



MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 6 August 2009 - 7.15pm, Church House, Caversham.

Attendees: Judith Barratt (Chair), Jennifer Millest, Jean Newbery, Margaret Skinner, Dave Kenny, Peter Trout, Richard Denney, Maria Rodic, Bob O'Neill, Chris Burden, Wendy Preston, Susan Curd, Beryl Owen, Gill Somerville. And Speaker Ben Stanesby (RBC Parks)

Apologies for absence Councillor Isobel Ballsdon, Tina Barnes

1. Judith welcomed all attendees, including some new people, and then everyone introduced themselves
2. **Ben Stanesby, Head of Parks at Reading Borough Council** gave a presentation on RBC Parks & Opens Spaces actions and related new strategies that are due to be published, including: the Council's ongoing tree survey across the borough; winter planting/replacement; River Thames mooring site issues; Caversham Court re-opening; 'Breathing Spaces' year of action - see <http://www.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces>
Ben answered questions from attendees, e.g. management & maintenance of Balmore Park, Kings Meadow tree planting, wild flower & wetland areas work not completed. Site visits may be arranged to investigate. The meeting thanked Ben for his helpful information.
Ben to arrange site visit to Balmore Walk
3. **Approval of minutes of 11 June 09 meeting** – with one slight amendment it was agreed these be published as an accurate record.
4. **Current issues from previous minutes.**
 - **Re Mill Green footpath:** No change – awaiting Co Stanway. **Cllr Stanway to arrange site visit**
 - **Re Causeways built on Reading Festival Site.** No change from last meeting when Jennifer reported that CADRA is still pursuing the issue with the Environment Agency. RBC will not take further action unless EA confirms there has been an infringement. **Ongoing**
 - **Former Caravan site at end of Star Road/Mill Green** – No change from last meeting. Status of the buildings and paving of this site and whether it has planning permission remains unclear. **Cllr Stanway is in contact with planning**
 - **Mobile Homes at 20 Send Road** - No change from last meeting. Recent planning application was withdrawn, but building activity has been taking place on the site. RBC Planning Enforcement is investigating. **Ongoing**
 - **Battery Recycling - ongoing** – Battery Recycling Options for bins discussed following research by Judith and costs/complications further considered. Example no cost 'recycled bin' will be supplied by Bob. **Richard still to finalise suitable bins and make visits to get permission for possible site opportunities; also to confirm with RBC their plans in view of legislation in 2010.**
 - **Kings Meadow & Caversham Lock Island Developments:** No change from last meeting. Following the referral back to Cabinet by the Community Corporate & External Affairs Scrutiny Panel, Cabinet decided at its 1 June meeting to give both parties further time to rework their proposals. **Item ongoing.**
 - **Development Sites in South Oxfordshire near Caversham Borders.** **Dave to send Globe comments to South Oxon.**
 - **Public Footpath Sign Post at start of Balmore Lane** (Peppard Road end near post box) has now been reinstated by RBC. **Closed**
 - **Caversham Globe Web site** – New web site www.cavershamglobe.org.uk is now up and running along also email address info@cavershamglobe.org.uk Now operational, ongoing updating to be managed by Dave/Judith and others as necessary.
 - **Advertising hoarding on corner of Hemdean Rd/ Oxford St** – item resolved - **closed.**
 - **Proposed Bottle Bank Lower Henley Rd** – No change from last meeting when Jean reported that residents were unhappy with proposed location because of its proximity to houses - noise, broken glass etc. **Cllr Stanway to ask RBC to investigate alternative locations.**
 - **Felled tree in Rectory Rd** - No change from last meeting when Dave asked if there was any progress on getting agreement for shrub planting to replace the tree. Globe offered to plant up the site if councillors can get permission. **Cllr Luckett to pursue.**
5. **New Planning Issues**
 - **Station Hill development** – major town centre development, photos shown at meeting, see also <http://www.stationhillreading.co.uk>
GLOBE needs to comment – **Dave will co-ordinate**
 - **11-13 Gosbrook Road**, demolition of existing building and erection of 5 dwellings. **Dave to send comments**
6. **AOB**
 - **Proposed new River Thames river crossing** - a reminder about this web site <http://sotig.blogspot.com> and links
 - **Roles and Responsibilities for GLOBE members** recently drafted – Jennifer circulated proposals for comment - **to be ratified at next meeting**

The next Caversham Globe meeting is on Thursday 3 September at 7.15pm in Church House, 59 Church Street, Caversham. All welcome. Agenda will be circulated at the meeting.