



**Go Local On a Better Environment**

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

**Attendees.** Judith Barratt (Chair), Dave Kenny, Margaret Skinner, Carol Langdon, Richard Denney, Vickie Abel, Helen Savidge

**Apologies for absence:** Jim McMaster, Jenny Hicks, Jean Newbery, Jennifer Millest, Peter Trout, Bob O'Neill, Cllr Isobel Ballsdon, Cllr Tom Stanway, Cllr Richard Davies.

**Minutes of 26 February** - Approved for publication

**1.Parks and Open Spaces and Tree issues:**

**a) Planters on Church Street**

Procurement of materials for refurbishing the frameworks is happening after £200 funding allocated by RBC. Drews Hardware are donating some equipment too. Volunteers will now be requested and we await weather improvement for a date for treating the frameworks.

Planting is being investigated and will be arranged in late April/early May. **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 and Dave are progressing.**

**b) Balmore Walk - Resurfacing of paths etc – delayed due to adverse weather.** Email from RBC received with commitment that overgrown hedges near various paths and the 2012 conservation grass cut of the slope will be done and top path resurfacing with crushed limestone too. **Assess progress at next meeting.**

**c) TPO trees at St Martin's Precinct** - planting still not done! **Keep in view**

**d) Hill's Meadow:** Strip along the Danall has now had annual conservation cut. **Dave is arranging a meeting with RBC re Hill's Meadow resurfacing, the finishing of the remodelled earth mounds, the re-seeding and tree planting. Dave will report back at April Meeting**

**e) RBC Tree planting plans:** Buckingham Drive/Evesham Rd area completed – 4 GLOBE supporters participated to plant 6 trees. Well done and thank you. **CLOSED**

**f) Picton Way** – dead larch now felled by RBC – **item CLOSED.**

**g) Willows at Christchurch Meadow on river bank** – **has been cut back – item CLOSED**

**2 Planning matters.**

**a)George Street Petrol Station** – No resolution of GLOBE's concerns about removal of trees/shrubs on site frontage – **Carol is pursuing with Shell**

**b) 18 Church Road. 13/00086/FUL** Church Road conservation area. Following objections, this has been withdrawn and changed to conservatory at rear. Re the illegal removal of trees & shrubs from the frontage of this property, RBC is pursuing re-instatement. **item CLOSED**

**3 Finance Matters.**

**a)** Dave reported that in response to our grant application RBC have approved an allocation of £500 Community Grant towards GLOBE running costs for next financial year. Good news.

**b)** Expenditure on some "Volunteers Working" warning signs and related equipment to make us more efficient and safe during work projects is being costed. **Quotes being obtained.**

#### **4 Environmental Issues**

a) **Environmental Visual Audits (EVAs)**. GLOBE supporters attended 3 audits with RBC Street care inspector. Reports of audits are completed by RBC Streetcare Inspector and sent to GLOBE, Contact Richard for a copy of calendar of future dates and copies of RBC EVA reports if interested.

b) **Are any GLOBE supporters using this online link for reporting litter, graffiti etc to RBC?** <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 Event)** Litter Picks planned for Saturday 23 were cancelled due to snow and strong cold winds. Fortunately, we were able to get out in force on Friday 22 March when 10 activists invested 25 person hours along Thames Promenade and Richfield Avenue and the Thames path down to Caversham lock. On Sunday 24 a separate litter pick was done by Vickie in central Caversham. Dave also cleared part of central Caversham and worked on the Thames21 project to clear the Danall across Christchurch Meadow. **A big “Thank you” goes to all 11 PEOPLE for making GLOBE's contribution to RESCUE and to a cleaner, tidier locality for all.** Our weekend collection included 38 orange sacks, 10 clear sacks of recyclables, 35 black sacks of fly-tipped material, a Lidl shopping trolley, various scrap metal, plastic pipe, electrical cable, 2 sets of Christmas tree lights, 2 dead Christmas trees, a car sun roof, 3 traffic road signs, plastic milk bottle crate, crushed compost bin, 7 pairs wellington boots, 4 sleeping bags, remains of 2 tents, 3 carpets, and lastly, a litter picker in a black plastic sack!!(we've kept).

Regarding cancelled clearance of Henley Road south side verge/hedgerow near our eastern Borough boundary, we are now pursuing with RBC Streetcare for that litter and fly-tipping to be cleared by other parties. **Richard pursuing with RBC**

#### **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 still progress with RBC but deferred due to other priorities**

b) Dave reported that he had been approached about possible use of residual funds from Bugs Bottom Action Group that is now wound up. **Any ideas please?**

#### **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.**

b) Margaret asked if we could prune back a small area of dangerous protruding greenery on pavement of Lower Henley Road. **Richard and Dave will clear this asap.**

c) **Re Scout HQ Grove Hill** – need to check on our recently planted boundary hedging and whether “natural barriers” have been installed round native bluebells to protect them, as per their Lease agreement on the adjoining woodland.

**Date of next meeting Tuesday, 23 April 2013. 7.15pm Church house.**