

**Earley Town Council**

Full Council Meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**Agenda Item 8.**

**WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – CIL REQUEST**

At its meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023, the Policy & Resources Committee discussed the request from WBC that ETC make a financial contribution, from its CIL monies, towards local bus services.

Background

Wokingham Borough Council has stated that the contract for local bus services is out for tender and it is expecting that the same level of service will be provided but the cost will increase significantly. WBC has informed parishes that “whilst our Executive Committee have made provision for what we think will be sufficient funding to cover the increased costs, this funding does draw on finite S106 funding.”

WBC has therefore approached all parish and town councils with contracted bus services in their areas to discuss the possibility of a financial contribution, the sum of which will be proportionate to the amount of CIL each parish is in receipt of and the mileage local bus services are operating within their parish. WBC’s S106 team has indicated that towns and parishes would be permitted to use CIL funds for this purpose if they so wished.

**The amount WBC is asking Earley Town Council to contribute is £1,293.21 per year for a 3 year period, with effect from September 2023.**

For information, the forecast tender costs for Earley/Woodley local bus services are £1.1m over 3 years.

Policy & Resources Committee Recommendation:

Rebecca Brooks, WBC’s Community Transport Manager, attended the Policy & Resources Committee meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 where she provided further information on the request and answered councillors’ questions. Councillors were of the view that ETC already support community transport schemes by way of grants and therefore felt this was a reasonable request from WBC and would be an appropriate use of CIL funds. The Town Council has sufficient CIL funds to comply with the request without jeopardising any other planned projects.

**The Committee was unanimous in its recommendation to Full Council that the request to Earley Town Council for a contribution from CIL funds of £1,293.21 per year for a 3 year period with effect from September 2023 for local bus services, should be agreed to.**

Jo Friend  
Town Clerk  
July 2023