



NEW ALRESFORD TOWN COUNCIL NEWS LETTER

Number 6

July 2006

ARLEBURY PARK DEVELOPMENT GETS UNDERWAY



As chair of New Alresford Town Council, I shared the spade with John Ward Chairman of the Hampshire Football Association to mark the start of the Arlebury Park Development. The Football Foundation warmly congratulated New Alresford Town Council and the local FA for their hard work and dedication in securing the £285,934 grant. They stated that grass roots football is the lifeblood of the game in this county which is why it is vital that projects such as the Arlebury Park Development have the benefit of Foundation cash.

Robin Atkins our Recreation Committee Chairman feels this is the biggest and most significant project the Town Council has ever undertaken. NATC is confident that our professional team and our builders will complete by the end of October and that the pavilion complex will be the centre of sports activities in Alresford and will the acquisition of land for Rugby pitches and the upgrading of the Tennis facilities this area will be able to facilitate both Alresford and surrounding areas.

Cllr. Steve Middleton

Chairman NATC

Public Access Computer

Are you fed up with travelling to Winchester to deal with the Council?

Did you know that you can find all sorts of information, and access Council services on the internet? You can now:

- Submit and view planning applications
- Report abandoned vehicles, broken street lights or fly tipping
- Make payments for council tax, parking fines or publications
- Book a hotel room or guest house
- Submit application forms for benefits, licences or a passport
- Others from HCC?

But what if you don't have a computer? Or don't know how to use one?

We Present The Alresford Public Access Computers!

A free public access computer is now available at the Town Council office in The Avenue, along with a free phone link to the Customer Service Centre in Winchester. Trained staff are also on hand to show you how to use it if you need any help. Public access computers are also available at the New Alresford Library in Broad Street.

Opening hours:	Town Council office	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
	Library	9.30 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat) 2 - 5 p.m. (Tues) and 2 - 7 p.m. (Fri)

For further information contact the Town Clerk on 01962 732079

Alresford Black Spot - Sun Hill Recreation Ground has been reported as Alresford's black spot. Litter bins have been burnt out and destroyed and the site is going downhill despite efforts on behalf of both the Police and Council. NATC and the Police would like to stop this trend and are asking residents and parents to help control this situation by reporting all incidents directly to the Police. **NATC and Police Initiative**

RECREATION

ALRESFORD SPORT

Cllr. Robin Atkins
Chair, Recreation Committee

Tennis

The Tennis Club are in talks with its Lawn Tennis Association with their Phase 1 programme to build a new club house and up grading the drainage and playing surfaces of the 3 courts at Arlebury Park.

Target date April 2007

Children's Playareas

The Committee will provide new Children's play equipment and facilities at Stratton Bates and Sun Hill Recreation Grounds during 2006/7.

NEW RUGBY PITCHES

NATC achieved a change of use for the land adjacent to Arlebury Park from Agricultural to Recreational. The Compulsory Purchase to obtain the land progresses with a paper confirming support by WCC going to cabinet in the next few months.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Work has started at Arlebury Park.

Cllr. Len Orton (*Chair Facilities*)

**NEW OFFICES BY
CHRISTMAS HURRAY!!!**

Clerks

TOURISM

Watercress Festival King and Queen



The Arle Valley Trail extension to the Millennium Trail was developed in conjunction with The Alresford Society and supported by a grant from Hampshire Countryside Access Forum. Unfortunately soon after it opened in April it was discovered The Eel House foundations were in need of underpinning which forced closure of the trail. The Alresford Society is leading the search for funds to carry out the underpinning necessary before the trail can be reopened. To fully repair The Eel House will take time and may involve listing as well as preservation of this unusual building.

The Chamber of Commerce supported by NATC have undertaken a big hanging basket drive to increase the uptake of baskets, especially by private residents. New baskets with water retention properties have been sourced and they only need watering every other day. During the season a new bowser will be purchased as the old one is beyond repair. While everyone agrees the town would look bare without the hanging baskets, it is to be hoped we successfully reverse the decline in basket numbers this year to safeguard their future viability.

Ellr Malcom Phillips

Chairman Tourism Committee

GENERAL AND POLICY

The General and Policy Committee are responsible for giving grants to projects in the community and at the April meeting a £500 grant was awarded to the Alresford Society to assist them in the restoration of the Eel House. At the same meeting a £250 grant was given to St. John's Church. The funds will go towards repairing the Church clock. So no excuse now for being late for appointments.

The Committee deals with internal procedures and policy. When possible the Police attend this meeting and report on Alresford and the surrounding areas. In the past WCC planning officers have attended and have been happy to answer resident's questions.

