

Earley Town Council Meeting 5th February 2025

Agenda Item 5 – TOWN MAYOR'S COMMUNICATION

Mayor's Announcements

Since the last full Council meeting on 27th November, we have had Christmas and the start to the new calendar year. It was my honour and privilege to represent the Council and residents at a number of Christmas events. The following summaries add to the 28 events previously reported.

30th November – I joined a number of staff and volunteers from **Daisy's Dream** – my chosen charity, in a **carol singing and fund raising collection event on Reading Station**. This coincided with racing at Newbury – perhaps a pity we don't stay until they racegoers came back with the winnings!

1st December – I took part in the **annual Reading Toy run**, now in its 38th year, taking toys to Highclose School in Wokingham, starting at the Thames Valley Science Park. There were over 1300 motorcycles and over 1600 participants. Also attending were the Mayor and deputy Mayor of Wokingham Town, the Mayor of Wokingham Borough, plus I had the MP for Wokingham as a pillion passenger. The school hall was completely filled with toys. In a separate capacity as RBH volunteer, I returned on the Wednesday to collect some of the toys destined for all in-patient children who would be there on Christmas Day.



1st December – Advent Service at Earley St Peters. I attended this lovely service that starts off the Church's range of events leading to Christmas. The choir was spectacularly good.

8th December - Wokingham Borough School's Carol Concert – this event was held at the Loddon Valley Leisure Centre and involved 18 schools and the Berkshire Youth Orchestra. It was a real treat to be on the front row at this event – the children were all word perfect and the orchestra was really accomplished. This was hosted by the Mayor

of Wokingham Borough on behalf of his chosen charity – it was a sell out and hopefully will become a firm Christmas tradition.

22nd December – A service of Nine Lessons and Carols at Earley St Peters. This service started in 1880, when the then Bishop of Truro devised it. I was asked to give the 8th Reading that covers the Wise Men being led by a star. The service was a wonderful mix of traditional carols and more modern pieces. The choir and music were really very, very good and the Church was nearly full and beautifully decorated. It was good to chat with some residents afterwards over some excellent mulled wine and mince pies. Very enjoyable and very traditional.

9th January 2025 – Mayor's Reception. This event was attended by over 70 people from all walks of life in and around Earley. We were privileged to have Alex Barfield, the High Sheriff of the Royal County of Berkshire, various past Mayors, representatives from the many different religious centres in the town, both our local MP Yuan Yang and the Wokingham MP, Clive Jones (former Leader of ETC and a resident) and many, many more. Guest of Honour was Liz Kerry – winner of the Service to Earley Award and Fraser, the Pets as Therapy dog who received a special recognition award for his work in various residential care homes. We also announced the winners of the Best Allotment (and runner up) and the new category of Best Trough/Raised Bed. The event was well covered in the local press. We also had a short talk by Laura Lewis, CEO of Daisy's Dream n their work. A very special note of thanks goes to all the Officers who made it such an enjoyable evening and a fantastic way to start the New Year. I had a great time and over £200 was raised by donation for Daisy's Dream.



Cllr Mike Smith 29 January 2025

Earley Town Mayor

Full Council – 5th January 2025

Agenda Item 7.1– REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BODIES

University of Reading

On 27th November 2024, Cllr David Hare and Jo Friend, Town Clerk, met with Molli Cleaver, Jules Shaw and Nigel Frankland at the university.

NF provided an overview of the Loddon Garden Village project:

- Work is expected to start in 2027
- The scheme will provide 2x primary schools and 1x secondary school (8 form entry)
- It will also deliver 2x 3G pitches. Only one pitch is required of the scheme but the provision of the second will fill the gap in provision in Earley (suggestion that there is no suitable space for such a facility in Earley)
- The Eco Valley will be 200 hectares of land acting as both linking and separating space. It will be the 2nd largest country park in Berkshire
- The landscaping will mean pedestrians can walk under the motorway to this Eco Valley
- It is anticipated that the road bridge over the M4 into Earley will not be required until 2032
- Traffic modelling is showing that some of the current traffic on Lower Earley Way will change its route to take advantage of the new road

We mentioned the lack of provision for burial space in all new developments, NF reported that land adjacent to a current burial site had been offered to the burial authority but the offer was declined.

NF is to give a presentation on LGV to Shinfield Parish Council in January and offered to do the same for ETC. We accepted the offer of a presentation, details to be agreed.

Other points of note:

Natural History Museum – work on the access road to start in the new year

Kew Gardens – a planning application will be submitted in January. Molli spoke of the planned landscaping in the grounds of this development, saying it was amazing and much of it will be open to the public to access. She also mentioned that Kew were planning to offer numerous volunteering opportunities for local residents.

Swallows Meadow – UoR were pleased with the official launch. They would now like to formally work with ETC on plans for the site, as well as continuing to work with EEG. They were not clear what format they thought this collaboration could take, we got the impression they don't yet know what they want. (JF will take the matter to the Amenities & Leisure Committee to seek ideas for what councillors would deem an appropriate level of collaborative working on this UoR site).

Silverdale phone box – we raised the matter of the Silverdale phone box project, recognising that it had fallen off the radar but that ETC were keen to restart the conversation. Molli said that her colleagues had been very interested in getting involved, she would speak with them again. The general feeling at the meeting was that the best use would perhaps be for some kind of art project, possibly working with ME pupils, and something that could change over time. Molli will contact JF when she has some feedback from colleagues and a meeting to discuss ideas will be arranged with the chair of the A & L committee.

Green Corridors – we also discussed Bob Collis & Grahame Hawker's Green Corridors project as both the university and ETC are supportive of it. UoR are due to meet with Bob later this week to

discuss it, JF said that she had met with Bob a couple of weeks ago and had discussed how the project could be progressed. We agreed that the suggestion to work up one corridor to completion in the first instance was a good approach and agreed that Bob and Grahame could probably do with a hand to produce professional looking documents etc. We agreed that greater clarity on how the corridors would work would be useful for getting supporters on board.

Full Council meeting – 5th February 2025

Agenda Item 8. ANNUAL FEES & CHARGES REVIEW 2025/26

At its meeting on 15th January 2025, the Amenities & Leisure Committee carried out the annual fees and charges review and agreed on the following **RECOMMENDATIONS** to be made to Full Council at its meeting on 5th February 2025 for approval. All increases to take effect from 1st April 2025, with the exception of allotment fees which will change in January 2026.

Mays Lane Cemetery

Councillors considered the comparison charges provided and agreed that whilst ETC's charges for services for cremated remains were higher than other local providers, ETC's charges in relation to burials remain lower.

The recommendation of the Committee is that:

- No change to charges for services related to Cremated Remains
- No change to charges for Exclusive Rights of Burial (EROB)
- A 10% (rounded up) increase is applied to all other charges

Culver Lane Allotments

In respect of allotment contracts, fees are agreed a year ahead and any changes will therefore take effect from 1st January 2026. The Committee recommend an increase of £1 on each type of plot and an increase of £1 to the membership of the horticultural society. The proposed new fees, as of 1st January 2026 are as follows: -

Raised Beds -	£15.00	
Flat Beds-	£15.00	
3 Pole -	£36.00	
4 Pole -	£43.00	Horticultural Society - £39.00
6 Pole -	£54.00	
8 Pole -	£63.00	

Hall Hire

The A & L Committee considered ETC's current hall charges in comparison to other facilities in the local area. Councillors noted that the community centres have a good level of regular hirers for both daytime and evening hires. Councillors agreed that ETC's hall hire charges are considerably lower than other providers and noted that no increase was made in 2024/25, with only the addition of a children's party rate being made.

The recommendation of the Committee is that a £2.00 increase be made on all hourly charges.

Fishing Permits

In 2024/25, there was no increase in the charge made for fishing permits. The Committee agreed that its recommendation for 2025/26 would be for an increase of £1.00 be made to adult season permits (both Earley and Woodley) and a 50p increase be applied to Junior, Over 60s and concessions season permits. A 50p increase should also be made to the cost of all day tickets.

Sports Pitch Hire

The Committee noted that in 2024/25, no increase was made to football pitch hire and a 20% increase was applied to cricket pitch hire. Councillors considered ETC's current sports pitch charges in comparison to other local facilities and agreed that ETC's charges remain well placed. The recommendation of the Committee is that a 10% (rounded up) increase, be made on all sports pitch hire charges.

