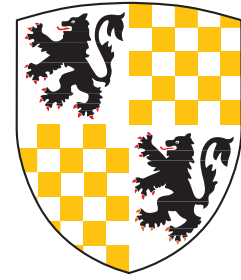


New Alresford Town Council



Update on the Neighbourhood Plan

The New Alresford Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared by the Town Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee, which is made up of Town Councillors and residents. The Plan will give New Alresford a real legal weight to guide development in the town. It covers topics such as Landscape, Heritage, Design & Local Character, Employment, Tourism, Housing and shaping the Town Centre. There is also the opportunity to protect local green spaces and heritage assets and designate housing sites. Once formally 'made', the Plan will be a blueprint for positive change, with the needs of the local community at its core.

Is there an increase in funding as a result of the Plan?

If the Neighbourhood Plan is adopted, New Alresford will be entitled to a 25% portion of all Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money from new developments in the town, up from 15% for Parishes without a Neighbourhood Plan. This money will be spent on infrastructure projects in the town and the Neighbourhood Plan will empower residents to decide what projects the increased CIL will be spent on.

Aren't there already policies in the Winchester Local Plan for New Alresford?

Yes, there is a Local Plan being prepared for the Winchester District by Winchester City Council. However it is important that there is a clear local vision for New Alresford, and this is where the Neighbourhood Plan comes in. The New Alresford Neighbourhood Plan will be aligned with the Winchester and District Local Plan. It will also be aligned with national planning frameworks.

Can the Neighbourhood Plan be used to stop development?

No, national policy does not allow a Neighbourhood Plan to prevent sustainable development. The role of the Neighbourhood Plan is to ensure that any development which does come forward is of high quality, addresses

the needs of the local community, and reflects the characteristics and qualities of the local area.

What about new housing?

The Winchester District Local Plan states that New Alresford is expected to deliver approximately 610 dwellings up to 2040. This is to be achieved through a mix of completions between 2020 and 2023, outstanding planning permissions, housing on the The Dean and Sun Lane, windfall sites and new sites to be allocated in the Neighbourhood Plan for approximately 100 new houses. The Neighbourhood Plan will therefore seek to allocate in the region of 100 houses, though this figure might vary depending on the local context (informed by a site-specific assessment of capacity and the design process). Sites have been put forward by landowners/ developers for consideration and the community have been consulted. Sites are currently being evaluated using a Site Selection Methodology and Design Codes are being developed to inform how sites will/ could be developed.

What are Local Green Spaces and how can they be designated?

Local Green Spaces are an important part of the Neighbourhood Plan and can be designated in order to protect areas of special importance to the local community. To be eligible, a Local Green Space needs to fit with the national policy approach including the National Planning Policy Framework.

How can the heritage of Alresford be preserved?

Heritage assets in the town including memorials, houses, items of archaeological interest, parks, gardens etc can be nominated on to the Local Heritage List for New Alresford. The Local Heritage List will form part of the Neighbourhood Plan. While many buildings and structures in New Alresford might already be nationally listed, this provides the opportunity to create a list of heritage assets of local importance. If you would like to nominate a local asset for the Heritage List please visit www.newalresford-tc.gov.uk and look under the

Neighbourhood Plan for the eligibility form and criteria.

What was the most recent Consultation?

The most recent Neighbourhood Plan community engagement day took place on 21st November 2024 and following this there was a period of online consultation. We estimate around 1000 people engaged in the process, and the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee are currently reviewing all the consultation comments received.

Are there Timescales?

Following the review, a draft Neighbourhood Plan will be prepared along with a supporting evidence base. There will then be a formal 6 week consultation on the Draft Plan (Regulation 14 stage) which also includes consultation with statutory bodies. This is anticipated to take place later in 2025.

Examination of the Plan

After the formal consultation period, the Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documentation will be submitted to Winchester City Council. It will then be examined by Independent Examination.

What about voting?

If the Plan passes Independent Examination then a referendum will take place. Everyone who is eligible to vote in New Alresford will have the opportunity to vote in the referendum. If more than 50% of people who turn out to vote are in favour of the Neighbourhood Plan, then it will become part of the formal planning policy for New Alresford and be used to begin shaping future change and determining planning applications. The Plan will be adopted by Winchester City Council and form part of the Development Plan for the area.

New Alresford Town Council

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