The next General and Policy meeting is scheduled for 18th October at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

Ellr. Steve Middleton

Chair, General and Policy Committee

ENVIRONMENT

JACKLYNS LANE BRIDGE

NATC wish to express their thanks and full support to HCC for the trial traffic calming measures currently underway in Jacklyns Lane bridge. Having campaigned for four years to obtain pavement widening under the bridge for the safety of wheelchair users, parents with buggies, children walking to school and the general public accessing the town on foot, the temporary blocks placed under the bridge are to assist with one way priority traffic. If, as we hope, the trial proves successful work will commence to make the changes permanent.

BUS SHELTERS

The bus shelter located on Jacklyns Lane by Robertson Road will be replaced with a new weather protected shelter and positioned further forward. The old bus shelter will be relocated to the bus stop close to the Cricketers Pub.

BENCHES

All the benches around Alresford - River Walk, The Avenue, Broad Street - have been renovated. Pete Bridges has done a great job replacing slats and applying wood preservative in order to "Keep Alresford Nice and Bright and Cared For".

BROAD STREET - BOLLARDS AND PAVING SLAB

We are concerned with the increasing number of broken slabs and the fragility of the bollards in Broad Street. HCC have been informed but the situation is aggravated by vehicles parking on the pavement and unloading goods onto the slabs. A close watch is kept on this problem in an effort to minimize the damage.

LET US KNOW

If you have any suggestions of how we could improve our delightful small town "LET US KNOW". Only small and affordable ENVIRONMENT ideas. If you think it's a good idea LET US KNOW.

Ellr. John Cattle

Chairman Environment Committee



ALRESFORD WATERCRESS FESTIVAL

"Bigger and Better" accurately describes the 2006 Watercress Festival which attracted over 10,000 visitors; more than double last year's event. Free park and ride trains from Ropley and having some stalls at the Station helped reduce congestion in town. The programme built on previous successes with a 35-stall food market, celebrities, live music, street and children's entertainment and Mind Body and Soul in the Community Centre. Antony Worrall-Thompson judged the Watercress Food awards with Gillian Carter, the editor of BBC Good Food magazine. Local eateries did well with The Bell, The Swan, Pizza Express, Caracoli and Alresford's Indian and Bangladeshi restaurant all winning awards. As well as a wonderful event it also raised £4,000 on the day for Lynn Faulds-Wood's bowel cancer campaign. Establishing the unique link between watercress and Alresford is also good for business. Many people who visited last year's festival have returned to enjoy other quieter days out in Alresford.

Malcolm Phillips
Chair of Tourism

NEED A CAR PARKING SPACES IN ALRESFORD?

LAST 2 CAR PARKING SPACES AVAILABLE FOR RENT AT ARLEBURY PARK. FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS. RENTAL COST IS (pro-rata of) £300 PER ANNUM or £30 PER MONTH.

APPLY TO:- **Stevie Kavanagh, Commercial Parking,**
New Alresford Town Council, Arlebury Park,
The Avenue, Alresford SO24 9EP
Or Telephone 01962 732079

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Venues:	GS=Goods Shed, PS=Perins School,	CC=Community Centre, RB=Railway Buffet
July	Wednesday 26th	CC(Recreation)
August	Tuesday 1st	GS(Full Town)
September	Wednesday 6th Wednesday 27th	CC(Recreation), CC(Environment)
October	Tuesday 3rd Wednesday 11th Wednesday 18th	GS(Full Town), RB(Tourism), CC(General and Policy)
November	Wednesday 1st Wednesday 22nd Wednesday 29th	CC(Recreation), CC(Environment), CC(Finance).
December	Tuesday 5th	GS(Full Town)

Committee Chairs & Clerks

Town Office: New Alresford Town Council,
Arlebury Park, The Avenue, Alresford, SO24 9EP
Phone: 01962 732079 Fax: 01962 734639
Email: Alresford.council@virgin.net

Chairman NATC and General and Policy Committee

Steve Middleton 83 Jacklyns Lane 736536
Alresford SO24 9LF 07831 278 486

Vice-Chairman NATC/ Chair Recreation/Finance Committees

Robin Atkins 7 Lindley Gardens 733778
Alresford SO24 9PU robin.atkins@tesco.net

Chair Environment Committee

John Cattle 39 Beneden Green 734846
Alresford SO24 9PE

Chair Planning/Facilities Committee

Len Orton 38 Broad Street 733063
Alresford SO24 9AQ LOrton9799@aol.com

Chair Tourism Committee

Malcolm Phillips Mill Lane House 733023
The Soke malcolmena@hotmail.co.uk
Alresford SO24 9DB

Clerks

Stevie Kavanagh Town Meetings, Recreation, G & P, Planning
Turea Spencer Environment, Tourism,
George Smith Finance
Mike Heal Facilities

Committee Responsibilities

FOND FAREWELL AND A WARM WELCOME

NATC bids a fond farewell to its Town Clerk CHARLES BAZLINTON and a warm welcome to its newest Cllr. MARK ROWE.

GENERAL AND POLICY

Need a grant? Ask at the council offices for a grant form and g & p will be happy to consider giving funding assistance to your project.

Cllr. Steve Middleton
Chair, general and policy committee