



Go Local On a Better Environment

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

Attendees Judith Barratt (Chair), Tina Barnes, Jennifer Millest, Jean Newbery, Dave Kenny, Peter Trout, Phil Bagge, Chris Webster, Jenny Hicks, Richard Denney. Councillor Tom Stanway: From Reading Borough Council Parks Dept for item 2 only: Ben Stanesby & Marcus Hermon.

Apologies for Absence: Margaret Skinner, Vickie Abel, Malcolm Moye, Chris Burden, Tina Gower, Margaret Ormond (EGRA Chair) Cllr I. Ballsdon, Cllr A. Cumsty & Cllr D. Luckett.

- 1) **Minutes of 6 October meeting** - draft approved after amendment to item 2 re HLS details.
- 2) **Parks and Open Spaces and Tree issues.**
 - a) **Higher Level Stewardship funding** for Hills Meadow, Bugs Bottom & Clayfield Copse – follow up to October meeting - various questions of detail were discussed and points clarified by Ben Stanesby (RBC), with confirmation that the HLS management plans are now being implemented.
 - b) **The Big Wine Festival 2012** to be held on Kings Meadow from 7 to 10 June next year. Marcus Hermon (RBC) tabled copies of 3 documents, including - 5 pages of details regarding this proposed event; Artists impression of the currently proposed layout of the site; Construction plan/timescale and closure of KM for the event. These documents were explained by Marcus and discussed by the meeting. Assurances were given on many points raised including: Protection of trees, restriction of public access to KM & rights of way being of minimum disruption during month beforehand. Tow Path diversion plan along Napier Road edge of KM during the event; A plan for conservation and reinstatement/improvement of the flora & landscape features of KM is being drawn up. GLOBE to be consulted. River safety is being addressed. The links to RBC Cultural Strategy & Open Spaces Strategy were referred to in the proposals. Consultation with residents immediately adjacent to KM had already started; Mill Green residents will now also be included at GLOBE's request. **The 3 documents on these matters will be available for reference at next 2 GLOBE meetings for reference as necessary.**
 - c) **Suggestion for a possible Community Orchard** – GLOBE has been asked by the recently formed environmental organisation named "Transition Town Reading" (See <http://www.transitionreading.org.uk>) whether we would be interested in planting & managing a community fruit and nut orchard in our area. There is one proposed for Palmer Park and RBC are supportive. It was decided that GLOBE does not at present have sufficient active volunteers to make this a viable proposition.
- 3) **Planning matters** - Lafarge Aggregates have submitted plans for additional gravel extraction sites between Sonning Eye and Shiplake (Eye and Dunsden Parish), downstream from Caversham. Some concerns were raised about possible flooding and increased road traffic.
- 4) **Finance Matters – Tom Stanway agreed to ascertain position re core funding grants for GLOBE groups.**
- 5) **Environmental Issues** – Tina had attended an EVA this day in Woodcote Road/Shepherds Lane area. Noted also that litter is persistent in some parts of Central & Lower Caversham e.g Hemdean Road, Star Road/Douglas Road, School Lane/St Martins Precinct rear and alley to Promenade Road area. **GLOBE to consider litter clearance blitz during December?**
- 6) **GLOBE Correspondence/activities.** Dave & Richard (with Ben Stanesby and Dave Booth of RBC Parks) are due to walk Christchurch & Hills Meadow across to the Coal to survey some tree & litter concerns and agree where to plant replacement oaks at The Coal. Dave & Richard plan to attend TREGA meeting 15 Nov.
- 7) Date of next meeting: Thursday 1 December 2011