



NEW ALRESFORD TOWN COUNCIL

Alresford Recreation Centre, The Avenue, Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 9EP
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Minutes of New Alresford Town Assembly held on Monday 11th May 2026 commencing at 8.00pm

PRESENT: 73 members of the public and 4 Town Council staff - Richard Doughty (Town Clerk), Sarah Johnson (Deputy Clerk), Frances Simpson (Committee Clerk) and Claire Boniface (Administrative Officer).

T/25/001 CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chair welcomed all members of the public to the meeting. A special thanks went to all Alresford Societies and Groups that contribute so much for the town.

T/25/002 MINUTES OF TOWN ASSEMBLY 12TH MAY 2025

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Town Assembly held on 12th May are approved.

T/25/003 CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Chair summarised the Council's achievements in 2025.

The Council reduced the precept this year through sustained financial management and careful accounting.

Also, a contract with the Men's Shed for workshops at Arlebury Park was finalised.

The office staff were commended for their work in implementing the Council's decisions.

T/25/004 QUESTIONS FROM ELECTORS of NEW ALRESFORD

A variety of public questions were asked at the meeting:

A proposed solar farm at the neighbouring parish of Bishops Sutton.

A resident of Bishops Sutton advised that the proposal would affect many people travelling towards Alresford. Good agricultural land needs to be protected for growing food crops.

WCC Cllr Pinnegar confirmed she had carried out a site visit.

Bishops Sutton will agree its comments on the proposal and notify the Town Clerk.

New Alresford pavements were reported to be in a poor state of repair. HCC Cllr Porter advised residents to report defects. She added that compensation may be payable if an accident occurs, but repair budgets are very limited across Hampshire at this time.

Sun Lane highway works – an update was noted. Additional works were scheduled to take place during school holidays. The park and ride is also under construction. Works are expected to be completed by the summer.

Neighbourhood Plan

Residents raised the following questions:

Finance and transparency

Please could NATC explain the finance spent so far?

Have NATC been transparent about this project? Residents request a summarised response.

An FOI request was submitted in November 2024 regarding the consultation results.

Process and timescales

What are the timescales for the Neighbourhood Plan?

Residents asked for outstanding questions to be answered.

When the Neighbourhood Plan restarts in June, how will progress updates be communicated?

NATC confirmed that the Neighbourhood Plan is continuing and remains a priority for the Council.

The short reset is intended to improve the outcome, not to stop progress.

Residents will have an opportunity to comment during the formal Regulation 14 consultation later this year.

Further updates will be shared as work progresses.

Alresford Waste & Recycling

A resident stated that booking a visit to the tip remains difficult.

HCC Cllr Porter responded by explaining that this issue was of high priority and HCC will be considering easier booking solutions soon.

Could council meetings be streamed?

NATC will investigate this option.

T/25/005

CHAIR'S CLOSING

The Chair thanked all present for attending the meeting.

The Town Assembly concluded at 8.47pm