



**Earley Neighbourhood Action Group Community Forum Meeting Minutes
Monday 11th May 2026**

Present

Phil Marsh	Chair & Resident, Marefield
Nicola Brook	ETC Councillor & Resident, Strand Way
Zahra Colwill	Resident, Highfields
Hazel Bell	Resident, Sibson
Helen Elderfield	Resident, Marefield
Linden Morgan	Resident, Elm Road
Simon Botham	Neighbourhood Sergeant, Thames Valley Police
Karen Collins	Neighbourhood Administrator, Thames Valley Police

Apologies

Ian Jobson	Laurel Park Football Club & Resident, Trusthorpe Close
Mike Smith	WBC & ETC Councillor & Resident, Northam Close
Caroline Smith	WBC Councillor & Resident, Northam Close
Colin Mair	MERA & Resident, Lakeside
Molli Cleaver	Community Relations Manager, University of Reading
Paul Adkins	Neighbourhood Watch Area Representative
Moses Iyengunmwena	ETC Councillor & Resident, Swepstone Close
Mark Ashwell	WBC Councillor for Sports & Leisure
Elena Ispas	Police Community Support Officer, 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.

Prior to the start of the meeting, Karen asked if the attendees wished to submit any interest for the position of Chair. No interest was submitted.

Points from the Agenda:

1. Apologies for absence:

Phil welcomed the attendees and asked everyone to introduce themselves. The apologies are listed above.

2. Minutes from the previous Meeting on 9th March 2026:

The minutes were proposed for approval by Helen Elderfield and seconded by Simon Botham.

3. Matters arising: AGM in accordance with clause 8 of the Constitution, candidates for Chair and Vice Chair, please submit your letters of interest by 1st May, and send such letters by email to: Contactus@earley.nag.org

No interest was submitted for the position of Chair; therefore, the group will be dissolved and cease to operate if a candidate cannot be found. Phil gave his annual Chair report for the NAG, thanking the attendees for their support for the NAG and ran through some of the achievements in the last three years. Phil, kindly agreed to act as chair for the rest of the meeting. NB: the NAG has been a great opportunity to sit down with community representatives and once it is lost, it will be difficult to replace.

4. AOB: (proposals for consideration from attendees)

Phil mentioned the bins in Laurel Park have been causing concerns due to excess litter, and they are not on the WBC reporting system.

5. Update from the Neighbourhood Policing Team: Police Priorities: a) Burglary; b) Anti-social behaviour; c) County Lines issues; and d) Road Safety / Speeding (team to suggest potential Speedwatch Locations with times)

Simon provided an update on the crimes reported from 9th March to 11th May 2026.

a) Burglary

No Reported Business Burglaries.

3 x Residential Burglaries – Faygate Way, Henley Wood Road and Mill Lane. Two related to tenants in properties.

b) Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

17 reports of ASB – several reports related to cannabis smoking in communal areas and others to parking issues between neighbours.

21 reports of Criminal Damage – many related to cars being damaged and a few to cells being damaged at Loddon Valley Police Station.

2 reported robberies – Junction of Hillmanton/Rushey Way and an underbridge A329M (JN-A4)

1 x Dangerous Dog report on Lower Earley Way

2 x Making off without payment at The Square, Earley and Wokingham Road

3 x Vehicles were seized during this time period

42 x Shopliftings across local retailers. PCSO Elena has been visiting local retailers to assist and encourage them to sign up to DISC, an information-sharing and reporting platform funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) which allows retailers to report and access information about crime such as shoplifting and ASB. A core part of the PCC's Retail Crime Strategy is to make reporting shoplifting offences easier and more efficient for retailers. This has led to a significant increase in the number of reported shopliftings, but there are still constraints and barriers within retailers with regard to uploading CCTV footage.

7 x Thefts from Motor Vehicles – Danehill, Ramsbury Drive, Maiden Place, Wilderness Road, The Delph x 2 and Whiteknights Road. Many reports related to the theft of number plates. Simon advised they are looking into a potential suspect for these offences.

7 x Thefts of Motor Vehicles – Rushey Way, Aldbourne Avenue, Langdale Gardens, Falstaff Avenue, Whiteknights Road, Moorhen Drive and The Delph.

5 x Thefts of Pedal Cycles – Chalfont Way x 4 and Whiteknights Road.

c) County Lines issues

There is a dedicated Tasking Team who use covert and overt tactics to disrupt county drug lines. Their main focus is on protecting vulnerable victims from exploitation.

d) Road Safety / Speeding (team to suggest potential Speedwatch Locations with times) – Cllr Caroline Smith will raise potential local Speedwatch Opportunities.

If you have any roads or areas you would like to nominate for a session, please add them into the comments box on the NAG's website <https://earleynag.org/entries/general/community-speedwatch-uk>

Simon thanked Phil on behalf of Thames Valley Police for his efforts and support in Chairing the NAG over the past years.

- 6 Laurel Park: "Saturday Matchday Traffic" safety in surrounding roads, review the success of any new mitigations put in place or proposed by WBC (Cllr Mark Ashwell, WBC) Local contact Cllr Caroline Smith**
Phil advised no further information had been received regarding this issue. NAG members can ask a question around the current situation at a council meeting. <https://www.wokingham.gov.uk/council-and-meetings/meetings/ask-question-meeting>
- 7 WBC – ASB – (Cllr Mike Smith)**
There was no further update from the previous meeting.
- 8 MERA – local update**
No update was received at the time of the meeting.
- 9 ACER**
No update was received at the time of the meeting.
- 10 Street Lighting – [ASDA footpath] – (Linden / Cllr Moses Iyengunmwena)**
The constantly changing lighting situation will be monitored and followed up by WBC officers.

The meeting closed at 8:18 pm.

1009B	<p>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</p>	<p>Facebook Page link for posts: https://www.facebook.com/EarleyNAG</p>	<p>All minutes are now available for viewing online.</p>
0909C	<p>Date, Time & Location of next meeting: Meetings will be held bi-monthly on a Monday at 7.30 – 9.00 pm at the Earley Town Council Offices.</p> <p>The following dates have been booked.</p>	<p>Please note the meetings dates, times and location</p> <p>Agenda issued a week before the meeting if you would like to add a discussion point please email to chairperson@earleynag.org</p>	<p>NB: It is imperative that if you are concerned about an Issue, i.e. litter or pot holes etc. please call Wokingham Borough Council on 0118 9746000 where they will be happy to help.</p> <p>If you are suspicious or a crime has already been committed call 101 or report online.</p> <p>In an emergency or if a crime is in progress, dial 999.</p> <p>If in doubt report it.</p>
1704A	<p>Reading University Community Events The Community Forum is coming up on Thursday 20 November, 6-8.30pm at Eat at the Square on Whiteknights Campus which is open to all residents.</p> <p>Hosted by the Vice Chancellor it's a chance to find out about our local activity, share feedback and explore ways of working together. It will feature a panel of representatives from the University, SU, Reading Council, Wokingham Borough Council and Thames Valley Police. Guests will have the opportunity to ask questions.</p> <p>The event is free and includes a hot buffet, registration is required. The easiest way to let me know if you'd like to join is to email community@reading.ac.uk</p>	<p>Molli Cleaver - Community Relations Manager community@reading.ac.uk</p> <p>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 i.e. parking</p>	<p>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.</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: 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>	