

MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 1 October 09 - 7.15pm, Church House, Caversham.

Attendees: Peter Trout (Chair), Jennifer Millest, Jean Newbery, Margaret Skinner, Richard Denney, Beryl Owen, Gill Somerville, Tina Barnes, Chris Burden, Councillors Tom Stanway and Isobel Ballsdon.

Apologies for absence Dave Kenny, Judith Barratt, Bob O'Neill, Tina Gower, Chris Webster, Councillor Andrew Cumpsty

1. **Minutes of 3 September discussed briefly** – with one minor correction these will be published as tabled.
2. **Current issues from previous minutes.**
 - I. **Re Mill Green footpath:** A site visit has now taken place with RBC and some residents over the problems of the ditch, ownership & disputed access. Residents are to be sent a letter by Councillor Stanway and subsequent actions considered. **Ongoing**
 - II. **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**
 - III. **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 pursuing - Ongoing**
 - IV. **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 Recent planning application was withdrawn, but building activity has been taking place on the site.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**
 - V. **Caversham Lock Island & Kings Meadow Pool Developments:** On 28 September 2009 RBC's Cabinet again considered the two competing proposal to develop the Kings Meadow Pool. The Askett Hawke bid for a hotel and bars had additional terms which were not acceptable to the Council. Also a 250 year lease was applied for, which GLOBE opposed on a number of grounds. The Cabinet agreed to offer a period of two years exclusivity to the Kings Meadow Campaign, during which time it will need to submit a planning application and ensure a firm financial footing. The Environment Agency plans for the Caversham Lock Island are unclear at present. **Item ongoing.**
 - VI. **Caversham Globe Web site (info item only)** web site www.cavershamglobe.org.uk and email address info@cavershamglobe.org.uk
 - VII. **Proposed Bottle Bank Lower Henley Rd** – Plans withdrawn by RBC **closed.**
 - VIII. **Felled tree in Rectory Rd** - No change from a previous 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.**
 - IX. **Management and maintenance audit; site visit to Balmore Walk** - This took place on 23 Sept with Ben Stanesby RBC and 4 GLOBE people. Notes prepared and submitted to RBC for future improved management suggestions. **(report can be viewed via GLOBE Website or paper copy on request from Richard Denney).**
 - X. **Station Hill development** - John Madejski's Sackville Properties development "Station Hill 2" was approved by the RBC Planning Applications Committee on 24 September. Many environmental groups (including Caversham GLOBE, represented by Dave and Jennifer) as well as government architectural advisors CABE opposed this development, particularly the height and massing of the proposed skyscrapers. Separately, the new Reading Station southern entrance was approved in principle subject to resolution of issues with English Heritage on the demolition of part of a listed building to the west of the Three Guineas (the original station entrance, which will be retained).
 - XI. **11-13 Gosbrook Road**, demolition of existing building and erection of 5 dwellings. Planning application refused. **Item closed**
 - XII. **Former Convent 4 South View Avenue** – new application for conversion for 11 flats – **Councillor Stanway will be speaking against.**
 - XIII. **Roles and Responsibilities for GLOBE members** proposals discussed further - **Richard to amend for adoption at November meeting**
 - XIV. **Welcome Pack for new members** – Example information pack discussed – **Richard to amend for adoption at November meeting**
 - XV. **Annual Grant application to RBC** – **Dave has completed this and it was submitted to RBC in past few days.**
3. **New Planning Issues**
 - **Further Site Allocations Proposals consultation by Friday 13th November 2009** Jennifer reported that proposals for another 6 sites in our area have been received and will shortly go to consultation. Comments are invited by Friday 13 November 2009. (see pages 185 onwards of http://www.reading.gov.uk/Documents/servingyou/planning/local_development_framework/Sustainability_Appraisal_Site_Options_1009.pdf) GLOBE considered the 6 sites briefly and agreed to respond as follows (NS letters are RBC codes to be used) land west of Scours Lane – NS4C leisure development; Napier Court Napier Road – NS8E leisure development; Tesco Napier road – NS9C retail development; Telephone Exchange Church Street – NS10D development for mixed use; rear gardens west side of Upper Woodcote Road – NS11A designate for protection; Part of Reading Golf Course – responded previously under SA68. **GLOBE response to be finalised by 13/11/09**
4. **AOB**
 - **Tree planting for Autumn** - ideas and suggestions to Dave Kenny please
 - **Battery recycling** - Richard reported taking 15 kilos to RBC facilities since scheme set-up on 1 September 09
 - **Land adjacent to Peppard Road and the Alley to Picton Way** – Isobel Ballsdon reported successful court action resulting in a garden fence having to be moved and public land being reinstated on the Alley. Tree planting opportunity possible here.
 - **Graffiti removal** – Tina has removed some graffiti but reported problem with removal of some at high level graffiti. She will contact RBC.
 - **RBC Environmental Inspection Audits** - Jennifer reported that through NAG there is a walk on 22 October in Send Road area
 - **Correspondence dealt with this month includes: Tree issues in Buckingham Drive, St Martin's Precinct & St Andrews Church Yard.**

**Our next meeting is on Thursday 5 November at 7.15pm in Church House,
59 Church Street, Caversham. All welcome. Agenda will be circulated at the meeting.**