



**Earley Neighbourhood Action Group Community Forum Meeting Minutes  
Monday 11 January 2021  
Zoom**

**Present**

Jim Willis	Chair & Resident
Clive Jones	Wokingham Borough & ETC Councillor
David Hare	Town & Borough Councillor & Resident
Phil Marsh	Resident, Marefield
Mike Mackenzie	Resident, Salcombe Drive
Rav Heer	Resident, The Manor
Alan Jutson	Woodley and Earley Lions Club
Jean Hackett	Earley Community Orchard
Julie Susel	Thames Valley Police
Karen Collins	Thames Valley Police

**Apologies**

William Luck	Resident, Easby Way
Bethany Baker	Thames Valley Police
Chris Bassett	EASI

**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 the attendees to the NAG's Zoom meeting and advised them it was being recorded. Apologies were received from Chris Bassett, Bethany Baker and William Luck who has asked to be removed from the NAG distribution list.

### 2. Minutes from previous Zoom Meeting 30 November 2020:

Amendments to the previous minutes by Jean:

On p2 1. 2 a caretaker was mentioned but it doesn't say where he/she is based

Under AOB para 2 parking should be kerbs and not curbs

Under AOB para 5 it should read the Three Tuns and not Three Tons.

The minutes were reviewed and accepted.

### 3. Matters arising:

There were no further matters arising.

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

#### a) Road Safety & Speeding

Community Speedwatch is on hold due to lockdown.

#### b) Burglary

3 x Residential – Henley Wood Road x 2, Bramley Close

#### c) Anti-social behaviour

8 x reports of ASB – Leighton Court, Springdale, Laurel Park, Henley Wood Road, Collins Drive, Hilmanton, Merrifield Close, Radstock Lane

8 x reports of Criminal Damage – Chilcombe Way x 2, Kensington Close, Chalfont Way, Luckmore Drive, Rushey Way x 2, Courts Road

9 x Thefts from Vehicles - Mill Lane, Lakeside, Chalfont Way, Silverdale Road x 2, Pond Head Lane, Meadow Road, Roman Way, Aldbourne Avenue

7 x Thefts of Pedal Cycles – Chalfont Way x 3, Chalfont Close, Wokingham Road, Whiteknights Road, Turnbridge Close

Julie advised she was currently self-isolating as were several PCSOs and PCs following a positive Covid case. She expressed concerns regarding the continuing Thefts from Motor Vehicles with items being left in cars such as handbags, jewellery, and money. She asked if something could be posted on the NAG's social media channels regarding this issue.

The Police have been very busy patrolling across the area and have also been out in the dedicated Covid car. Julie told the group she has written to local councillors regarding a gathering of approx. 60 youths on the skate park at Sol Joel and had seen people queuing to go into Dinton Pastures where the coffee shop is still open. Groups are also gathering in playgrounds which have remained open during this lockdown. Julie has asked local councillors if there is any possibility the skate park and playgrounds can be closed. There have been many issues with the youth shelter at Maiden Place over the past weeks. Large groups of youngsters have been gathering in the shelter and verbally abusing PCSOs. There have been large numbers of teenagers between 15-19 gathering in groups around the area.

Phil said he felt the police were doing a great job in view of the current Covid situation.

Alan wanted to thank Julie for her help in getting a response to his request for Santa Claus to go around the area on display. It was lovely to see the smiles on the faces of the children and parents who came out to see Santa.

#### **5. Covid-19 restrictions**

Jim advised he is not proposing to have an AGM until the NAG members can physically meet in person and suggested the group carry on as they are. No one objected to the proposal. He asked whether anyone in the group wanted to volunteer to be Vice Chair. Jim said he also felt that the play parks should be closed. David advised this is a Nationwide issue and is being discussed with other local councils. A meeting was planned at WBC on Wednesday.

David advised both he and Clive had complained to ASDA regarding their Covid practices.

Clive advised that Covid Marshalls are currently monitoring the area including parks, supermarkets and town centres and are reporting their findings back to the council.

#### **6. Maiden Place Youth Shelter**

This was discussed in the Police update - Agenda item 4.

#### **7. Laurel Park – issues relating**

Phil advised the council have temporarily taken the goal posts down.

#### **8. Have your Say**

These are currently on hold.

#### **Any other business:**

Alan advised the Lions Club are hoping to hold their yearly quiz virtually and details will be posted on social media accordingly.

Jim advised that the Alms Houses Charity had received a Christmas card from Earley Town Council addressed to Liberty House of Earley. Dave advised he would ask the council to update their details.

Rav advised he would like to obtain litter picking equipment to use when he is on walks/runs around the area. Jean advised him to contact [EASlittergroup@gmail.com](mailto:EASlittergroup@gmail.com) advising what equipment he wants. They are able to supply pickers, gloves, high vis vests and bags.

Jean mentioned there is a bench at Laurel Park where people are leaving bags of litter in the absence of a bin. Dave asked for details of the bench's location to be sent to him and he will ask the council to look in to putting one there.

Julie asked Karen to send out a Thames Valley Alert advising people not to leave items on display in their vehicles.

Jim asked Dave whether signs could be put up around the area reminding the public to adhere to social distancing.

The meeting closed at 8:25 pm.

**Next meeting 15 February 2021**

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:	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 on zoom at the present time.  Following dates have been booked.  <b>15 February 2021</b> <b>22 March 2021</b> <b>26 April 2021</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 highly effective and efficient and should be used at every opportunity.
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