

The Town Council Explained.

Who are the Town Councillors?

The Town Council is made up of members of the public who have volunteered to join the council having received enough votes during a public election.

Can I be a Councillor?

Anyone living within a 4 kilometre boundary of New Alresford who is 18yrs or older and on the Electoral Role can put their name forward at election time to become a Councillor. The term of being a Councillor lasts 4 years. The role is unpaid.

How does the Council work?

A set of rules called Standing Orders set out how the Council can function and what its rules and regulations permit. All Town Councillors are bound by a Code of Conduct which defines acceptable behaviour, standards and principles.

Who is the Chairman?

At the Annual General Meeting one of the Councillors is voted as Chairman. The Chairman posts lasts one year until the next AGM.

When are the Council Meetings?

The Town Council meet once a month at Full Town Council meetings. The Agenda is fixed 5 working days before the meeting date and then cannot be changed. At the meeting only topics already on the Agenda can be discussed. A Clerk takes minutes of all these Council Meetings as a record of what was discussed and decided. Minutes can be found on the NATC website.

Can I attend these Meetings?

Yes, any members of the public can attend these meetings. The public can use a 15 minute participation section to ask questions or make a statement. After this only the councillors can take part in the discussion.

How do I know when the Meetings are?

The Agenda for meetings can be found on the Council website plus in print on the Public Notice boards outside the Co-op and in Broad Street.

How are decisions made?

Decisions or actions are called Resolutions.

Any councillor can suggest a Resolution, and in order for it to be agreed, there needs to be a proposer and a seconder and a majority of councillors must agree.

Once a Resolution is made, it cannot be revisited or revised for 6 months.

What is the Town Clerks role?

The Town Clerk is the first point of contact for members of the public. They offer information and guidelines to Councillors, to ensure the rules of the Town Council are upheld. Agendas, Minutes and correspondence also comes from the Town Clerk and Office Clerks.

Are there other Council Committees?

Yes they are: Environment & Recreation, Tourism & Economy, Facilities, Finance, and Staffing. Each Councillor maybe a member of these Committees, joining voluntarily at the Annual General Meeting.

Where does the Council's money come from?

The Council receives a percentage of the money gathered through the Winchester City Council, Council Tax as their operating fund. The Town Council agree this amount every year in January and its called the Precept.

What is the money spent on?

As part of the Precept the Council also has a Annual Grant fund, which members of the local public and local organisations can apply for.

The Council is also involved in many projects and events across the whole year, from Grass Cutting, supporting Alresford Sporting Groups, Hanging Baskets, and a myriad of other topics.

Do you have a question?

Email the Town Clerk at tclerk@newalresfordtc.org.uk