

EARLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk
JO FRIEND BA(Hons) PSLCC



Council Offices
Radstock Lane
Earley, Reading
RG6 5UL

Tel: (0118) 986 8995

18 October 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 25th October 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

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 13th September 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 Emergency Flood Plan Test

To receive a report on the Emergency Flood Plan Test which took place on 9th October 2023.

Appendix A

6. CULVER LANE ALLOTMENTS

To receive an update from the Allotments working party on the annual Allotments Competition. To agree when the awards for the Allotments Competition will be presented.

7. EVENTS

7.1 Wind Turbine Visits

To note that the Wind Turbine visits arranged by ETC for local residents were hugely popular. The original three dates were oversubscribed and so officers organised a further four dates, places for which have all been filled.

7.2 Macmillan Coffee Morning

Officers held a Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Council Chamber on Friday 13th September 2023. Residents (and their dogs!) were invited to join council staff for cake and a chat. A total of £111.80 was raised during the morning.

7.3 Rainbow's Visit

To note that a visit to the Council Chamber has been arranged for 2nd Lower Earley Rainbows during 'Parliament Week'. The youngsters (ages 5 – 7) will see the Council Chamber set up for a Council meeting and will meet the Deputy Town Clerk and the Town Mayor.

7.4 FUTURE EVENTS

7.4.1 Carols at the Lake

Officers are working with Earley Environmental Group to arrange an afternoon of carol singing at Maiden Erlegh Lake and Nature Reserve in the run up to Christmas. Further details to follow.

7.4.2 Joint Events with EEG

Following a recent meeting between ETC officers and EEG representatives it was agreed that joint events would be planned. This will build on the series of environmental themed activities ETC has been staging since COP 26 and will supplement EEG's calendar of events. The following has been agreed:

- Bird Box Decorating – February half term
- Dawn Chorus Walk – April
- Bat Walk - September

8. 2024/25 BUDGET – IDEAS FOR CONSIDERATION

Members of the Amenities and Leisure Committee are requested to agree if there are any particular ideas or projects the committee would like to put forward for action in the 2024/25 financial year. Consideration of such projects will take place during the 2024/25 budget setting process.

8.1 CIL Expenditure

At its meeting on 27th September 2023, the Policy and Resources Committee recommended that all committees express any preferences they may have for suitable uses of the Town Council's community infrastructure levy funds. As it currently stands, ETC has approximately £17,000 of unallocated CIL funds to be spent in 2025/2026.

9. BERKSHIRE’S LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY

To receive a report on a Local Nature Recovery Strategy webinar, held on 20th September 2023.

Appendix B

10. OPERATIONS MANAGER – REPORT

To receive an update from the Operations Manager.

11. CEMETERY EXTENSION - UPDATE

To receive an update following further meetings of the Cemetery working party.

12. DEFIBRILLATORS

To note that officers are arranging for defibrillators to be installed at Maiden Place Community Centre and Sol Joel Pavilion. The devices will be available 24/7 and will be registered with the emergency services. Training sessions for local residents at both locations will be arranged.

13. SOLAR PANELS PROJECT – RADSTOCK HOUSE

To receive an update on plans to install solar panels at the Council’s office building, Radstock House.

14. PUBLICATIONS

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

Friendship Alliance	E-newsletter 4 th October 2023
MERA	Minutes of Executive Committee meeting – 26 th September 2023
Involve Community Services	E-newsletter 6 th October 2023

15. PRESS RELEASES, WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

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 13th September 2023 and, if appropriate, to agree that they represent a true and correct record and **RESOLVE** they be signed.