



**Earley Neighbourhood Action Group Community Forum Meeting Minutes
Monday 7 September 2020
Zoom**

Present

Jim Willis	Chair & Resident
Rav Heer	Resident, The Manor
Zoran Matic	Community Engagement Officer WBC
Helen King	Resident, Marefield
Phil Marsh	Resident, Marefield
Rose Kayani	Resident, Ramsbury Drive
Alan Jutson	Woodley and Earley Lions Club
Jean Hackett	Earley Community Orchard
Andrew Mickleburgh	ETC Representative & Resident, The Delph
Linden Morgan	Resident, Elm Road
Mike Mackenzie	Resident, Salcombe Drive
Chris Bassett	EASI
Simon Botham	Thames Valley Police
Karen Collins	Thames Valley Police

Apologies

David Hare	Town & Borough Councillor & Resident
Clive Jones	Wokingham Borough and ETC Councillor
Bill Luck	Vice Chair & Resident, Easby Way
Tom Currie	Resident, Aldbourne Avenue & NHW Co-ordinator
Sarah Gardner	University of Reading

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 NAG's first Zoom meeting. Apologies were received from Sarah Gardner, Tom Currie, David Hare, Clive Jones & Bill Luck.

2. Minutes from previous meeting 24 February 2020:

The minutes were reviewed and accepted.

3. Matters arising:

Andrew advised David Ireland was checking into the requested improvement of CCTV coverage at Place Leisure and he will follow this up.

4. Update from the Neighbourhood Policing Team: Police Priorities

1) Road Safety & Speeding

Karen advised that all Community Speed watch activity had been suspended due to Covid-19 and is currently being reviewed due to the increasing pressure being received from residents and partner agencies to resume the initiative. TVP hope to have an update shortly.

Wokingham Borough Council have introduced a speed limit review across the borough.

Andrew has asked WBC to examine and improve the junction of Meldreth Way and Cutbush Lane following a recent accident.

2) Burglary

4 x Commercial – Shinfield Road x 2, Danehill, Wokingham Road.

10 x Residential – Mill Lane, Kenton Road, Leighton Court, Wychwood Crescent x 2, Redhatch Drive, Marefield, Flaxman Close, Clevedon Drive, Aldbourne Avenue.

3) Anti-social behaviour

45 x incidences of Criminal Damage:

March - 7, Redhatch Drive, Sol Joel Park, Beech Lane, Maiden Place, Hornbeam Drive, Rushey Way, Chilcombe Way

April - 10, Chilcombe Way, Rushey Way x 2, Beech Lane, Broad Mead, Lower Earley Way, Wyatt Close, Henley Wood Road, Collins Drive, Harcourt Drive

May - 11, Chilcombe Way, Wokingham Road x 4, Squirrels Way, Huntingdon Close, Rushey Way x 2, Caraway Way, Silverdale Road

June - 6, Beech Lane, Fleetham Gardens x 2, Rushey Way, Laurel Park, Springdale

July - 3, Danehill, Mill Lane, Squirrels Way

August - 8, Chilcombe Way, Paddick Drive, Maiden Place, Lakeside, Rushey Way x 2, Chalfont Way, Langdale Gardens

5 x Robberies – Laurel Park, Cutbush Lane, Soel Joel Park, Maiden Place x 2

16 x Thefts from vehicles – Wokingham Road x 3, Chalfont Way, The Knapp, Sutcliffe Avenue, Ledran Close, Carshalton Way x 2, Beech Lane, Springdale, Fleetham Gardens, Mill Lane, Chatteris Way, Rushey Way, Bay Close

9 x Thefts of motor vehicles - Maiden Place, Rushey Way x 2, Wokingham Road x 2, Ramsey Close x 2, Fulmer Close, Beech Lane

4 x Thefts of pedal cycles – Chalfont Way x 2, Kingsdown Close, Rushey Way

Sergeant Simon Botham introduced himself and confirmed he has taken over from Howard Rose. Simon has over 5 years experience in Neighbourhood Policing and is looking forward to working with the NAG. During lockdown, the Neighbourhood Police Officers were redeployed to support their Incident Crime Response (ICR) colleagues with demand and resourcing. During September, the Neighbourhood teams should be back up to full strength and he hopes to be able to increase the number of operations and support going forward.

