

## EARLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Earley Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Radstock Lane, Earley, Berkshire on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017 which commenced at 7.45pm.

### Present

Chairman – The Mayor, Councillor M Firmager

Councillors M Ahmed, J Armstrong, Dr N Brock, Mrs L Chambers, T Chambers, Mrs J Clark, Mrs M De Jong, Ms P Dunn, G Grandison, R Houlbrooke, N Jorgensen, Mrs P Jorgensen, Mrs S Matthews, Miss J Rance JP, J Russell, C Smith, Mrs A Swaddle, B Wedge and P Willis.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Miss L Blumenthal, A Bradley, D Chopping, T Holton (Borough Meeting) and W Luck

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### **55. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on the 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **56. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Mayor announced that since the last meeting of the Town Council he had attended a number of events as follows:-

12 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Sunday Service at Earley St Peter's Church
14 <sup>th</sup> November	Service of Celebration for the Keys Academy Trust at Earley St Peters Church
18 <sup>th</sup> /19 <sup>th</sup> November	Earley Christmas Market at Radstock Lane Community Centre
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	30 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary for Lower Earley Library
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Wokingham Borough Sports Council Sports Awards
28 <sup>th</sup> November	Wokingham Borough Dementia Action Alliance

### **57. TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

#### **57.1 Planning Committee**

57.1.1 The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017 were presented by Councillor J Armstrong

On the proposition of Councillor J Armstrong seconded by Councillor Mrs P Jorgensen it was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017 (Minutes 57 – 66) be approved.

57.1.2 The Minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017 were presented by Councillor J Armstrong

On the proposition of Councillor J Armstrong seconded by Councillor B Wedge it was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (Minutes 67 – 83) be approved.

## 57.2 Amenities & Leisure Committee

- 57.2.1 The Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities & Leisure Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 were presented by the Committee Chairman, Councillor Mrs Linda Chambers

The Council was asked to consider the recommendations at Minutes 47.1.1, 47.1.2, 47.1.3, 47.1.4 and 47.1.6 pertaining to the fees and charges for 2018/19.

On the proposition of Councillor Mrs Chambers seconded by Councillor P Willis it was

### **RESOLVED**

1. that the Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities & Leisure Committee, held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017 (Minutes 39 - 51) be approved
2. the recommendations at Minutes 47.1.1, 47.1.2, 47.1.3, 47.1.4 and 47.1.6 pertaining to the fees and charges for 2018/19 be adopted.

## 57.3 Policy & Resources Committee

The Minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2017 were presented by the Committee Chairman Councillor N Jorgensen.

The Council was asked to consider the recommendation at Minute 37.2.

On the proposition of Councillor Jorgensen seconded by Councillor Mrs L Chambers it was

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> November (Minutes 33 – 41) and that the recommendation at Minute 37.2 be approved.

## 57.4 Staffing Review Sub-Committee

In view of the confidential nature of the item and the discussion it was

**RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded during discussion of this item.

## 58. **REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BODIES**

### 58.1 Reports of Representatives

#### 58.1.1 EarleyBus

Councillors noted a report on a meeting of EarleyBus held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017, prepared by Councillor Tim Chambers which was previously circulated with the Agenda.

#### 58.1.2 Earley Volunteer Driver Bureau

Councillors noted details of a report on a meeting of the Earley Volunteer Driver Bureau held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017, prepared by Councillor Pam Dunn which was previously circulated with the Agenda.

## 58.2 Verbal Reports

### 58.2.1 Readibus

Councillor B Wedge provided a verbal report from a recent meeting of Readibus held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November which highlighted that the funding from Reading Borough Council will not arrive until January 2018.

### 58.2.2 Community Trees

Councillor B Wedge provided a verbal report on the tree planting which took place at Sol Joel Park on 28<sup>th</sup> November. Three trees were planted in the play area and a further five near the Mays Lane entrance as part of wider tree planting in the area by Community Trees.

## 59. **BOROUGH PARISH LIAISON FORUM**

Further to Minute 48.1.3, wherein it was resolved that the issues highlighted by the Mayor, in response to an open letter from Barkham Parish Council in respect of current Housing Policy, be discussed further, Councillors considered the contents of the letter circulated by Barkham Parish Council, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Following discussion it was

**UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that

1. The Town Council endorse the open letter from Barkham Parish Council.
2. The Town Council send a letter of support for the Barkham Parish Council open letter to the Member of Parliament for Wokingham and the Secretary of State, to be signed by all Members present at the Council Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017.
3. Those members not in attendance be invited to add their own names to the letter of support.

## 60. **COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCES**

### 60.1 Record of Members' Attendance

Councillors noted details of the Councillors' attendance during 2017/18, which had been circulated with the Agenda, and which are appended to these Minutes.

Councillor Mrs P Jorgensen stated that whilst not present at the 10<sup>th</sup> October Planning Meeting she attended a Wokingham Borough meeting and Councillor B Wedge stated that he attended the Borough Parish Liaison Meeting on the same day.

## 61. **ORDERS FOR PAYMENT**

Councillors were asked to receive details of Orders for Payment since the last meeting of the Town Council

**RESOLVED** that the various accounts as set out in the list attached to these Minutes (Vouchers 553 – 558, 559 – 574, 575 – 623 and 624 – 660) be paid in the sums as stated.

**62. PUBLICATIONS**

Councillors noted that the following publications had been received and were available for perusal in the Council Offices:

Maiden Erlegh Residents' Association:	Magazine, Issue 173, Winter 2017. Minutes of meeting held 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2017.
Neighbourhood Action Group:	Agenda for meeting to be held on 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2017.

**63. PRESS RELEASES**

It was

**RESOLVED** that the following items should receive special press attention;

1. The proposed increase in fees and charges
2. The Community Trees event held on 28<sup>th</sup> November
3. The Town Council support for Barkham Parish Council's open letter regarding the Government Housing Policy

**64. TERMINATION OF MEETING**

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 8.34pm.