Full Council meeting – 5th February 2025

Agenda Item 9. BUDGET & PRECEPT 2025/26

Councillors have previously been provided with reports from the Town Clerk accompanying draft budget documents. Key points from these reports include:

General Reserves – a healthy level of general reserves (GR) is essential for all parish and town councils, they often have limited sources of income outside of the precept. ETC's GR level has been reduced in previous years to ensure they are not higher than necessary. They should reflect the scale of a town council's day to day expenditure and, in ETCs case, the fact that employing its own staff rather than relying on outside contractors means substantial staff costs which cannot be quickly reduced. The recommendation of the RFO and the finance officer are that GR in respect of day to day expenditure should not fall below £650,000. In addition, they recommend that a contingency of £100,000 is kept in GR in order that unforeseen issues arising during the year can be addressed. **The officer recommendation for total GR is therefore £750,000.**

Ear Marked Reserves (EMR) – these are pots of money set aside for specific purposes and are often built up over a period of time. With some EMRs there is currently no set delivery date for expenditure but it is known that expenditure at some point is inevitable (examples of these are the Replacement Vehicle fund which will be used when one or more of the existing works vehicles requires replacement and the Elections fund which will be required at the next council elections in 2027). EMRs should be reviewed regularly to ensure they are still required and are adequate. Such reviews may take place during the financial year and changes can be made following resolution by full Council.

Changes to EMRs being proposed in this draft budget document are:

- Move £30,000 from MPCC Heating Overhaul EMR to General Reserves (Net Zero EMR can be used to fund this work instead)
- Move £9,785 Other Projects EMR to General Reserves (no longer required)
- Move £44,533 Recovery Fund EMR to General Reserves (no longer required)
- Move £50,000 of the Net Zero EMR to General Reserves (to bolster General Reserves)
- Move £339 Phone Box project EMR to General Reserves (surplus to requirements)
- Add £300,000 to the Cemetery Extension EMR

Charges and Fees

The Amenities and Leisure Committee have proposed various increases to ETC's charges and fees – these have been considered in Agenda Item xx. The draft budget assumes Council's adoption of these proposed increases.

Finance Officer Guidance

The Finance Officer has provided the following guide for councillors to assist them with their understanding of the draft budget figures:

Reserves

Total reserves as at 31/3/26 are estimated to be £2,335,083.

These reserves can be split into -

- *General reserves of £700,180*
- *Sibly/CIL reserves of £431,960*
- *Other future EMR spend of £1,204,943*

These reserves can be seen as available to cover:

1. *Current spending requirements (net of current income)*
2. *A contingency of £750,000 (considered a prudent level of reserve)*

3. *Future expenditure requirements not covered by the current general day to day expenditure (ie cemetery extension, replacement vehicles etc)*

Expenditure

The estimated total expenditure for 25/26 is budgeted to be £1,430,644, this is the estimated 'cash' outflow from ETC and excludes movements from and to the EMRs (ear marked reserves).

Movements to and from EMRs and the general fund are not cash movements and therefore are excluded from the expenditure – cash outflow line in the summary to avoid double counting.

Members should note that the Sibly/CIL reserves can be used on specific expenditure only and cannot form part of the GR.

Points raised during earlier discussions on the Budget and Precept 2025/26:

Dilapidations – whilst general maintenance budgets are held for all ETC sites and buildings, ETC does not currently have a dilapidations fund. This means that works arising from general wear and tear can be provided for but funding for larger, perhaps more structural issues, would need to be funded from GR. The Council owns Radstock House and the Interpretation Centre but Radstock Lane Community Centre and Maiden Place Community Centre are held on full repairing leases. A recommendation has been made that the creation of a Dilapidations EMR would be prudent.

Staffing Levels – the Town Clerk recommended that an additional grounds person be recruited. The sites currently maintained by our outdoors team include Maiden Erlegh Lake and Nature Reserve, Mays Lane cemetery, Culver Lane allotments, Meadow Park, outside spaces at Radstock House, MPCC and RLCC, Sol Joel park (including sports pitches), Paddick Drive (including BMX track) and the recently acquired Sibly site which includes an ancient woodland, stream, conservation corridor and all communal outdoor spaces. Whilst we are able to maintain these areas to a particular level we do not have capacity to do more and there are times of the year when even a basic standard is difficult to achieve because of staff resources. The Council's commitment to improving biodiversity and its acquisition of the Sibly site places further strain on the team. The total cost of employing an additional person would be approximately £39,000, this has been reflected in the draft Budget 2025/26. The Town Clerk recommended that Council consider transferring a small amount of the Sibly funds, say £10,000 – £20,000, to the staffing budget to support the cost of recruiting an extra person.

Youth Services – the launch of the new youth club for 9 – 11 year olds at Centrepont Community Centre run in conjunction with Berkshire Youth was a resounding success. Maximum capacity was reached with 30 children attending but unfortunately others had to be turned away. This is evidence that such a service is needed, and popular, in Earley. The draft budget will fund the continuance of one weekly term time youth club session for 9 – 11 year olds – councillors may wish to consider increasing the funds available for this project to enable perhaps a second session to be run or to provide activities or sessions to take place during school holidays.

Sol Joel Pavilion EMR – this fund currently stands at £184,500 and was set up by a previous administration to fund the development of the upper storey into a usable space. Previous ideas had included creating a room for community use or additional council office space. Any development would require the installation of a lift and there could be issues around creating sufficient parking space for associated vehicles. It was recommended that Council should review this project to determine if the fund is still required. Such a review would take time and so it was also suggested that, in the meantime, a proportion of the EMR could be transferred to other uses or to the general reserves.

National Insurance Increases – the rise in employer's national insurance obligations announced by the government to take effect from April 2025, will cost ETC an extra £15,000 per annum. This amounts to 1.5% of the current precept.

Band D – this figure is used to illustrate the amount paid by a typical Band D household per year to the town council to fund the services provided by that town council. Earley is currently 5th in the league table of Band D charges levied by the 17 parish and town councils in Wokingham borough. The current precept of £1,007,815 results in an annual charge to each Band D household in Earley of £83.87, which equates to £6.99 per month.

Impacts on the Band D figure of increases in the precept are provided below and also on the Budget 2025/26 document itself.

BUDGET WORKING PARTY MEETING 27th JANUARY 2025

Ten councillors were present at this meeting, another councillor arrived part way through.

There was general agreement around the suggestion that around £10,000 be transferred from the Sibly EMR to Staffing Costs to support the recruitment of an additional grounds person. This would effectively increase the GR funds from its predicted level of £700,180 to **£710,180**.

There was also general agreement that serious consideration should be given to creating a Dilapidations EMR, although no figures were discussed nor was there an indication of where these funds would come from.

Two proposals in relation to the precept were made and those present indicated their support or opposition:

1. Increase the precept by 2.5%.

New precept = £1,033,010. Impact on Band D = increase to £85.97 per annum (additional £2.10 per annum or £0.17 per month)

Impact on GR – increase to £735,375 (assuming no other measures taken except £10,000 transfer from Sibly EMR)

4 councillors in favour 5 councillors against 1 abstention

2. Increase the precept by 4.99%

New precept = £1,058,105. Impact on Band D = increase to £88.06 per annum (additional £4.19 per annum or £0.35 per month)

Impact on GR – increase to £760,470 (assuming no other measures taken except £10,000 transfer from Sibly EMR)

5 councillors in favour 4 councillors against 1 abstention

Appendix 1 – Notice

Notice of a Community Governance Review Parish Councils in Wokingham Borough Council Area

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

Wokingham Borough Council is undertaking a Community Governance Review of all the towns and parishes within the area to enable the Council to consider if any changes are needed to the current arrangements.

The council is conducting the first stage of the Review process and is inviting residents and interested organisations to submit their views on existing arrangements, together with any proposals for change, from 27 January 2025 to 26 April 2025.

The council has published its Terms of Reference for the Review and a copy can be viewed and downloaded from the Council's website or obtained by contacting the Electoral Services team as shown below.

Should you wish to submit a written representation regarding this review please complete the online submission form which also allows you to upload any supporting papers. Alternatively, you can email communitygovernancereview@wokingham.gov.uk or post it to :

Community Governance Review
Electoral & Democratic Services
Shute End
PO Box 69
RG40 8EY

The dates for submissions for the first stage are from 27 January 2025 to 18 April 2025.

Dated: 27 January 2025

Appendix 2 Draft Terms of Reference

Community Governance Review All Town and Parish councils in Wokingham Borough Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

Terms of Reference To be published on 27 January 2025

1. Introduction

What is a Community Governance Review?

A Community Governance Review is a review of the whole the council's area to consider one or more of the following:

- creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes
- the naming of parishes and the style of new parishes
- the electoral arrangements for parishes (the ordinary year of election, council size (the number of councillors to be elected to council), and parish warding); and
- grouping parishes under a common parish council or de-grouping parishes
- other types of local arrangements, including parish meetings

A Community Governance Review is required to take into account:

- the impact of community governance arrangements on community cohesion; and
- the size, population and boundaries of a local community or parish

The council is required to ensure that community governance within the area under review will:

- be reflective of the identities and interests of the community in that area; and
- be effective and convenient

If the council is satisfied that the recommendation of a Community Governance Review would ensure that community governance within the area under review will reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and is effective and convenient, the council makes a Community Governance Order.

Why is the council carrying out this Community Governance Review?

The council is required to keep its area under review – every 10-15 years. The last CGR was in 2016 and a request from a Town Council for a Review, it was deemed appropriate to undertake a Review of the whole principal council area, rather than dealing with review requests piecemeal. A Community Governance Review offers an opportunity to put in place strong, clearly defined boundaries, tied to firm ground features, and remove the many anomalous parish boundaries that may exist.

Scope of the Review

The Review will consider any Community Governance Review requests received following publication of the Terms of Reference.

2. Consultation

How the council proposes to conduct consultations during the Review?

Before making any recommendations or publishing final proposals, the council must consult local government electors for the area under review and any other person or body (including a local authority) which appears to the council to have an interest in the review.

The council will therefore:

- publish a Notice and these Terms of Reference on the council's website and arrange for copies to be available for public inspection at Civic Offices, Shute End, Wokingham, RG40 2RL during normal office hours
- send a copy of the Notice and these Terms of Reference to all town and parish clerks
- seek to arrange for the notice to be published on parish council websites and notice boards;
- send a copy of the Notice and these Terms of Reference to all local Members of Parliament; and
- the Council will promote the consultation among electors using social media and press releases.

Before making any recommendations, the council will take account of any representations received. The council will publish its recommendations as soon as practicable and take such steps as it considers sufficient to ensure that persons who may be interested in the Community Governance Review are informed of the recommendations and the reasons behind them. Alongside the recommendations, the Council will publish the representations received

The council will notify each consultee and any other persons or bodies who have made written representations of the outcome of the Review.

3. Timetable for the Community Governance Review

The council must complete a Community Governance Review within twelve months from the day on which the council publishes the Terms of Reference. A Community Governance Review is concluded on the day on which the council publishes the recommendations made by the Community Governance Review.

Following a decision made at the Full council meeting on 23 January 2025, the timetable for timetable is shown below.

Stage	Date/Timeline	Timescale	Outline of Activity
One – Invite initial submissions	27 January 2025	12 Weeks	Initial submission invited
Two – Consider submissions	18 April – 2 July 2025 23 July 2025	14 weeks	Consider submissions and prepare report of draft recommendations Council approves draft recommendations
Three – Publish Draft Recommendations	24 July 2025 – 13 November 2025	16 weeks	Commence consultation on draft recommendations.
Four – Final Recommendations	13 November 2025	10 weeks	Consideration of further submissions and prepare final recommendations

	22 January 2026 Full Council		Council resolves to make a Reorganisation Order
Implementation	May 2026/May 2027 Elections		Effective date of any changes to parish/town boundaries and electoral arrangements

Appendix 3 – Terms of Reference for Community Governance Working Group**Purpose of the Group**

1. The Community Governance Review Working Group (CGRWG) is a politically balanced cross-party member working group. It has been established to make recommendations to the Council about the Community Governance Review (CGR).
2. The Working Group is advisory only, with no formal decision-making powers.

Roles

3. The Group will be called upon, as requested by the Council, to work up proposals, sift responses and generally advise the Council on any aspect of the CGR. This includes:
 - 1) Suggesting amendments to existing Terms of Reference for a CGR to accommodate any new CGR request or petition affecting some or all of the same communities
 - 2) Working up the scope of any proposed consultations at each stage of a Community Governance Review, for recommendation to the Council
 - 3) Reviewing responses to the consultations at each stage, and making recommendations to the Council on potential next step, based on the outcomes
 - 4) Making recommendations to the Council on the implementation of the CGR and, as requested, the content of an appropriate Order Scope of a CGR
4. A principal council must make recommendations as to:
 - a) whether a new parish or any new parishes should be constituted
 - b) whether existing parishes should or should not be abolished or whether the area of existing parishes should be altered or
 - c) what the electoral arrangements for new or existing parishes, which are to have parish councils
5. It may also make recommendations about:
 - d) the grouping or de-grouping of parishes
 - e) adding parishes to an existing group of parishes or
 - f) making related alterations to the boundaries of a principal councils' electoral areas
6. The CGRWG will assist the Council in fulfilling these responsibilities.

Guiding principles

7. In carrying out its work, the CGRWG's recommendations must accord with the relevant legislation and statutory guidance. The Group will also bear in mind that the outcome of the CGR must:
 - (a) reflect the identities and interests of the community in that area, and
 - (b) be effective and convenient.

Membership

8. The CGRWG is an informal cross-party working which is politically proportional. The quorum will be a quarter of the group's membership. Membership is as follows:

Councillor Name	Party
Tbc	Liberal Democrat
Tbc	Liberal Democrat
Tbc	Liberal Democrat
Tbc	Conservative
Tbc	Conservative
Tbc	Labour

Chair

9. At its first meeting, the CGRWG will appoint a person to be the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Group.

Voting

10. It is intended that the CGRWG will achieve its recommendations through consensus. Where a vote is necessary, the Chair will have a second or casting vote.

Status

11. The CGRWG is an informal working group and as such its meetings are not open to the public. This is to enable free and frank exchanges of views. Its recommendations will be made public at Council in any case. Nevertheless, the CGRWG may at its discretion invite stakeholders or other persons to appear before it to give views or evidence if this would better aid the Group in framing its recommendations. This will include inviting representatives of town and parish councils to meetings to make representations when their area is under discussion. In addition, borough councillor ward members will also be invited to make representations for their areas.

Frequency

12. The CGRWG will meet as frequently as required to enable it to deliver its recommendations in a timely manner within the timescales established for the CGR. Meetings of the CGRWG may be held in person or online.

Appendix 4 – Electorate Data for Town and Parish Council Wards

Parish	No of Councillors	Electorate (2024)	Electors per Councillor	Electorate Forecast (2029)
Arborfield and Newland Parish Council	10	2,378	237	tbc
Barkham Parish Council	10	3,937	393	tbc
Charvil Parish Council	10	2,513	251	tbc
Earley Town Council	25	24,041	962	tbc
Finchampstead Parish Council	17	10,645	626	tbc
Hurst Parish Council	10	1,757	176	tbc
Remenham Parish Council	7	396	57	tbc
Ruscombe Parish Council	8	921	115	tbc
Shinfield Parish Council	15	13,844	923	tbc
Sonning Parish Council	9	1,333	133	tbc
Swallowfield Parish Council	9	1,877	208	tbc
Twyford Parish Council	15	5,438	362	tbc
Wargrave Parish Council	12	3,158	263	tbc
Winnersh Parish Council	15	8,181	545	tbc
Wokingham Town Council	25	30,405	1216	tbc
Wokingham Without Parish Council	13	5,724	440	tbc
Woodley Town Council	25	22,073	883	tbc

*Based on electorate as of 1 September 2024.

It should be noted that the legal minimum number of parish councillors for each council is five (Section 16, Local Government Act 1972). The National Association of Local Councils considers that a council of no more than the legal minimum of five members is inconveniently small, and it considers that a practical working minimum should be seven (NALC Circular 1126/1988).

The government's Guidance makes the point that "the conduct of parish council business does not usually require a large body of councillors" (Guidance, paragraph 157). It is the borough council's view that this Guidance needs to be taken into account when considering the appropriate number of councillors for any parish council, bearing in mind the NALC recommended minimum of seven.

