

# EARLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk  
JO FRIEND BA(Hons) PSLCC



Council Offices  
Radstock Lane  
Earley, Reading  
RG6 5UL

Tel: (0118) 986 8995

14<sup>th</sup> May 2025

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 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025** 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. **ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR**

To elect a Chair of the Amenities and Leisure Committee for 2025/26. Members to **RESOLVE** accordingly.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any declarations of interest from Members.

4. **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.

5. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

To consider the Minutes of the Amenities & Leisure Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 and, if appropriate, to agree that they represent a true and correct record and **RESOLVE** they be signed.

## **6. MAIDEN ERLEGH LAKE AND NATURE RESERVE**

### **6.1 Inspection Results**

To note that the final report from the Section 10 (Reservoirs Act 1975) lake inspection has been received. It confirms that the Town Council maintains the lake to a very high standard and complies with all the required health and safety measures.

### **6.2 Barley Straw ‘Sausages’**

To note that staff and volunteers have made and installed new barley straw ‘sausages’ at the lake. These assist with maintaining the health of the lake water and help control algae levels.

### **6.3 Time Capsule**

To receive a report on the Millenium Time Capsule at the Nature Reserve.

*Appendix A*

## **7. COMMUNITY CENTRES**

### **7.1 Centrepoint Community Centre**

To note that two of the Town Council’s projects based at Centrepoint Community Centre are proving to be very successful:

The Earley Repair Café, held on the second Sunday of each month, continues to be very popular with volunteers and residents, with over 40 items being brought in to each session and a repair success rate of over 50%.

The weekly youth club sessions are well attended, youngsters take part in a range of activities including visits to a local park in the nicer weather. The Youth Working Group will be meeting to discuss possible expansion of the youth provision.

## **8. BOOKING PROCEDURES**

To receive a report on amendments to procedures followed when booking requests are received for the Town Council’s facilities.

*Appendix B*

## **9. TOWN MAPS**

To note that work is progressing on the design of the new Town Maps, a sample of the map will be brought to the meeting. The finalised design will be professionally printed and then installed in the four Town Map frames around Earley. Smaller versions will be displayed in the community centres and Council offices.

## **10. OPERATIONS MANAGER – REPORT**

To receive a verbal update from the Operations Manager.

## **11. COLLABORATIVE WORKING**

### **11.1 Silverdale Road Telephone Box**

To note that the refurbishment of the red telephone box has been delayed whilst the supplier of the parts we require sources them. The university are happy to wait until the autumn term to liaise with the schools on artwork for the project.

**12. GREEN FAIR**

To note that preparations for this year's Green Fair on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August are well under way. Bookings are continuing to be received from stallholders, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Falconry have confirmed their attendance, and Aloha Ukuleles will be making a welcomed return.

Councillors are encouraged to consider volunteering to help, even if just for a couple of hours. Officers running the event are all volunteers, it is a very long day and any offers of assistance would be welcome.

**13. RECOMMENDATION TO POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Cllr Brock requests Members consider making recommendation to the Policy & Resources Committee with regard to their forthcoming review of the Council's ear marked reserve funds. Cllr Brock proposes that a request be made for funds to be allocated to improvements to, and redecoration of, areas within the Council offices.

**14. BERKSHIRE LOCAL NATURE RECOVERY STRATEGY**

To note that, in line with discussions at the last meeting of this committee, officers have submitted ETC's comments to the consultation, supporting the documents produced and the strategy as a whole and formally supporting the Green Corridor proposal.

**15. CONSULTATION – ROYAL BERKSHIRE TRUST STRATEGY REFRESH**

To note that the Royal Berkshire Trust is seeking input from residents into its strategy refresh:

Our Strategy: Improving Together is our current Trust Strategy that was last revised in 2022. A great deal has changed since the Trust Strategy was last revised including:

- **Changes to NHS structure** – in 2022, organisations came together across larger areas to form integrated care systems, these are partnerships of health and care organisations that plan and pay for health and care services.
- **Stronger partnerships** – in Berkshire West, health and care services are working even closer together to find new and better ways to care for patients and our local community.
- **National NHS review** – following the arrival of our new government in July, the Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England are working together to write the NHS 10-Year Health Plan.

**Tell us what you think** - Our Trust Strategy will be created together with our patients and community, our staff and volunteers, and our partner organisations. Together, we can make sure Our Trust Strategy reflects the voices and needs of our local communities.

- **Online** - You can fill out a survey online to share your ideas.
- **By post** - If you would prefer to write to us, please send all post to: RBFT Strategy Team, Princes House, 73A London Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 5UZ.

**16. PUBLICATIONS**

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

Involve Community Services	E-newsletter – 26 <sup>th</sup> April 2025 & 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2025
Connecting Communities in Berkshire (CCB)	E-newsletter – 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
Friendship Alliance	E-newsletter – 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2025
Me2 Club	E-newsletter – 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2025

17. **PRESS RELEASES, WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA**

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