Outside a Conservation Area but makes a positive contribution to the street scene
3. Forms a visual focal point and/or landmark
4. Has considerable group value through its close association to designated asset(s).

D - Communal Value

Sometimes difficult to quantify, this means the importance of a place, site or asset to people's collective 'sense of place' and identity: our emotional attachment to and how we relate to it. It may be more directly associated with activities rather than physical fabric and could include recreational space used by residents and visitors, with public footpaths providing access along the river, for example. Although much of this importance is related to their amenity value, their contribution to the character, history and local distinctiveness is also recognised locally. To meet the criteria of Communal Value, an asset should demonstrate at least one of the following:

1. Forms a source of local identity and/or distinctiveness for the community
2. Retains commemorative, symbolic and/or spiritual value



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E – Rarity and Representativeness

1. A good example of a design, form or other feature that is uncommon in the locality or city.
2. This may be linked to age (as the older the asset is, the less likely it is to survive in anything like its original form), however age does not necessarily equate to rarity. For example, a Georgian house is of considerable age, but is not particularly rare in New Alresford.
3. One of few surviving examples of an asset type which is representative of a particular style or trend, or representative of the legacy of a particular individual, group, architect or company.

F – Intactness

1. Retains a sense of completeness, in itself and/or as part of a larger group.
2. Retains the majority of its design features, such as the original windows to a building or original landscape/architectural elements within a historic park. This may represent a single phase of development, or a number of historic phases of development.
3. Retains its original use or function, where this is particularly relevant to its interest.

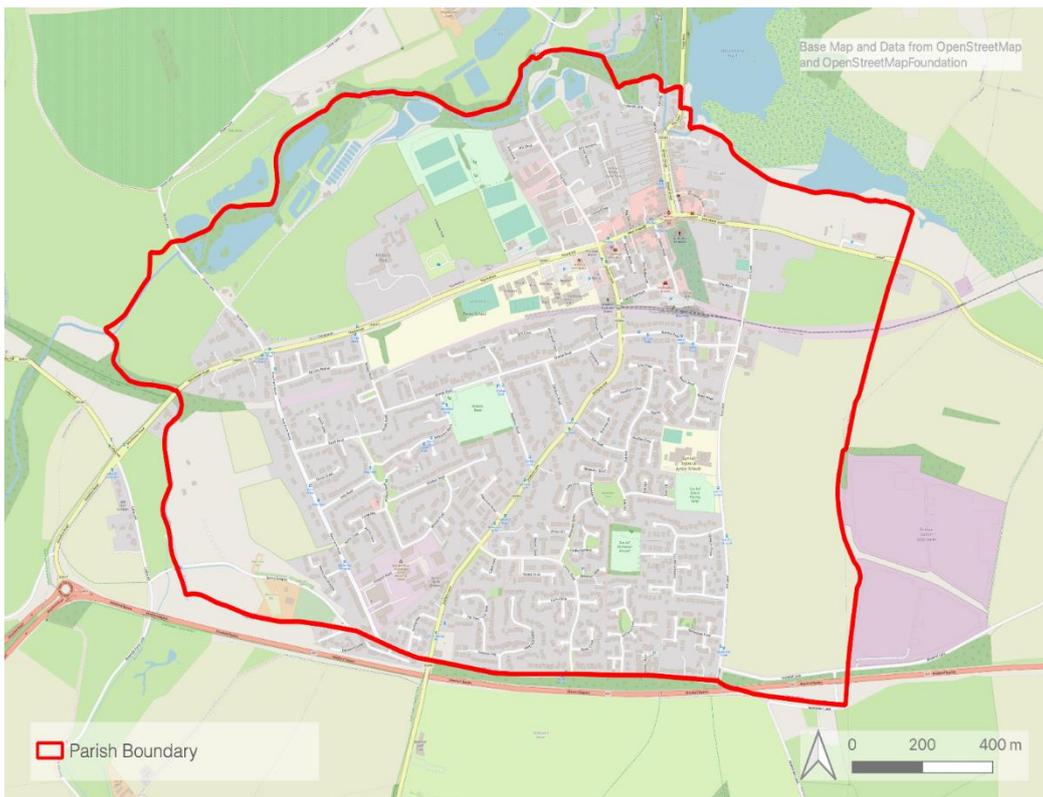
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Nomination form for Local Heritage Listing & Further Notes

The Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Group and the local planning authority, Winchester, need the nominee to describe the significance of the heritage asset(s) you suggest, including any contribution made by their setting.

Name of asset	
Owner (if known) Have they agreed to inclusion on a Local Heritage List?	
Location (street address, grid reference, etc.)	
Type of asset (e.g., house, memorials or walls; archaeological interest; local history/association with historical figures; historic parks & gardens; landscapes/ townscapes, community and amenity value)	
Short description of asset , including dates & why you consider it worthy of being added to a Local Heritage List and the evidence to support this	
How does the asset meet the selection criteria? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can include architectural, design, artistic interest.• intactness, rarity/ representativeness of type	
What additional documents are you providing to support the nomination? (e.g., maps, photographs, Finding Number reference at Hampshire Record Office, etc.). Please do not supply originals.	



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To be kept informed of the progress with this Local Heritage List, and so we can seek any further information from you, please provide contact details:

Your name	
Society/group (if relevant)	
Your address	
Your email	
Your Phone number	
Preferred contact method	

