



Earley Neighbourhood Action Group Community Forum Meeting Minutes
Monday 7 June 2021
Zoom

Present

Jim Willis	Chair & Resident
Phil Marsh	Resident, Marefield
Alan Jutson	Woodley and Earley Lions Club
Jean Hackett	Earley Community Orchard
Helen King	Resident, Marefield
Mike McKenzie	Resident, Salcombe Drive
David Hare	Town & Borough Councillor & Resident
Andrew Mickleburgh	ETC Representative & Resident, The Delph
Julie Susel	Resident, Doddington Close
Chris Susel	Resident, Doddington Close
Rose Kayani	Resident, Ramsbury Drive
Monika Taranczewska	Thames Valley Police
Karen Collins	Thames Valley Police

Apologies

Clive Jones	Town & Borough Councillor & Resident
Simon Botham	TVP
Ian Jobson	Laurel Park Football Club

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. Apologies were received from Clive Jones, Simon Botham and Ian Jobson.

2. Minutes from previous Zoom Meeting 26 April 2021:

The minutes were reviewed and accepted.

3. Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

4. Update from the Neighbourhood Policing Team: Police Priorities

a) Road Safety & Speeding

Karen advised Community Speed Watch is slowly coming back online. Jean said the speed sign on Rushey Way is constantly flashing. Andrew advised that many requests to review speed limits on roads around the area have been sent to WBC, but there has been no response yet. There was a recent site visit outside Loddon School due to road safety concerns and a petition has been launched. Please support the petition if you can.

b) Burglary

2 x Residential – Courts Road and Chippenham Close

c) Anti Social Behaviour

10 x Reports of ASB – The Delph x 2, Silverdale Road, Fair Lawn Green, Camborne Close x 4, Hornbeam Drive and Lakeside.

8 x Reports of Criminal Damage – Rushey Way x 5, Whitenights Road, Markby Way and Whitestone Close.

3 x Thefts from Vehicles – Hilmanton, Gregory Close and Chalfont Way.

4 x Thefts or Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicle – Elm Road, Easington Drive, Chalfont Way and Notton Way.

7 x Thefts of Pedal Cycles – Chalfont Way x 3, Whiteknights Road, Fleetham Gardens, Catcliffe Way and Beighton Close.

PC Monika Taranczweska attended the meeting in the absence of Sgt Simon Botham and advised that a restructure of the Neighbourhood Policing Teams will take place at the beginning of August. There will be two teams covering engagement and also safeguarding and problem-solving teams.

5. Replacement for Julie Susel

Monika advised Julie's position is currently going through the recruitment process and will be filled accordingly.

6. Anti-social behaviour Maiden Place – Covid restrictions

Monika confirmed PCSOs have been patrolling Maiden Place and have obtained CCTV footage which show young males on bikes and scooters. Enquiries are ongoing.

7. Lighting update

Jim advised continuing lighting issues are causing concern. Andrew confirmed the four lights that are not working near the ASDA roundabout have been reported and encouraged everyone to report faulty lights online. Rav commented he had raised lighting issues and told they had been fixed when they had not. Andrew asked anyone with concerns over lighting issues to email David, Clive or himself.

Any other business:

Local wide area litter pick: Jim said he had noticed an improvement in litter for areas he patrols. David said he felt it had been worse lately. Phil advised people have been having barbeques at Laurel Park and throwing litter into the bushes.

Laurel Park Gate: Ian Jobson provided an update to Jim confirming the football season has ended. Phil confirmed that the goals have been removed. Helen advised that the volunteers who lock and unlock the gate often receive verbal abuse. Monika commented the Neighbourhood Policing Team should relook at this to ensure the volunteer's safety. Hazel has emailed Jo Friend advising that ETC and WBC should take on responsibility for the gate. Jo responded the current understanding is that WBC are not intending to transfer the responsibility for the gate at this time. Dave advised an ambulance was recently unable to gain access to the car park due to no key being available for the upper lock. Helen will forward the emails regarding the gate to Jim and he will forward them on to David.

COVID19 surge testing in the Borough

Zoran advised that surge testing is available at Bulmershe Leisure Centre for wards that have been identified as affected by the surge in the Delta variant.

The traffic light warning sign has been taken down on Gypsy Lane. Andrew asked Phil to send him the details and he will look into it.

Alan asked whether the visibility on the Kings Road crossroads will be improved as it is currently obstructed when trying to turn right when approaching from the Sindlesham direction. Zoran advised that WBC are aware of issues at the crossroad and are trying to address the issue. Jim asked Alan to send details of the obstruction to him.

Jean commented that she is seeing more E-scooters in the area. Monika advised these should not be used on the roads or pavements and rental pilot schemes in some areas is causing confusion over their legality. Enforcement is difficult and potentially dangerous. Andrew confirmed Wokingham is not part of the trials and he has had residents raise this as an issue of concern. Monika said she will get some information together for the next NAG meeting.

There is concern over the temporary lights on Carshalton and could the sequence be changed to prevent queues backing on to Rushey Way. The workers advised it should be finished this week and Jim will follow up if it is not finished.

Jim advised that tree preservation orders have been placed on the closed pedestrian area of Cutbush Lane.

Andrew advised the proposed development at Swallows Meadows is causing concerns over road safety and potential traffic issues and asked the attendees to log any views, concerns or objections online.

The meeting closed at 20:29 pm.

Next meeting 2 August 2021

1009B	NAG website is up & running. Constitution has been posted along with our terms of reference. In addition the mission statement of the NAG has been inserted. www.earleynag.org	Message posted on the Earley Residents' Forum – 964 members of Forum	All minutes are now available for viewing online.
0909F	McDonalds Litter – 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	Community & Youth Meeting - our minutes are now being used as part of the report to this committee.	Meetings:	Chair/Vice Chair to attend when available
0909C	Date, Time & Location of next meeting: 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. 20 September 2021 22 November 2021	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 jw@bankingadvice.co.uk	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 101 (01865 841148), if it is an emergency dial 999 . If in doubt report it.
1704A	Reading University Community Event – 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	<p>Community Payback – 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.</p>	<p>AV would request that the Community Payback scheme is engaged to whitewash the subways at Marefield & Gypsy Lane.</p>	<p>Community Payback & young offenders are being used to clear litter on Lower Earley Way East & West.</p>
0310F	<p>If any members have problems with rubbish or fly tipping, potholes etc, there is a page on the WBC website entitled Roadworks and outdoor maintenance:</p> <p>https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/roadworks-and-outdoor-maintenance/</p> <p>Use this to report the problem or see if already reported.</p>	<p>This service is highly effective and efficient and should be used at every opportunity.</p>	