



DRAFT MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 27 August 2013 at 7.15pm, Church House, Caversham.

Attendees. Jenny Hicks (Chair), Peter Trout, Dave Kenny, Margaret Skinner, Jean Newbery, Jim McMaster, Vickie Abel, Richard Denney, Colin Potts, Caroline Langdon, Pat Rapley, Councillor Richard Davies

Apologies for absence: Judith Barratt, Malcolm Moye, Jennifer Millest

Minutes of 23 July - Approved for publication with 3 spelling corrections.

1. Parks and Open Spaces and Tree issues:

- a) **Planters on Church Street** – Discussions on-going with Caversham Traders and The Greenshoots Nursery (part of the Ways and Means Trust) about scope of work needed on some of the north side planters as well as sourcing and funding of further planting needed for autumn/winter. GLOBE resolved to keep an interest in these 12 planters as we had invested in shrubs and some perennials. GLOBE will also continue to look after the planting of 5 of the planters on the BT Exchange frontage as separately agreed with RBC. **Richard/Dave progressing**
- b) **Balmore Walk - Resurfacing of paths – no further action at present. CLOSED**
- c) **Balmore Allotments** Awaiting decision from RBC about proposed gate on to Balmore Walk. **Richard Denney to clarify with RBC**
- d) **New trees at St Martin's Precinct** - Still awaiting response about TPOs for the new trees. **Cllr Davies to follow up with RBC planning natural environment team and/or Hermes the Managing Agents**
- e) **Hill's Meadow:** no current issues discussed
- f) **Proposed "leisure Developments" at Christchurch Meadow & Mill Stream moorings** – we have been told that detailed proposal would likely be submitted to Councillors in near future. People have serious concerns about these proposals and how they would radically change the whole character of the area and have a hugely detrimental impact on both the natural environment and neighbouring residents. Jim has contacted the Open Spaces Society and English Heritage about the status of these areas. GLOBE resolved to object to these proposals and campaign with publicity in the local press and a public meeting to draw attention to the many concerns surrounding these proposals. **Keep in view and plan for action**
- g) **King's Meadow developments.** Changing room portacabins currently next to the Kings Meadow pool were being moved to the old bowling green site and electricity cables being installed. Meeting was concerned that no planning permission has been sought for this works, which would result in loss of green space within the flood plain, and no consultation apparently. **Councillor Davies will investigate with RBC**
- h) **Improving Reading's woodlands - a consultation from RBC** on "improving Reading's woodlands". There will be valuable opinions from local people who'll know our localities and wooded areas well. So please, as a campaigning group, all Caversham **GLOBE supporters are requested to have a look at these proposals** for Caversham/Emmer Green, where you can respond on line at the RBC weblink they have provided www.reading.gov.uk/woodlandproject also note that a public "Community Engagement" session with RBC is offered on **26 September at 7.30pm** in Mapledurham Pavilion. **Discuss at next meeting**

2. Proposed new cycle & footbridge over the Thames

12 GLOBE supporters attended a consultative meeting at RBC on 7 August hosted by A Bolton, Head of Highways and Transport, where we were given details of the latest thoughts and designs for the new Pedestrian Cycle Bridge as part of the pre-planning application consultation. **(Subsequent note: The planning application for the bridge now open – number 131234 is viewable at Civic Centre or on-line (many detailed pages) at this link: http://planning.reading.gov.uk/fastweb_PL/detail.asp?AltRef=131234&ApplicationNumber=131234&AddressPrefix=&Postcode=&Submit=Search**

3. Planning matters.

- a) number 130823 Dovedale Close - Demolition of existing properties and building of 4 houses – concerns about trees, landscaping and lighting expressed. **Dave will comment on behalf of GLOBE**
- b) number 130609 at 13 -17 Church Road – noted that amended plans had been lodge with details of revised elevations, landscaping etc. Malcolm has submitted comments.
- c) number 121506 -noted that nplanning permission has been granted for new flats on the site.
- d) Development proposed on the St Martin's Precinct car park/loading area fronting on to Church Street, adjacent to the short section of RBC highway at the side of the BT Exchange land. No details available yet. **Keep in view**

4. Finance Matters.

GLOBE's £10M public liability insurance has ben renewed with the TCV (ex BTCV) scheme via Zurich Insurance with a renewal premium of £251.38. **Closed**

5. Environmental Issues

- a) **Environmental Visual Audits (EVAs)**. Calendar for August/September was discussed; GLOBE supporters can attend these inspections of local areas to identify issues for action by RBC – further details available on request..
- b) Recycling facilities for the Co-op site in Star Road on which concerns about potential noise from bottle banks had been voiced. No further information on this as yet. **Keep in view**
- d) All are reminded of the weblink where litter, flytipping and similar problems can be reported to RBC at <http://loveclean.reading.gov.uk>

6. Withdrawal of GLOBE local battery recycling collections. A previous meeting had agreed that the our own collections were no longer necessary. **Richard will complete the withdrawal in next 2 weeks.**

7. Globe Correspondence / Activities

- a) Email received about an Autumn RESCUE litter clean up event organised by RBC across the Borough. Discussed and agreed that GLOBE would not take part on this occasion as GLOBE does litter picks throughout our area periodically.
- b) Thames21 are organising a clean-up event along the Danall on Sunday 15 September in Hill's Meadow

8. AOB

- a) **Re Scout HQ Grove Hill – re** new boundary hedging planted last February; some work is needed to complete the planting in places. Still need to confirm that “natural barriers” have been installed round native bluebells to protect them, as per their Lease agreement on the adjoining woodland. **Dave to visit again**

Date of next meeting Tuesday, 24 September 2013. 7.15pm Church House.