

EARLEY TOWN COUNCIL



Town Clerk
JO FRIEND BA(Hons) PSLCC

Council Offices
Radstock Lane
Earley, Reading
RG6 5UL

Tel: (0118) 986 8995

22 February 2023

Dear Councillor

A meeting of the Amenities & Leisure Committee will be held in the Council Chamber at the Council Offices, Radstock Lane, Earley on **Wednesday, 1st March 2023** commencing at 7.45 pm.

Yours faithfully

Jo Friend

TOWN CLERK

To: Members of the Amenities & Leisure Committee

Councillors: N Brock (Chair), A Bassett, G Bhangra, M Eastwell, D Ireland, A Long, T Maher, S Matthews, A Newton, C Smith, and K Yabsley.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest from Members.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

To receive any questions from members of the public attending the meeting. The Public Forum shall not exceed 15 minutes. If there are no questions, the meeting shall commence forthwith.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

To consider the Minutes of the Amenities & Leisure Committee meeting held on 11th January 2023 and, if appropriate, to agree that they represent a true and correct record and **RESOLVE** they be signed.

5. ANNUAL TOWN ELECTORS' MEETING

To be advised that the Annual Town Electors' Meeting (Annual Parish Meeting) will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 21st March 2023 in the Function Room, Maiden Place Community Centre. In accordance with the legislation, the meeting will be chaired by the Town Council's chair, Cllr Tahir

Maher, who will deliver a report on ETC's recent activities. There will also be presentations made by local organisations and residents' groups. All residents of Earley are invited to attend.

6. HUGE EARLEY LITTER PICK

To note that the Huge Earley Litter Pick will be taking place on Sunday 26th March 2023. There will be 7 sessions held around Earley:

- 10am meet at Interpretation Centre – led by Grahame Hawker (ETC)
- 10am meet at Interpretation Centre – led by Ashley Prior (ETC)
- 10am meet at the junction of London Road/The Drive – led by town councillors
- 10am meet at Chalfont Park car park – led by town councillors and McDonalds staff
- 2pm meet at Interpretation Centre – led by Grahame Hawker (ETC)
- 2pm meet at Interpretation Centre – led by Ashley Prior (ETC)
- 2pm meet at Maiden Place Community Centre – led by town councillors

Residents are invited to join whichever session is most convenient for them, litter picking equipment will be provided. The event has been advertised by way of posters on notice boards around the town and on the website.

7. MAIDEN ERLEGH LAKE AND NATURE RESERVE

7.1 To note that the annual lake engineer's inspection will be carried out on 24th February 2023.

7.2 To note that the flood emergency equipment has now been purchased, funded by a grant from SSEN 2022 Resilient Communities Fund and from developer contribution monies. Officers are working with SSEN to publicise the completion of the project.

8. CULVER LANE ALLOTMENTS

To note that the solar panels have been installed on the Trading Shed at the allotments and the facility is now operating off-grid.

9. MAYS LANE CEMETERY

9.1 Extension

To note that the ground penetrating radar survey will be conducted in mid-March. This will identify which areas of the extension land are suitable for burial use.

9.2 Improvements

To note that a contractor has been appointed to re-lay the uneven stretch of the exit road. The work will take two days to complete and, once dates have been confirmed, the works will be publicised. Traffic management will be put in place in order that people can continue to access the cemetery during this time.

10. COMMUNITY CENTRES

10.1 Radstock Lane Community Centre

10.1.1 To note that the installed access control system is functioning well. Positive feedback has been received from hirers.

10.1.2 The Elizabeth Room

To note that work to transform the former social club into a comfortable space for use by local charities and voluntary groups is nearing completion. The Town Clerk has been contacting suitable hirers to invite them to view the premises prior to booking the space.

10.2 Maiden Place Community Centre

10.2.1 To note that the access control system at this site will be active by the end of March.

10.2.2 Improvements

To note that the Town Clerk has been in communication with the WBC officer responsible for energy management with regards the Town Council's intention to upgrade and thereby improve the efficiency of the heating system at MPCC. The WBC officer has agreed to conduct a site visit with the intention of providing advice and support on how the energy efficiency of this building can be improved.

10.3 Silverdale Centre

To note that good progress has been made in removing the Town Council's equipment and belongings from the building. The music studio has been dismantled and the items put into storage, other items have been repurposed elsewhere or disposed of if necessary. ETC has agreed to a request from Brookside Church that some items of furniture be donated to them.

The Town Council will vacate the building in March, as required by Maiden Erlegh Trust.

11. TREE PLANTING

To note that Earley Town Council has taken advantage of WBC's offer to supply up to ten trees to local residents and businesses for planting on their own land. Three hazels, three crab apples and four silver birch trees will be planted on the Paddick Drive site.

12. DEFIBRILLATOR PROJECT

To note that work is underway to renovate the red telephone box in Wychwood Crescent, ready for the installation of a community defibrillator. The Town Council has been working with Community HeartBeat Trust who will supply and fit the device, following which a training event will be offered to local residents.

13. ROYAL BERKSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE – CONSULTATION

To note that RBFRS has launched a public consultation on its draft Corporate Plan and Community Risk Management Plan (CRMP). The CRMP explains how risks are evaluated and resources allocated, including risks such as house fires, road traffic collisions and chemical spills. Residents are encouraged to submit comments, further details can be found at www.rbfrs.co.uk.

14. PUBLICATIONS

To note that the following items have been received and are available for viewing from the Council Offices:

Fields in Trust	E-newsletter – February 2023
MERA	Minutes of Executive Committee meeting – 9 th February 2023

The Friendship Alliance	E-newsletter 8 th February 2023
Involve Community Services	E-newsletter 10 th February 2023

15. PRESS RELEASES

To determine whether any of the foregoing items shall form the subject of a special press release.

16. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

*To **RESOLVE** that, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable and in the public interest that the public and press are temporarily excluded and are asked to withdraw for item 17 on the Agenda.*

17. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

To consider the confidential Minutes of the Amenities and Leisure Committee meeting held on 11th January 2023 and, if appropriate, to agree that they represent a true and correct record and **RESOLVE** they be signed.