



Go Local On a Better Environment

**MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING
1 September 2011 at 7.15pm, Church House, Caversham.**

Attendees Judith Barratt (Chair), Jennifer Millest, Alan Pennington, Bob O'Neil, Dave Kenny, Margaret Skinner, Jean Newbery, Chris Burden**, Margaret Ormonde**, Peter Trout**, Richard Stimpson* (RBC Natural Environment), Ben Stanesby** (RBC Parks)
(*attended for item 1 only, **attended for items 1 and 2)

Apologies for Absence: Richard Denney, Tina Barnes, Margaret Wall, Cllr Tom Stanway.

1) Richard Stimpson from RBCs Natural Environment team, briefed the meeting on tree planting plans for the Caversham area in the 2011-2012 planting seasons which included:

- a) Church St/Church Rd junction by Spice Oven: 2 x prunus sunset boulevard to be planted Nov 2011
- b) Buckingham Drive: Eastern side opp No 80 - RBC to replace failed GLOBE cherry with Lime (*Tilia Cordata* Streetwise) this winter.
- c) Buckingham Drive: Western side GLOBE's millennium trees. Richard said highways concerned about maintenance and species potentially outgrowing the space. Proposal that Trees For Cities would fund 8 replacements with large standards of Lime (*Tilia Cordata* Greenspire) which would be planted winter 2012 along with root barriers. The existing trees would be lifted at the same time and offered for planting elsewhere. Meeting supported this providing our trees remain in situ until the replacements are planted. Suggested sites for relocating them include Emmer Green Rec (sweet chestnut) and Clayfield Copse (field behind tennis courts) - will need to be discussed with parks.
- d) Buckingham Drive gap behind bus stop opposite Esso - RBC to plant beacon tree in 2012 to replace a failed GLOBE sapling.
- e) Upper Woodcote Rd/Woodcote Way - proposed site for beacon tree confirmed.
- f) Brooklyn Drive/Courtney Drive/Ridgeway - replacements requested by residents but RBC say not a high priority, residents trying to raise funds for some replacements. The condition of trees in Burnham Rise was also raised by Margaret Ormonde.
- g) Old Peppard Rd - gap in row of oaks outside The Hill School to be replaced this year.
- h) 59 Peppard Rd - large oak stump to be ground out and replaced this winter.
- i) Greystoke Rd - a lot of trees lost over the years, with support from the adjacent Grosvenor Rd residents it was hoped to plant replacements this winter.
- j) Richmond Rd - a green link, RBC would plant replacements this winter.
- k) Borough boundary at Henley Rd & Upper Woodcote Rd - sites for proposed beacon trees in 2012
- l) The Mount/Kidmore Rd junction - highways had agreed location but not a priority.
- m) Rotherfield Way - Residents & MP supported proposal for 3 x beacon trees for Queen's Jubilee
- n) Balmore Walk beacon trees - Carolyn Jenkins proposes 3 x cedars along ridge for Queens Jubilee
- o) Christchurch Meadows (by Reading Bridge) & Westfield Rec - also proposed sites for Queen's Jubilee beacon trees to be planted winter 2012.

2) Ben Stanesby, RBC Parks manager briefed the meeting on various issues including:

- a) Parks staffing. Ben would forward details of revised Parks Dept. structure in time for the next meeting.
- b) Higher Level Stewardship for several parks including Bugs Bottom, Hill's Meadow, Clayfield Copse. Ben would send details in time for next meeting and offered to attend a future Globe meeting (probably November) to answer any queries.

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- c) Hill's Meadow management plan. This was still ongoing, latest draft (Feb 2011) was circulated. Issues discussed included greening up the large gravel showground area (expensive), management of vegetation in the Mill Stream, suggestion for new trees on the raised area east of the skate ramp.
- d) Thames Prom erosion. Ben said that repairs were in hand, but that repairs in one area sometimes resulted in erosion to adjacent areas, this was an ongoing issue.
- e) Coals Woodland, flood relief area. Oaks on flood mound would be replaced this autumn.
- f) Christchurch Meadows. 2 replacement willows on river bank. Ben to arrange site visit with Dave. Lights being installed along path up to Gosbrook Rd. Dave said lights were out of keeping and not what was proposed when the management plan was being discussed. Ben said this type of lighting was on the advice of police.
- g) Himalayan balsam by Horseshoe Bridge - Could be pulled by probation service or Crow.
- h) Street Tree felling list: query about condition of trees adjacent to 107 Peppard Rd and in Vastern Rd central reservation, these all looked healthy but were marked on the list as dead or dying.

3) Minutes of 4 August meeting - draft approved for publication. Jennifer raised a problem with the item numbering which needs correcting on the final version. Small font was difficult for some to read.

4) Planning matters - no new items raised

5) Finance Matters - Insurance certificate now received from Tennyson, but had again been sent to an address in Southcote Rd (Southcote Globe?) despite this having been corrected last year. Dave reported that when RBC set up the original policies for each of the Globe groups, it seems that some of the inputted details had got muddled which the insurers appeared to be unable to correct retrospectively. To resolve this in future we will need to set up a new online policy with Tennyson, with our own login access and postal address, when it expires next August.

6) GLOBE plant sale 17 September at Caversham Court Artists event. Richard was organising this with help from Margaret and would circulate a reminder to the Globe email list before the event.

7) GLOBE publicity display boards - Richard was working on these and would have them ready in time for the plant sale on 17 September.

8) Environmental issues - Jean & Margaret S. had attended a recent EVA in Lower Caversham.

9) Correspondence. Enquiry about a memorial tree for Balmore Walk received from a resident in Hemdean Road. Dave to reply.

10) Any Other Business.

Bob updated the meeting on the King's Meadow baths campaign. Security cameras to be installed soon, hoped to combat graffiti. Bob also reported that the recent scrap metal collection at Mapledurham Pavillion had been a great success.

11) Date of next meeting: Thursday 6 October.

Next GLOBE meeting on Thursday 6 October at 7.15pm in Church House, Caversham