There is no requirement in legislation that the number of councillors should be proportional to electorate size. The view given in the Guidance is as follows: "In considering the issue of council size, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England is of the view that each area should be considered on its own merits, having regard to its population, geography and the pattern of communities. Nevertheless, having regard to the current powers of parish councils, it should consider the broad pattern of existing council sizes. This pattern appears to have stood the test of time and, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, to have provided for effective and convenient local government." (Guidance, paragraph 156).

Appendix 4 – Electoral Cycle Town and Parish Councils

Town and Parish Council	Last Election	Next Election
Arborfield and Newland Parish Council	2022	2026
Barkham Parish Council	2023	2027
Charvil Parish Council	2024	2028
Earley Town Council	2023	2027
Finchampstead Parish Council	2024	2028
Hurst Parish Council	2024	2028
Remenham Parish Council	2022	2026
Ruscombe Parish Council	2024	2028
Shinfield Parish Council	2023	2027
Sonning Parish Council	2023	2027
Swallowfield Parish Council	2022	2026
Twyford Parish Council	2023	2027
Wargrave Parish Council	2022	2026
Winnersh Parish Council	2023	2027
Wokingham Town Council	2023	2027
Wokingham Without Parish Council	2023	2027
Woodley Town Council	2023	2027

EARLEY TOWN COUNCIL

Notice of Meetings

2025/2026



Notice is hereby given of the following meetings of the Council and its Committees

	Amenities & Leisure (Wednesday 7.00pm)	Planning (Tuesday 7.00pm)	Policy & Resources (Wednesday 7.00pm)	Council
2025	21st May	6th May		ANNUAL 7th May MTG
		3rd June	18th June	
	23rd July	8th July		9th July
		5th August		
		9th September	10th September	24th September
	15th October	7th October		
		4th November	12th November	26th November
		9th December		
2026	14th January	13th January	21st January	
		10th February		4th February
	4th March	10th March	11th March	25th March
		7th April		

All meetings are held at the Council Offices, Radstock Lane, Earley
Members of the public are welcome to attend

The Annual Meeting of the Town Council will be held on 7th May 2025

Jo Friend, Town Clerk

RECORD OF COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCES - 2024/25

NAME OF COUNCILLOR	COUNCIL					AMENITIES & LEISURE					PLANNING												POLICY & RESOURCES					
	05	07	09	11	02	03	05	07	10	01	03	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	01	02	03	04	07	09	11	01	03
R. AHLAWAT	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓																		
A. BASSETT	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓		✓														✓	✓			
A. BRADLEY		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓														✓		✓		
N. BROCK	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓				✓	✓	✓		
R. BROWNE	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓								
R. COOK	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓								
M. DE JONG	A	A	A	A								A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A								
J. EASTWELL	✓	✓	✓																					✓	✓	✓	✓	
D. HARE	✓	✓	✓	✓																				✓	✓	✓	✓	
T. HOLTON			✓	✓																				✓	✓	✓	✓	
M. IYENGUNMWENA	✓	✓	✓	✓								✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	B	✓	B								
S. JORDAN	✓	✓	✓	✓								✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								
N. JORGENSEN		✓	B	B																				✓	✓	✓	✓	
P. JORGENSEN		B	✓	✓								✓		✓	✓		B	✓	✓	✓								
I. KHAYINZA	✓	✓	✓	✓																				✓	✓	✓	✓	
G. LITTLER	✓		✓	✓																								
A. LONG		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓														✓	✓	✓	✓	
T. MAHER	✓		✓	✓				✓	✓	✓													✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
S. MATTHEWS	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓													✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
A. NEAL	✓	✓	✓	✓								✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓								
S. NEWTON		✓	B	B																				✓		B	✓	
B. OWEN	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓																		
H. SARASAN	✓	✓	✓																									
C. SMITH	✓	B	✓	✓								✓		✓	✓	✓	B	B	✓	B								
M. SMITH	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

R = Representing Town Council

B = Attending Borough Meeting

✓ = In Attendance

F = Attending Fire Authority Meeting

A = Approved Leave of Absence

(shaded cell denotes non-representation on Committees)