



## **EARLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Earley Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Radstock Lane, Earley, Berkshire on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 which commenced at 7.45pm.

### **Present**

Chairman – The Mayor, Councillor B Wedge

Councillors J Armstrong, L Blumenthal, A Bradley, Dr N Brock, L Chambers, T Chambers, D Chopping, J Clark, M De Jong, P Dunn, M Firmager, G Grandison, T Holton, R. Houlbrooke, N Jorgensen, P Jorgensen, W Luck, S Matthews, J Rance JP, J Russell and P Willis.

In Attendance: J Friend (Town Clerk) and J Shaw (Deputy Town Clerk).

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The first twenty minutes of the meeting were set aside for members of the public to pose questions to the Council. There were no members of the public present.

### **100. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Ahmed and A Swaddle.

### **101. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Judith Clark declared that she worked for WSP.

### **102. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2019 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **103. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Mayor announced that The Shanly Foundation had confirmed to the Town Council that his application for an award had been successful. The Foundation had awarded £250 to the Mayor's Charities, to be divided between Thames Valley Air Ambulance and ARC (Youth Counselling).

Councillor Wedge then acknowledged that some Town Councillors were not standing for re-election in May and he thanked them for their service. As Leader of the Council, Councillor N Jorgensen endorsed the Mayor's comments and said that he was of the opinion that the current Town Council had been a harmonious one.

### **104. TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

#### **104.1 Planning Committee**

Councillor Luck presented the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Councillor Sheena Matthews requested clarification on the future of the SULV (Site of Urban Landscape Value) following its removal from the review of sites within

the Local Plan Update. Councillor Luck explained that the SULV's current land designation would remain unchanged when the land was considered under the Local Plan.

**RESOLVED**

1. To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 (Minutes 105 - 115).
2. That the SULV (Site of Urban Landscape Value) be added to the next agenda of the Planning Committee for further discussion.

104.2 **Amenities & Leisure Committee**

Councillor Linda Chambers presented the Minutes of the Amenities & Leisure Committee meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019. She remarked on the continued success of the Huge Earley Litter Pick and the invaluable assistance of McDonalds staff and suggested that a letter of thanks be sent to McDonalds, Lower Earley.

**RESOLVED** to receive the Minutes of the Amenities & Leisure Committee Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2019 (Minutes 58 – 70).

104.3 **Policy & Resources**

Councillor N Jorgensen presented the Minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

**RESOLVED** to receive the Minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 (Minutes 62 – 72).

**105. SCHEDULE OF SUB-COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2019/20**

Following the success of the revised meeting format, members of the Policy & Resources Committee had suggested that the length of the Sub-Committee meeting be extended to allow for a period of networking amongst participants and Councillors following the formal business of the meeting. It was pointed out that the proposed June date clashed with an Executive Briefing at Wokingham Borough Council. Following discussion, Councillors

**RESOLVED** that

1. the Town Clerk provide an alternative date for the June meeting, to be agreed by Councillors via email.
2. future membership of the Sub-Committee be decided by the new Council.
3. future dates for the Sub-Committee be agreed by the Sub-Committee.

**106. NEIGHBOURHOOD CIL REPORT**

Councillors noted the Neighbourhood CIL Report February 2019 provided by Wokingham Borough Council and that the Town Council is due CIL funding in the amount of £23,478 on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

**107. WBC CONSULTATION ON COMMUNITY ORCHARD - RESULTS**

Councillors noted that following the recent Community Orchard consultation, Wokingham Borough Council concluded that the placing of any additional Community Orchard at Laurel Park should be included within a whole site review, to be undertaken as part of the asset transfer process.

**108. HUGE EARLEY LITTER PICK**

Councillors noted the success of the Huge Earley Litter Pick held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March. The Town Council Park Rangers estimated that 100 volunteers took part and between them they collected 140 bags of litter.

**109. MEMORIAL – SUSAN SMITH**

As requested, the Town Council's Park Rangers, in consultation with the Wednesday Volunteers, produced a list of suggestions for appropriate ways in which to remember their fellow volunteer, the late Susan Smith.

It was noted that a volunteer had already donated a painted stone for the Interpretation Centre and that the Earley Environmental Group (EEG) had agreed to place a dedication in their Group Calendar. Following discussion it was

**RESOLVED** that the Town Council would fund a bird feeding station and a willow or wicker viewing screen in the Nature Reserve, to include a dedication plaque. The initial cost was estimated to be at £300. Ongoing costs would be for bird food only.

**110. REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BODIES**

110.1 Reports of Representatives

110.1.1 Wokingham Borough Highways

Councillors received a written report on a meeting held at Wokingham Borough Council offices introducing the Wokingham Highways Alliance Partnership, as prepared by Councillor Jackie Rance.

110.1.2 Wokingham Borough Sports Council Executive

Councillors received a written report on a meeting of the Wokingham Borough Sports Council Executive held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019, as prepared by Councillor Michael Firmager.

110.1.3 Queen Victoria Institute

Councillors received a written report on the activities of the Queen Victoria Institute, as prepared by Councillor Bill Luck.

110.1.4 Borough Parish Liaison Forum

Councillors received a written report on a meeting of the Borough Parish Liaison Forum held on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019, as prepared by Councillor Bill Luck.

110.2 Jesus Christ Superstar – University of Reading

Councillor Linda Chambers reported that following receipt of an invitation, she and Councillor Tim Chambers had attended the performance of Jesus Christ Superstar in the Great Hall at the University of Reading and that it was very enjoyable.

**111. COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCES**

111.1 Record of Members' Attendance

Councillors noted details of Councillors' Attendance 2018/19 at meetings of the Council and its Committees.

**112. ORDERS FOR PAYMENT**

Councillors noted details of the Imprest Account since the last meeting of the Council (Vouchers 317 - 321).

**113. PUBLICATIONS**

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

Earley Crescent Community Association:	Minutes of Meeting held on 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2019.
Maiden Erlegh Residents' Association:	Minutes of Meeting held on 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2019.
Connecting Communities in Berkshire formerly CCB:	March 2019 Action for All e-bulletin.
Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management:	Journal – Spring 2019.
Silverdale Youth Club – Music Fusion Project	Poster for Silverdale Youth Gig on 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2019.

**114. AWE VISIT TO NATURE RESERVE**

Councillors noted that the Town Council recently hosted two conservation themed team-building sessions for employees of AWE at the Maiden Erlegh Nature Reserve. Twenty-two AWE workers assisted Town Council staff with clearing a glade in Old Pond Copse. The company donated £200 to ETC which was used to purchase tools and equipment for use by these and other volunteers.

**115. PRESS RELEASES**

Consideration was given to whether any of the foregoing items should be the subject of a press release and it was

**RESOLVED** that the following receive special press attention.

1. AWE team building sessions working at Old Pond Copse.

2. The success of HELP with the assistance of McDonalds.

**116. TERMINATION OF MEETING**

The meeting was declared closed by the Chairman at 8.38pm.