

# EARLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk  
JO FRIEND BA(Hons) PSLCC



Council Offices  
Radstock Lane  
Earley, Reading  
RG6 5UL

Tel: (0118) 986 8995

9<sup>th</sup> October 2024

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 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024** 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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## **A G E N D A**

**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 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and, if appropriate, to agree that they represent a true and correct record and **RESOLVE** they be signed.

**5. CULVER LANE ALLOTMENTS**

To note that the members of the ETC Allotments judging panel have concluded their visits to Culver Lane allotments and agreed on the winners of Best Plot and Runner-Up Best Plot. This year a new category, Best Raised Bed/Trough, has been introduced. The winners will be notified and invited to the Mayor's Reception where they will be presented with their awards.

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

### **6.1 Penstock Valve Exercise - Lake**

To note that the annual penstock valve exercise was carried out by ETC officers on 10<sup>th</sup> September, this is part of our emergency plan operations. The Deputy Town Clerk invited members of WBC's emergency planning team to observe the exercise as she felt it may assist them when they reviewed the borough council's emergency plan. The WBC officers were very interested in the measures we take to ensure the dam's safety and commented on the professionalism of ETC officers.

### **6.2 Desilting Works**

To receive a report on planned works to remove silt from the silt entrapment pond at MELNR.

*Appendix A*

### **6.3 Biodiversity Projects**

To receive a report on ETC's biodiversity work & associated projects being delivered by the Park Rangers.

*Appendix B*

## **7. COMMUNITY CENTRES**

### **7.1 CENTREPOINT COMMUNITY CENTRE**

#### **7.1.1 Repair Café for Earley**

To receive an update.

*Appendix C*

### **7.2 RADSTOCK LANE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

To note that replacement/new thermostatic radiator valves have been fitted in all rooms at RLCC, and new temperature control dials installed. This will help reduce heating costs and ETC's carbon footprint.

## **8. OPERATIONS MANAGER – REPORT**

To receive a verbal update from the Operations Manager.

## **9. EVENTS**

To note that the following events have been held:

- Defibrillator Training for Residents                      19<sup>th</sup> August at MPCC – well attended
- Wind Turbine Tours    8<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> August – fully booked within days of advertising so an extra 3 dates added
- Bat Walk    4<sup>th</sup> September at Bulmershe Park – fully booked
- Bric a brac 'sales'    3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> October

The next event in our calendar is a Macmillan coffee morning being organised by staff, to be held in the Council Chamber on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

## **10. LAUREL PARK**

To note that officers have met with WBC officers to discuss how the Town Council may support the borough council's efforts to reduce the impact on residents of vehicles associated with the large

number of football matches being played at Laurel Park. Discussions are underway with regards the possible use of ETC's pitches at Sol Joel park.

**11. SILVERDALE RED PHONE BOX**

Members to note that this project is due to be revisited now that closer relations with the University of Reading have been established. Departments at the University to be asked if they would be interested in converting the traditional red phone box into something else for residents to enjoy. The committee are asked to consider if they have any preferences in relation to this project, such as themes, form, purpose and so on. These will be fed into any discussions with the University.

**12. EVENTS FIELD**

To consider two suggestions submitted by a resident regarding the Events Field, a Wokingham Borough Council site:

- ETC to install a cricket pitch on the Events Field
- ETC to arrange for a mural to be painted in the youth shelter at the Events Field

Both suggestions were initially raised by the resident at the Council meeting of 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024, at which the chair requested any discussion be moved to the Amenities and Leisure Committee.

**13. PUBLICATIONS**

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

Involve Community Services	E-newsletter - 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
Connecting Communities in Berkshire (CCB)	E-newsletter – 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
Friendship Alliance	E-newsletter - 25 <sup>th</sup> September & 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
Me2 Club	E-newsletter - 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2024

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

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