From Monday 14th – Sunday 20th September, TVP will be supporting the national County Lines Intensification Week, organised by the National Crime Agency (NCA) to prevent and disrupt county drugs lines activity. From 14th September, University students will start returning and all the bars on the University campus have been turned into sit-down pubs.

Andrew commented he has received lots of emails from the Neighbourhood teams over the last few months with good responses and they have been keeping him informed.

5. Litter & other anti-social behaviour

Wokingham Borough Council has addressed concerns raised about the youth shelter at Maiden Place. They believe the youth shelter should stay in situ as it serves a function for observation. Andrew asked Simon for TVP's view on the youth shelter and Simon confirmed the Neighbourhood team has reviewed it from a policing perspective and the team also supports it staying there.

Chris from EASI advised that the mass litter pick in March was cancelled and they are hoping to support a Keep Britain Tidy event in September. They also hope to meet with the council to discuss equipment, etc. There have been several incidences of graffiti reported.

Rav advised he would be happy to pick up litter around the BMX track and it needs a much bigger bin.

6. Orchard Damage

Jean reported that last week the fencing around the trees was picked up and dragged to the pavilion. The volunteers have reinforced and strengthened the trees, the last 2-3 being done on Wednesday. 30 replacement fences were provided due to rot over the last 3 years. She advised that a PCSO has been patrolling the area and three police notices have been put up. Simon advised that PCSOs have been doing their best to patrol, but timings are dependent on their shifts. WBC have said no to moving trees to an area behind the pavilion. Andrew and Clive have had a meeting to try and accelerate the transfer but it has been affected by the pandemic.

7. Local area lighting

Jim advised there were quite a large number of issues with lighting and was waiting for a council officer to respond. They have also been speaking to Pauline Jorgensen with regard to getting these sorted. Andrew appealed for NAG members to report lighting issues on WBC's website and not to send spreadsheets. Any reports should include the number on the street light column. If you have any issues with reporting, you can contact your councillors directly.

Linden reported that there are a number of lights failing and they are not attending to them.

Jim said he was worried ASB will be affected due to lack of lighting.

Any other business:

Alan advised that the Lions have cancelled their November fireworks display due to Covid-19 rules

and it has been shifted to next year without incurring any cancellation costs. Despite having no fund raising events since the quiz night in March, the club are still supporting the community. A couple of recent donations included providing hand cream to First Responders and donations to a women's refuge centre.

Rose thanked Jim for his message regarding the Independent Advisory Group and mentioned that Beech Lane has a speeding issue. On 14th May her son witnessed a vehicle going 30 miles an hour and a female police officer spoke to him about going too slow. His Tesla has a recording of it.

Helen asked whether there was an update on when the Laurel Park gate was transferring and it would be nice if the council could thank the volunteers for manning them over the years. They are happy with the system operating at the moment.

Rav mentioned that night time speeding along Lower Earley Way has been increasing.

Zoran advised he was redeployed to a customer service role at the start of lockdown. He's been dealing with unauthorised encampments and securing properties for victims of domestic abuse. He is not dealing with graffiti anymore and anyone can report it through the WBC website.

Andrew advised that WBC is employing a youth worker who is implementing a street youth worker program and is currently training a team to interact with youths.

The meeting closed at 8:46 pm. **Next meeting 19 October 2020**

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: Provisional dates: 30 September 2020 18 November 2020	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 at the Council Chambers Room, Earley Town Council, Radstock Lane, Earley, RG6 5UL. Following dates have been booked. 19 October 2020	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	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.	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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