



NEW ALRESFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Alresford Recreation Centre, The Avenue, Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 9EP
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Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting of New Alresford Town Council held at Alresford Recreation Centre on Tuesday 14th April 2026 commencing at 7.00pm

Name	Present	Apologies
Cllr Bean	✓	
Cllr Evans	✓	
Cllr Flood		✓
Cllr Harrison Clow	✓	
Cllr Jeffs	✓	
Cllr Jones	✓	
Cllr Lipton	✓	
Cllr Sprott	✓	
Cllr Weston	✓	

IN ATTENDANCE: Richard Doughty (Clerk) and 3 members of the public

25/147 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

RESOLVED: To approve apologies from Cllr Flood

25/148 INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

- a. Cllr Sprott declared an Other Registerable Interest (ORIs), and a Non-Registerable Interest in Site NA07 in the Neighbourhood Plan.
- b. To confirm any Dispensations
None

Councillor Sprott made a statement clarifying advice he received from the Monitoring Officer's team. The full statement is attached at the end of these minutes.

Chairman

Date:

25/149 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

RESOLVED: The Town Council exercise their right to exclude the public and press 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).*

25/150 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN BRIEF

- a. The Council received a PowerPoint brief on the Neighbourhood Plan from the Town Clerk.
- b. The Council discussed the brief slide by slide.
- c. **RESOLVED:** To approve the seven recommendations outlined in Slide 7 – Recommended Way Forward.

The meeting ended at 9.00 pm

Chairman

Date:

Cllr Sprott made the following declaration:

I would like to make a brief statement for the sake of absolute transparency.

As you are aware, I live close to Barn Meadow, which is being promoted as site NA07 in the SHELAA housing site allocation process of the emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).

I have taken advice from the Monitoring Officer's team at Winchester City Council that I do not have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in relation to site NA07, as my family home is not within the 'red line' boundary of that site.

However, I have declared an Other Registerable Interest in issues that directly relate to the promotion of site NA07 for development and/or its protection as Local Green Space under any future NDP, by virtue of my membership of the Friends of Barn Meadow.

I also believe that I have a Non-Registerable Interest in issues that directly relate to the promotion of site NA07 for development and/or its protection as Local Green Space under any future NDP.

When discussions at this council have specifically related to those aspects of that individual site, I have consistently declared an interest and left the room to ensure the integrity of the decision-making process. This is also the reason why I have excluded myself from membership of both the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee and Group.

However, it is unclear from the wording of agenda item 4 for this evening's meeting whether it is intended that we will discuss issues that directly relate to the promotion of site NA07 for development and/or its protection as Local Green Space under any future NDP.

My interpretation of item 4 is that today's meeting will be focused entirely on the general process and methodology of the NDP and not any issues specific to site NA07. If this is the case, the advice I have taken from the Monitoring Officer's team is that as this is a policy discussion that applies to the whole council area, it does not directly relate to my property, nor does it affect my well-being or financial interests to a greater extent than those of the majority of other residents.

Therefore, under the Councillor's Code of Conduct, I do not believe I have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, an Other Registerable Interest or a Non-registerable Interest that prevents me from participating in this evening's debate. I will continue to approach this discussion on the process and methodology of the NDP with a completely open mind. I am here to represent the interests of the community as a whole, without bias or predetermination.

I will confine all my contributions entirely to the general process and methodology of the NDP and trust that the Chair will ensure that the debate remains firmly on this topic. Should the debate discuss specific individual sites, I will of course observe the Councillor Code of Conduct and take appropriate steps

Chairman

Date: