



**Earley Neighbourhood Action Group Community Forum Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday 13 January 2020**  
**Council Chamber, Earley Town Council, Radstock Lane, Earley, Reading Berks**

**Present**

Jim Willis	Chair & Resident
Bill Luck	Vice Chair & Resident, Easby Way
David Hare	Town & Borough Councillor & Resident
Paul Fahey	Resident, Ramsbury Drive
Phil Marsh	Resident, Marefield
Helen King	Resident, Marefield
Hazel Bell	Resident, Sibson
Sarah Chaplin	Resident, Marefield
Tom Currie	Resident, Aldbourne Avenue & NHW Co-ordinator
Rose Kayani	Resident, Ramsbury Drive
Alan Jutson	Woodley and Earley Lions Club
Jean Hackett	Earley Community Orchard
Andrew Mickleburgh	ETC Representative & Resident, The Delph
Mike Mackenzie	Resident, Salcombe Drive
Cherish Matic	Community Engagement Officer, WBC
Karen Collins	Thames Valley Police

**Apologies**

Rav Heer	Resident, Gabriel Square
Stewart Walton	ETC Council Officer & Resident
Julie Susel	Thames Valley Police

**NB:** These minutes are a record of what happened in the meeting, what was said, what was discussed, and what action would be taken where appropriate. Some items remain as ongoing from meeting to meeting so that they can be monitored at every meeting. Please be advised that no laptops will be allowed to be used in the Council Chamber and mobile phones will only be allowed to be used by the Police in emergencies.

## **Points from the Agenda:**

### **1. Apologies for absence:**

Jim welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded them that they are recorded. Apologies were received from Rav Heer, Stewart Walton and Julie Susel.

### **2. Minutes from previous meeting 2 December 2019:**

The minutes were reviewed and accepted.

### **3. Matters arising:**

Jean asked for an update on the lighting in Earley & road signs. Jim advised that Dave Halley from WBC confirmed via email that the issue affecting Rushey Way is due to a power cut and some of the cables need to be replaced. Andrew advised he contacted Dave Halley in October and a temporary repair was made. This repair subsequently failed and a major fault was discovered that had been caused by damage from third party works. Andrew has asked for portable signs to be erected warning of the junction and said he thought it would be useful for the NAG to ask for very large lit warning signs to be installed in the affected area. Jim advised there are in the region of 15 lights currently out and he witnessed someone being knocked off their bike in the dark at the roundabout. It was suggested that the roundabout be repainted. Jim mentioned he has asked the council numerous times to repair the damaged kerbs on the roundabouts at Beeston Way and Meldreth Way and has also asked the council to address the poor lighting on the footpath between the police station and Fleetham Gardens previously mentioned by Julie.

### **4. Update from the Neighbourhood Policing Team: Police Priorities**

#### **1) Road Safety & Speeding**

This will be covered in agenda item 6.

#### **2) Burglary**

2 x Commercial - Maiden Place and Chalfont Way

6 x Residential – Wilderness Road, Hornbeam Drive, Beech Lane, Chilcombe Way, Wickham Road and Bridport Close

Please ensure your doors, windows and gates are kept secure.

#### **3) Anti-social behaviour**

19 x incidents of Criminal Damage – Wokingham Road x 2, Faygate Way, Chalfont Close, Sibson, Alder Close, Courts Road, Goddards Close, Irvine Way, Radnor Road, Rowland Way, Chicory Close, Durand Road x 2, Rushey Way, Bridport Close, Collins Drive, Roman Way and Finch Road. Several incidents have involved car windows being smashed.

Jim advised he has seen a reduction in litter in and around the youth shelter at Maiden Place recently.

5 x Thefts from Motor Vehicles – Maiden Place x 2, Harrington Close, Red Hatch Drive and Wokingham Road

1 x Theft of Motor Vehicle – Chalfont Close

1 x Theft of Pedal Cycle – Whiteknights Road

## 5. Report back on 'Have your Say' meeting 14/12/19; discussion on Police Priorities:

Based on the results of the surveys completed during the 'Have your Say', Jim advised he does not intend to change the priorities which will remain as: 1. Road safety & speeding, 2. Burglary and 3. Anti-social behaviour.

## 6. Community Speed Watch:

Karen confirmed that a Speedwatch session would be taking place on Cutbush Lane at 2pm on 27<sup>th</sup> January. Jim asked the members of the group to forward any roads they feel would benefit from a session.

## 7. Lighting across Earley area:

Andrew advised there is no evidence of a WBC policy not to repair or replace lights and asked the attendees to report lighting issues using the WBC reporting system. Alan commented that the new LED lights are not bright enough. Bill commented that the LED lights are very directional and the council should have installed more columns and lamp heads. Cherish asked whether ETC owned the streetlights. Andrew advised that some were owned by ETC and some by WBC, the way to tell is from the sticker on the lamppost. He advised that Volker Highways have a routine maintenance contract and SSE are responsible for faults. Jim advised he will ask Dave Halley about the dimming of the lights.

## Any other business:

- **Annual Litter Pick 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020** – the borough wide litter pick will take place on these dates. Jean confirmed there will be two sessions in Earley on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March.
- **Gates at Laurel Park** – Jim confirmed that the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) will be signed off on 11<sup>th</sup> February and there will be signage stating there is a fee to unlock the gates.
- **Community Policing Awards** – Jim advised the NAG did not apply for any funds due to the criteria, so the account balance remains at £30.00.

Jean advised they are getting ready for replacement trees at the Community Orchard this weekend. There has been no further vandalism since before Christmas. On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm, there will be a wassailing event, which is an ancient practice celebrating the fruit trees and wishing them a good harvest for the coming year. Meet at the Interpretation Centre, Instow Road, Maiden Erlegh Nature Reserve if you would like to participate.

An application to fell a large oak on land adjacent to 65 Measham Way has been submitted. It is unlikely to be successful if the tree is healthy. Andrew advised that objections can be registered on the WBC website – the application number is 192854. Bill provided an update on the history leading to this particular felling request. There are a low number of TPOs (Tree Protection Orders) in Earley.

Alan advised the Woodley and Earley Lions are arranging a debriefing meeting for November's Fireworks night with the council and the police in February. There are three potential dates: 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

Mike advised the traffic lights in Beech Lane were no longer beeping for the hearing impaired and he has reported this.

Rose asked whether there had been any further update regarding interfaith meetings.

Cherish and Andrew offered to look into this from a WBC and ETC perspective.

The meeting closed at 8:46 pm. **Next meeting 24 February 2020**

1009B	<b>NAG website</b> is up & running. Constitution has been posted along with our terms of reference. In addition the mission statement of the NAG has been inserted. <a href="http://www.earleynag.org">www.earleynag.org</a>	Message posted on the Earley Residents' Forum – 964 members of Forum	All minutes are now available for viewing online.
0909F	<b>McDonalds Litter</b> – McDonalds have CCTV. The fly tipping has been resolved for now with signs being provided by Wokingham Borough Council. Peter Baveystock has been asked to keep a close eye on this.	Regular meetings will be held with the Area Manager and Health & Safety Representative from the Franchise Head Office. The Management has been reminded of their litter picking commitments. The fly tipping issue has now reduced with the CCTV signs, which have been placed on lamp posts leading to the back yard.	We are grateful for the attendance of staff at our meetings and it is clear that the litter issues are improving across the area. The restaurant is also taking registration numbers of any vehicles entering in to the back yard and recording them in to their daily log. No further fly tipping at present. We will keep under review.
1204C	<b>Community &amp; Youth Meeting</b> - our minutes are now being used as part of the report to this committee.	Meetings: TBA	Chair/Vice Chair to attend when available
0909C	<b>Date, Time &amp; Location of next meeting:</b> Meetings will be held monthly on a Monday at 7.30 – 9.00 pm at the Council Chambers Room, Earley Town Council, Radstock Lane, Earley, RG6 5UL.  Following dates have been booked.  <b>24 February 2020</b> <b>30 March 2020</b>	Please note the new meetings dates, times and location  Agenda issued a week before the meeting if you would like to add a discussion point please email to <a href="mailto:jw@bankingadvice.co.uk">jw@bankingadvice.co.uk</a>	NB: It is imperative that if you are concerned about an issue ie litter or pot holes etc please call Wokingham Borough Council on 0118 9746000 where they will be happy to help. If you are suspicious or a crime is being committed call <b>101</b> (01865 841148), if it is an emergency dial <b>999</b> . If in doubt report it.
1704A	<b>Reading University Community Event</b> – The next event to be advised in due course. The University are very welcoming and it is a good opportunity to look around the University and ask any questions or raise concerns with senior staff ie parking.	Sarah Gardner - Community Relations Officer	The NAG continues to welcome the support of the University of Reading and would be pleased to see students litter picking around the boundary of the University.
0310C	<b>Community Payback</b> – If there are any areas in the community that members feel need clearing, tidying, the Project Community Payback may be able to assist (offenders doing community service). A caution has been placed upon usage as Health & Safety will often be a barrier.	AV would request that the Community Payback scheme is engaged to whitewash the subways at Marefield & Gypsy Lane.	Community Payback & young offenders are being used to clear litter on Lower Earley Way East & West.

0310F	If any members that have any problems with rubbish fly tipping etc, they can contact Peter Baveystock, Waste Services Wokingham Council – WDCT: 0118 9746000	It has been identified that the litter and fly tipping has increased around the area. If you see any please report it to Peter immediately who will arrange for it to be removed.	This service is very effective and efficient and should be used at every opportunity.
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