

Earley Town Council Meeting – 29th March 2023

Agenda Item 11.

UPDATES

An update on the current position of outstanding issues at this, the last meeting of the Council before the elections in May:

Silverdale Centre

In accordance with Maiden Erlegh Trust's instruction that the Town Council must vacate the Silverdale Centre by the end of March, the Town Council will be handing back the keys on 24th March 2023. The equipment for the youth club and bike workshop has been put into storage whilst we seek an alternative venue. The building will be removed from the Town Council's asset register and from its insurance policy.

Centrepont Community Centre

Representatives from the Town Council continue to negotiate with Wokingham Borough Council to try to agree acceptable terms for a new lease. The Town Council has requested that a further meeting with WBC be held within the next couple of weeks and we are hopeful that an agreement can be reached. Earley Town Council is requesting that the new restrictive clauses inserted by WBC in the heads of terms will be removed, thus enabling us to progress with the planned move of youth services and the bike workshop to the Centrepont building.

Transfer of Sibly

The Town Council has agreed the terms of the transfer and its solicitor has been communicating with Persimmon's solicitor in an effort to finalise this asset transfer. ETC's solicitor has reported that there is no discernible reason for the current delay and is assuming that it is only Persimmon's reluctance to transfer the associated funds that is holding things up. The Town Clerk has asked the solicitor what action ETC can take to push this through.

Mays Lane Cemetery – extension

The historic use of the extension land has required investigations to determine which areas of the extension land will be suitable for burials, as opposed to interring cremated remains, before the design of the extension can be completed. There have been delays, outside of the Town Council's control, in securing specialist equipment to carry out ground surveys but we have been assured that this work will be completed before the end of March. Completion of the project as soon as possible is of utmost importance and the company assisting the Town Council with the technical work has committed to prioritising our project.

Jo Friend

Town Clerk