

MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 3 December 09 - 7.15pm, Church House, Caversham.

Attendees: Peter Trout (Chair), Jean Newbery, Wendy Preston, Dave Kenny, Richard Denney.

Apologies: Jennifer Millest, Margaret Skinner, Gill Somerville, Tina Barnes, Beryl Owen, Judith Barratt, Bob O'Neill Councillor Andrew Cumpsty...

1. **Minutes of 5 November** discussed briefly and agreed for publication.
2. **Matters arising from minutes of 5 November.**
Annual Grant application to RBC – The new Complaints Policy and a Safeguarding Policy, as requested by RBC in connection with GLOBE's annual grant application, were circulated and adopted as drafted. **Closed**
3. **Outstanding Planning Issues with matters to report**
 - i. **Highdown Bottom. 9/01664/OUT Woodland adjacent to 54 Highdown Hill Road** - Dave had responded on 27 October with a detailed objections, including: ancient woodland and relevance of Reading Borough Policies NE2 (Wildlife Heritage Sites), NE3 (Wildlife corridors) and NE 5 (Trees Hedges and Woodland). Wildlife. **Dave reported** that this planning application had been robustly rejected and that the RBC decision notice issued had referred to several of the points that had been raised by Caversham GLOBE. **Closed**
 - ii. Dave raised a concern that there are signs of possible development activity on the South Oxfordshire side of the Borough boundary on Gravel Hill next to the Golf Course. **Needs investigating**
 - iii. **Mill Green Footpath.** Issues previously discussed and minuted have now been escalated and are no longer a GLOBE matter. **Closed**
4. **Environmental Inspection Audits by RBC** (Walkabout programme arranged through local NAG on third Thursday of each month). Jean may attend Dec 17 and Dave may do January - **Keep in view.**
5. **Tree planting** various locations suggested – Picton Way, Buckingham Drive, Peppard Road, also Balmore Surgery if agreement received. **Dave K will co-ordinate** (and others will help with these).
6. **Visit to R3 Recycling Centre at Smallmead Civic Amenity Site** – possible visit for Caversham GLOBE – date needs to be agreed for New Year visit. **Richard Denney arranging**
7. **New Planning Issues –**
Consultation letter received from RBC re Public Footpath 41 from Henley Road shops (next to A W Cycles) north to Chiltern Road. RBC is requesting views on possible enclosure of a section of this path and installation of locked gates to restrict use to residents only, with consequent diversion of public footpath to Chiltern Road. This action is being considered due to problems of nuisance and vandalism. Various points were raised and discussed, including: whilst understanding the concerns of residents, we should strongly reject any closure of a long established public right of way for the reasons stated by RBC; and that other measures should be taken to deter this hopefully short term problem; depriving footpath users of a semi-rural peaceful walkway was not thought to be a good thing; it was also thought that there are many other local 'residential rear alleyways' that suffer anti-social problems but are impractical to enclose with gates, which will not completely deter determined vandals anyway. **Dave to reply to RBC letter**
8. **Access to Church House** The question of ease of access to GLOBE meetings, which are via the Church house staircase, was raised in the context of whether we could meet at an alternative ground floor venue. Various options were discussed but nothing conclusive. **Review**

**Our next meeting is on Thursday 7 January at 7.15pm in Church House,
59 Church Street, Caversham. All welcome. Agenda will be circulated at the meeting.**