

EARLEY TOWN COUNCIL



Town Clerk
JO FRIEND BA(Hons) PSLCC

Council Offices
Radstock Lane
Earley, Reading
RG6 5UL

Tel: (0118) 986 8995

8th October 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 15th October 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 A Newton

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 23rd July 2025 and, if appropriate, to agree that they represent a true and correct record and **RESOLVE** they be signed.

5. **CULVER LANE ALLOTMENTS**

To receive an update report from the Deputy Town Clerk.

Appendix A

6. SOL JOEL PARK

6.1 Sandpit

To note that ETC's groundsmen have rebuilt the sandpit at Sol Joel Park. They have replaced the rotten frame with new wood, relined it and filled it with fresh sand.

Appendix B

6.2 Centenary of Sol Joel Park

Members to discuss options for commemorating the centenary of Sol Joel Park.

Appendix C

7. COMMUNITY CENTRES

To receive updates on community centre matters.

7.1 CENTREPOINT COMMUNITY CENTRE

7.1.1 Floor

To consider an officer recommendation that the floor covering at Centrepoint Community Centre be replaced. Members to discuss and **RESOLVE** as appropriate.

Appendix D

8. MAIDEN ERLEGH NATURE RESERVE

To note that in the minutes of the MERA meeting on 11th September 2025, it was reported that WBC was proposing to 'use Instow Road as a drop-off point for Laurel Park' and that MERA had drafted a letter to the residents of Instow Road, Squirrels Way and Chelwood Road in relation to this.

No information on such a proposal has been received by the Town Council but, as the minutes also refer to a meeting with Cllr Mark Ashwell to discuss Laurel Park FC's parking arrangements, it is assumed that it relates to Laurel Park FC's weekend football traffic. A drop-off point in Instow Road would require pedestrians to access Laurel Park via the nature reserve, ie via the path alongside the Interpretation Centre.

9. PHONE BOX PROJECT

To receive an update on the Silverdale Road phone box project.

Appendix E

10. BIODIVERSITY UPDATE

To receive an update on the Town Council's biodiversity work.

Appendix F

11. OPERATIONS MANAGER – REPORT

To receive a verbal update from the Operations Manager.

12. EVENTS UPDATE

12.1 Green Fair

To receive a report on the Green Fair 2025.

Appendix G

12.2 Fishing Project

Reading FC Community Trust teamed up with ETC to provide a free fishing programme for youngsters over 6 weeks during the summer holidays. Once again, the scheme proved very

successful with 30 young people taking part, learning about angling and holding small competitions. Two of ETC's water bailiffs were loaned to Reading FCCT for the duration of the sessions.

12.3 Macmillan Coffee Morning

To note that ETC staff will be organising a Macmillan coffee morning for Monday 10th November. Further details to follow.

12.4 Carols by the Lake

To discuss holding a Carols by the Lake event in the run up to Christmas. A local choir has indicated its willingness to lead the singing.

13. **TOWN COUNCIL NEWSLETTER**

To begin discussions on proposals to produce an ETC newsletter.

Appendix H

14. **BUDGET 2026/27**

To discuss the Amenities and Leisure Committee's priorities for the 2026/27 budget. All councillors will be invited to attend meetings of the Budget Working Party.

15. **FOOTPATH SIGNAGE**

To note that WBC has declined to grant permission for Loddon Valley Ramblers to erect footpath signs on its land citing operational reasons. Reference Amenities & Leisure Committee Minute 23/23-7-25.

To note that Loddon Valley Ramblers have asked the Town Council if it would be able to exert pressure on WBC to change its mind. Members to discuss.

16. **TOWN COUNCIL QUESTIONS AT WBC MEETINGS**

To receive and consider any councillor requests for specific questions to be submitted to WBC meetings. Members to also agree the WBC meeting to which the Town Clerk is to submit the question.

Members to **RESOLVE** if required.

17. **PUBLICATIONS**

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

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| Involve Community Services | E-newsletters – August 2025 & September 2025 |
| Connecting Communities in Berkshire (CCB) | E-newsletter – August 2025 Community Buildings newsletter September 2025 |
| Friendship Alliance | E-newsletters – August & September 2025 |
| Me2 Club | E-newsletter – July & September 2025 |

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

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