

MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 5 March 2009 - 7.15pm, Church House, 59 Church St, Caversham.

Attendees: Peter Trout (Chair), Jennifer Millest, Dave Kenny, Margaret Skinner, Jean Newbery, Richard Denney, Damian De-Burgh, Councillor Tom Stanway, Councillor Dave Luckett **Apologies for absence:** Tina Barnes, Isobel Ballsdon

1. Matters Arising from minutes of meeting of 5 February 2009

Re Mill Green: No change - Still need update from RBC on current situation, Cllr Stanway was to pursue. **Review at April 09 GLOBE meeting.**

Re Kings Meadow & Caversham Lock Island Developments: Detailed arrangements were discussed for the meeting scheduled on 10 March, where Steve Ward, the RBC lead officer, would be giving GLOBE a briefing on these development proposals. This is to enable GLOBE to prepare a response for submission at the RBC Culture & Sports Scrutiny Panel on 25 March.

2. Planning - items from previous minutes

- Causeways built on Reading Festival Site. Cllr Stanway reported that he had been informed that the work done was confined to raising and reinforcing the existing hardcore farm track ways, which was not breaching any planning guidelines. Dave and Jennifer believe this work is significant and may be in breach of Environment Agency flood plain regulations. **Jennifer to report back**
- Former Travellers site at end of Star Road/Mill Green. Cllr Stanway had offered to follow up on this. **Update still needed from RBC.**
- Warren Chalk Pits - Those cycle Track ways constructed in the chalk pits at the far end of The Warren have now been dismantled. **Closed**

3. Battery Recycling – It had now been clarified that there are no current plans by RBC for expanding their limited battery collection scheme. GLOBE meeting then resolved to get on with implementing our own scheme without more delay. **Actions to be taken: Richard & Dave will try and identify suitable low cost bins to purchase locally and get permission for possible site opportunities. Report at April meeting.**

4. Membership and Constitution of Caversham GLOBE

Final draft will be produced and circulated in advance of our **AGM** - probably May or June. **Review at April meeting**

4. Caversham GLOBE publicity Another short publicity item has been submitted by Richard for the April issue of Caversham Bridge. Updated posters are now available; some are displayed in various places. **Suggestions welcome** by Richard for new poster sites that may result in increased membership. Revised Globe leaflets are in Caversham library – **contact** Dave for supplies if needed.

5. GLOBE Walks/practical activity / 2009 RESCUE participation. Discussion on possibilities for future walks once the weather improves. Noted that these walks are aimed at attracting new membership by increasing people's local knowledge of our environment and challenges we face. Current suggestions now include: Earleigh Lakes, South Oxon, Riverside Coal and other areas. Walks need leaders and defined purpose/outcomes. There was also a possibility of a group (20 max) visit to the new Recycling Facility. **Arrange at April Meeting.**

RESCUE: Arrangements in hand for this year's RESCUE event over the weekend of 14/15 March at Hills Meadow & Christchurch Meadow areas on Saturday 14 March 2009 from 2-5pm co-ordinated by Dave and on Sunday 15th co-ordinated by Richard. Risk assessment had been done for RBC. Posters had been displayed. Richard would collect materials from RBC. Noted that Damian had already been clearing up a lot as result of seeing GLOBE poster. **Report back at April meeting**

6. GLOBE Web site Dave had now been given costs estimate of least £250 for 5 page website and £500 for 10 pages. Agreed to explore reduced cost options for setting up a web site for Caversham GLOBE. Councillor Luckett will let Dave have details of low cost Microsoft package that would need some DIY input. Richard said he could investigate. Need to achieve progress on this: has been much debated. **Report at April meeting.**

7. GLOBE Insurance: Previously reported at Feb meeting that RBC had written to say that the joint Globe insurance cover would be discontinued as of 30 April 2010. Need to decide alternative. **Keep under review**

8. Planning - new items:

- **Number 20 Chazey Road** – proposal for 8 flats – objected to. **Highdown School further development** – noted that no trees are affected

9. AOB.

- Confirmed that RBC Councillors attend Caversham GLOBE meetings in their roles as local Councillors primarily to advise, inform or take up appropriate matters raised by GLOBE members
- Confirmed that the RBC annual grant of £335 has been received for 2009/10.
- Major concern that large mature Sycamore in Rectory Road is to be felled without notice. Confirmed that this tree is on private land and not covered by a TPO, so there is no action that GLOBE can take to prevent this damaging loss to the area. Councillor Stanway informed the meeting that an RBC Tree Strategy is being developed. Concern that this should include tree planting – **GLOBE requests involvement!**
- Recent destruction of mature hedges by RBC Parks people – replacements need to be of acceptable variety for bio-diversity i.e. not just single species. Noted that we need to take up this matter with RBC, possibly via Green City (Woodlands and Waterways) Forum.

Next meeting is on Thursday 2 April at 7.15pm in Church House, 59 Church Street, Caversham.