



Go Local On a Better Environment

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

**Attendees** Dave Kenny (Chair), Margaret Skinner, Vickie Abel, Phil Bagge, Richard Denney.

**Apologies for Absence:** Judith Barratt, Malcolm Moye, Tina Barnes, Jennifer Millest, Peter Trout, Jean Newbery, Chris Burden, Cllr I. Ballsdon

1) **Minutes of 3 November meeting** - approved after amendment to item 2 b re Big Wine Festival.

2) **Parks and Open Spaces and Tree issues.**

**a) The Big Wine Festival 2012** to be held on Kings Meadow from 7 to 10 June next year. Noted that Mill Green residents had not yet received consultation letters via RBC. **GLOBE to ask Marcus Hermon (RBC) to ensure this is fulfilled and also to obtain assurances from him that GLOBE is definitely consulted on the KM Landscaping/re-instatement plans and tree protection measures, as agreed at meeting of 3 November.**

**b) The Withies - land adjoining Luscombe Close.** Noted that this land is under new ownership and work has been taking place, which is giving cause for concern due to disturbance of wildlife and possible habitat destruction. Neighbours had reported that the Berry Brook is being cleared and that trees were being felled. There is also apparently a lot of fly-tipped rubbish from adjoining properties. Noted that the woodland is protected by a blanket TPO and that some protected wildlife species may be present. Noted that RBC officials had recently visited the area and encouraged the owner to devise a management plan. GLOBE has had previous interest and activities in the area, having obtained a report from the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) many years ago, and we are therefore concerned about the future of this valuable ancient site. **We will attempt to make contact with the new owner for a meeting to ask for assurances.**

**c) Planters by Caversham Telephone Exchange** – these are RBC owned on private land & seem to be falling into disrepair and it was suggested that GLOBE considers adopting these and looking after them. **DK / RD to investigate.**

**d) Trees** – This is National Tree Week. Dave reported that RBC, Tree Wardens and GLOBE have been busy planting, including Rotherfield Way, Buckingham Drive and The Hill School. Vickie informed the meeting that, tragically, a major line of trees near The Mount/Dovedale Close had been felled, changing the skyline and resulting in a grossly negative affect on the visual aspect of the area. Noted that Councillor Ballsdon confirmed that the dead oak by 330 Kidmore Road has now been replaced with a Sweet Chestnut. Dave has written to RBC housing about tree planting in Charles Evans Way. Dave also reported that the agreed outcome of our site review with Ben Stanesby/Dave Booth (RBC Parks) re trees on Christchurch Meadow etc had been subsequently changed, necessitating clarification.

**e) Caversham Court Gardens** – Vickie reported on reduction in service provision following RBC staff changes at Caversham Court. The new gardener, Graham, would be working Mon-Fri from 0700-1400 which meant that the gazebo would be closed at weekends. The Friends group (FCCG) is in talks about their concerns e.g. weekend coverage, public access to the Gazebo, litter/routine maintenance.

**f) Litter** GLOBE activists are continuing with litter-picking forays in various parts of our area.

3) **Planning matters - No new items**

Continued/2

4)**Finance Matters – Tom Stanway has agreed to ascertain position re core funding grants for GLOBE groups.**

5)**Environmental Issues – Next Environment Visual Audit (EVA)** 10.30am Friday 9 December meet at Knights Way & Evesham Road jnc. ALSO 10.30am 13 December – meet St Johns Road & Nelson Road jnc. Anyone interested can just turn up and take part, duration approx 1.5 hrs walking designated area with RBC officer and other participants to note problems for rectification.

6)**RESCUE 2012 –** This is the annual spring **Riverside and Environmental Spaces Clean Up Event** which is planned for Thursday 8 to Sunday 11 March 2012. If any new supporters are interested in helping to plan for this for our area please contact Richard via the website email address.

7)**GLOBE Correspondence/activities.**

We have been notified of the following.

**On Thursday, 8 December** Dr Michael Keith-Lucas will be leading a **Town Centre Tree Walk**, starting at 12.30 outside St Laurence's Church, Town Hall Square. At 12.45 Reading Borough Council Tree Gang will be carrying out a demonstration of tree climbing and dead wooding in the Forbury Gardens. If you would like to attend the Town Centre Tree Walk, please book by calling 0118 937 2441 or email [planning.naturaleenvironment@reading.gov.uk](mailto:planning.naturaleenvironment@reading.gov.uk) .

**ECONET Christmas Tree Sale at Caversham Court on Saturday 10 December** at 10:30am Scots Pine Christmas Trees,Holly, mistletoe, wreaths, BBOWT stall and more ...  
<http://www.econetreading.org.uk/>

8)**Date of next meeting: 7:15pm. Thursday 5 January 2012 Church House, 59 Church Street.**