

# EARLEY TOWN COUNCIL



Town Clerk  
JO FRIEND BA(Hons) PSLCC

Council Offices  
Radstock Lane  
Earley, Reading  
RG6 5UL

Tel: (0118) 986 8995

06 September 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 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023** commencing at 7 pm.

Yours faithfully

*Jo Friend*

**TOWN CLERK**

**To: Members of the Amenities & Leisure Committee**

Councillors: N Brock (Chair), R Ahlawat, A Bassett, A Bradley, R Browne, R Cook, A Long, T Maher, S Matthews and B Owen

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## **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 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 and, if appropriate, to agree that they represent a true and correct record and **RESOLVE** they be signed.

**5. MAIDEN ERLEGH LAKE AND NATURE RESERVE**

**5.1 Green Fair**

To receive a report on the Green Fair event which took place on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

*Appendix A*

5.1.1 To consider an officer recommendation that the budget for the Green Fair event be increased to £1,200 in 2024.

5.2 Environmental Events

To note that the Town Council held two ‘Moths and Muffins’ sessions at the Nature Reserve in August, a total of 19 people attended.

5.3 Charity Fishing Match

To note that ETC’s water bailiffs held their annual charity fishing competition at MELNR on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2023. They raised £120 which will be donated to Swan Lifeline.

6. **BERKSHIRE’S LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY**

To receive a report on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

*Appendix B*

7. **EARLEY GREEN CORRIDOR NETWORK PROPOSAL – EEG**

To receive the Summary Document from EEG on their Earley Green Corridor Network proposal. As mentioned in Appendix B above, further discussions will be held with Bob Collis (EEG) on ways in which Earley Town Council can support this work.

*Appendix C*

8. **OPERATIONS MANAGER – REPORT**

To receive an update from the Operations Manager.

9. **CENTREPOINT COMMUNITY CENTRE**

To receive an update following a meeting between the Town Council’s representatives and Wokingham Borough Council on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

10. **SEATS AND BENCHES**

To discuss requests received for additional benches to be purchased and installed by the Town Council at:

10.1 Paddick Drive (ETC land) – Cllr N Brock

10.2 Chalfont Park Sports Field (WBC land) – Cllr P Jorgensen

Members to discuss and **RESOLVE** accordingly.

11. **WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS**

11.1 **Street Cleaning, Grass Cutting and Litter Bins**

WBC is consulting on proposed cuts to borough street cleaning and grass cutting services and WBC’s provision of public litter bins (full details on the [engage.wokingham.gov.uk](https://engage.wokingham.gov.uk) website). Town councillors have been encouraged to respond in a personal capacity as the consultation closes on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Members to discuss the proposals, including any possible impacts on Earley, and agree for the Town Clerk to submit any ETC comments by email to WBC following this meeting.

11.2 **Call for Register of Interest in Wokingham Borough Council Sites**

To note that WBC issued an appeal on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023 for commercial ideas to be put forward for all its land, property, facilities and assets, including recreational facilities, parks and outdoor spaces. The appeal is in response to WBC’s ‘difficult financial situation’ and is intended ‘to gauge whether any external organisation or company is interested in any type of short, medium or long-term use of any of WBC’s assets’.

12. **DEFIBRILLATORS**

12.1 **Residents’ Training Session**

To note that a free training session for Earley residents on the use of defibrillators will be held at Radstock Lane Community Centre at 7.30pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023. Leaflets advertising the session have been delivered to properties in the locality of the newly converted red telephone box (Wychwood Crescent) and the session will be further advertised on notice boards and the town council’s website and social media page. The session can accommodate up to 50 people, spaces are free but must be booked in advance. The response so far has been extremely positive.

12.2 **Radstock Lane Community Centre**

To note that a new defibrillator has been installed on the external wall of Radstock Lane Community Centre. This device will be available for use by the public 24/7.

13. **TELEPHONE KIOSK – SILVERDALE ROAD**

To consider the Town Clerk’s report following the Amenities and Leisure Committee’s decision on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 to repurpose the red telephone box on Silverdale Road.

*Appendix D*

14. **CORONATION TREE**

To receive a recommendation from the Operations Manager on a suitable location and species of tree for the Town Council’s commemorative Coronation Tree.

Members to **RESOLVE** accordingly.

15. **ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS**

To note that officers have registered Radstock House, the Council’s office building, with Wokingham Borough Council’s Solar Together scheme. An initial quote for the installation of solar panels and a battery for energy storage at Radstock House has been received. Once the site survey has been completed a final quote for the works will be provided. Details will be provided to Council in order that a decision on progressing the project can be made.

16. **PUBLICATIONS**

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

Friendship Alliance	E-newsletter 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
MERA	Minutes of Executive Committee meeting – 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 Minutes of Executive Committee – 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2023

Involvement Community Services	E-newsletter 19 <sup>th</sup> August 2023
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17. **PRESS RELEASES, WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA**

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