

PRESS RELEASE

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**EARLEY TOWN
COUNCIL**

TOWN COUNCIL FLOOD PLAN IN PLACE

Earley Town Council at a meeting of its Amenities & Leisure Committee on 1st September has approved the Emergency Flood Plan for Maiden Erlegh Lake. This plan forms part of the risk management of Maiden Erlegh Lake, which is also a reservoir, and comprises the measures that would be taken on site in the event of an emergency which could lead to flooding. The Lake is owned by Earley Town Council, having a capacity of some 32,000 m³.

The aim is to minimise the effect on housing in the area which may have been subject to flooding in the event of an overflow from the lake.

Earley Town Council employs a Supervising Engineer from Jacobs UK Limited, who visits the site annually to carry out an inspection. The lake is situated in a valley surrounded by houses and the water is retained by a single dam. Normally, the water levels remain pretty constant throughout the year. The Town Council is responsible for the lake and downstream of the dam up to the point where the stream is piped underground. In the event of an emergency, there is provision to pump the water out of the lake and this would empty, using four pumps, in approximately 4½ -5 hours. It has been noted that, in the past, in extremely raining conditions, back gardens downstream of the weir have become flooded. Naturally, the Town Council is concerned about this and the Town Council believes that the emergency plans now approved for the lake will minimise the danger in the future.

Representatives from Earley Town Council will be available to give information concerning the Emergency Plan at a meeting of the Loddon Valley Residents' Association to be held on 28th September from 6.00 to 8.00 pm at Brookside Surgery, Brookside Close, Earley.

For further information contact:-

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