



Go Local On a Better Environment

**MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING
26 February 2013 at 7.15pm, Church House, Caversham.**

Attendees. Judith Barratt (Chair), Dave Kenny, Margaret Skinner, Jean Newbery, Peter Trout, Jenny Hicks, Phil Bagge, Bob O'Neill, Richard Denney, Vickie Abel,

Apologies for absence: Jim McMaster, Carol Langdon, Jennifer Millest, Cllr Isobel Ballsdon, Cllr Tom Stanway, Cllr Richard Davies.

Minutes of 22 January - Approved for publication after adding item under section 3 Finance:
c) Paid out - £72 in purchasing 12 GLOBE hi-viz tabards for GLOBE supporters to wear.

1. Parks and Open Spaces and Tree issues:

a) Planters on Church Street – no significant change

Awaiting donation of materials for refurbishing the frameworks and weather improvement. Minor maintenance is ongoing before selective replanting is started. Date for oiling the frameworks and planting will be arranged. **NB. there are 22 planters and this is a major work project on which GLOBE supporters have an opportunity to give practical help please. Richard is progressing.**

b) Balmore Walk - Resurfacing of paths. Email from RBC received with commitment that overgrown hedges near various paths and the 2012 conservation grass cut of the slope will be done over next 4 weeks. Top path resurfacing will be done longer term with crushed limestone when weather permits. Noted that the hazardous sloping path connecting Balmore and Hemdean Road, near Caversham Primary School, is being converted to tarmac steps.

Assess progress at next meeting.

c) TPO trees at St Martin's Precinct - RBC confirm that planting likely to be in March 2013. **Keep in view**

d) Hill's Meadow: Email from RBC received with commitment to cut strip along the Danall that had not had annual conservation cut during 2012. **Assess progress at next meeting.** Much dismay expressed at meeting over state of Hill's Meadow and potential damage caused by Funfair vehicles encroaching on new plantings of bulbs and trees near Millstream. Concern also re drastic cutting back of GLOBE hedge by RBC along George Street.

e) RBC Tree planting plans: Globe planting dates at Buckingham Drive/Evesham Rd area **Wednesday 13th March - 1.30pm . Volunteers with muscle and energy please help!**

f) Picton Way – Two willows in alley and dead larch. RBC is monitoring - **Keep in view.**

g) Caversham Lakes - Deans Farm causeway - an informal footpath over the causeway between the two lakes at Deans farm blocked by adjacent trees being felled across it. **No further action as this is private land and we are powerless to alter current situation**

h) Willows at Christchurch Meadow on river bank near Children's Playground –Email from RBC received with commitment that this will be done in next 4 weeks. Noted that these have not been maintained as originally intended by RBC to cut back annually. **Assess progress at next meeting.**

i) Litter Picks - Hill's Meadow and View Island cleared by 7 volunteers on 5 February.

Central Caversham by St Martin's traders' back yard and adjoining public roads and footpath cleared by 11 volunteers on 13 February. Many thanks to all people who helped.

2 Planning matters.

- a) **George Street Petrol Station** – No resolution of GLOBE's concerns about removal of trees/shrubs on site frontage nor the unsightly derelict buildings behind the temporary Herras fencing. RBC Planning has now responded that they consider that the site does not warrant any action under "Planning Acts". **Raise again should appearance of site deteriorate.**
- b) **18 Church Road. 13/00086/FUL** Concern was raised about the removal of trees & shrubs from the frontage of this property which is within the Church Road conservation area; the proposals for a higher front wall & car port were also felt to be inappropriate. FCCG & Cadra is objecting.

3 Finance Matters.

No new items.

4 Environmental Issues

- a) **Environmental Visual Audits (EVAs)**. Dates for 2013 audits now published for GLOBE supporters to attend with RBC Street care inspector. A schedule had been sent to all GLOBE supporters with meeting agenda. Contact Richard for further copies.
- b) **All supporters please note and use this online link for reporting litter, graffiti etc to RBC**, which is <http://loveclean.reading.gov.uk/Reports> Please spread the word about this facility, which also has an app to download for use on mobile phones & some other electronic devices.

5 RESCUE (Rivers & Environmental Spaces Clean Up) our dates for activities are as below and separate emails have been sent out: **Please help if you can.**

Friday 22 March meet 10.30 am at Rowing Club on Thames Promenade.

Saturday 23 March – 2 sessions. 10 am meet at Farnham Drive shops ,CPV. And meet at 1.30 pm on the old Henley Road towards borough boundary, by phone box opposite speed warning sign. Contact Richard Denney on 07768 958407 if any questions .

6 Globe Correspondence / Activities

- a) Re: Tilehurst GLOBE's co-operation with RBC on streetcare issues and fly tipping, it was agreed we would investigate further to see how we could apply this in Caversham GLOBE .**Ongoing – Richard to progress with RBC**
- b) on 16 February 3 GLOBE supporters planted more than 100 saplings on boundaries of the Scout HQ on Grove Hill.

7 AOB

- a) Concern ongoing about The Withies and changes being made, destroying wildlife habitat and running vehicles over this historic site. **Jenny following up with RBC.**

Date of next meeting Tuesday, 26 March 2013. 7.15pm Church house.