



MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 22 September 2015

Attendees: Judith Barratt (Chair), Malcolm Moye, Margaret Skinner, Carol Langdon, Jim McMaster, Bob Busby, Veronica Leeke (From EGRA), Charlotte Payne

Apologies for absence: Peter Trout, Jean Newbery, Richard Denney, Dave Kenny, Dean Ezra, Cyril Walkington

1. Minutes of 25 August 2015 Approved - matters arising discussed as follows:

2. Parks and Open Spaces and Tree issues:

a) Planters on Church Street – Further work will be done on 2 October oiling those planters by shops in Church Street north side. Regular watering and care continues. **Keep in view**

b) Hill's Meadow: The cutting of these conservation grass areas and those in Balmore Walk has again been raised with RBC Parks and we'll need to monitor that it actually gets done soon. **Keep in view.**

Also noted that the car wash construction by the recycling bins has started.

c) Construction of the new footbridge on Christchurch Meadows. Regarding GLOBE concerns as to whether the widening of paths had been included in original planning approval and whether EA had approved for flood impact, Councillor Ballsdon has now been informed by RBC Parks Officer that these paths are of a "dense surface" to match existing paths. **Review at next GLOBE meeting and until construction site is vacated and full reinstatement of the meadows is achieved.**

d) Proposed hydro-electric generation near the weir and natural "fish pass" on View Island. The site meeting happened on 1 September giving opportunities for GLOBE supporters' questions about the extent of work necessary on trees in the stream; exact site of the fish pass; the current intentions/ambitions for the Sustainability Centre site. **Keep in view**

e) The Warren: land at the Caversham western border with south Oxfordshire.

GLOBE supporters have been corresponding with Councillor Ballsdon about resolving the continuing litter and fly-tipping nuisance in this area. Current status is that RBC will not supply another litter bin due to vandalism of previous ones; also that no CCTV equipment is available and nothing will be done about the reported nuisance. GLOBE supporters will be clearing the area as part of RESCUE on 9 October. **CLOSED**

3. Planning matters

a) 150853 Caversham Weir Hydro Project/View Island - request for screening option. Public meeting on 23 September (tomorrow) may provide more detail. **Keep in View.**

b) Former Arthur Clark site in Albert Road – No formal planning application received to date. **KIV**

4. Finance Matters – Nothing to report.

5. Environmental Issues

a) Environmental Visual Audits (EVAs). Jim and Dave had attended EVA on 15 September. Next EVA Tuesday 20 October meet at Bottle Bank Waitrose Car Park. EVAs for Thames and Mapledurham wards are currently suspended until at least late September due to job vacancy, **Keep in View & discuss at next meeting.**

b) Please report to RBC all litter, fly tipping and similar problems via smart phone app or web link at <http://loveclean.reading.gov.uk> Alternatively please phone RBC Contact Centre on 0118 937 3797 **HELP KEEP OUR STREETS CLEAN – please use these - encourage others to do it too.**

c) Flambards Flats on corner of Star Road/Lower Henley Road - Housing Association, Southern Housing has been contacted but no response from the named Housing Officer to get the facts and discuss replacement of two alder trees that were part of the landscaping plan when “Flambards” was built on the corner of Star Rd/Lower Henley Rd. **Richard is persisting with this. Review at next meeting.**

d) Litter clean up for Reading Festival - not completely satisfactory by RBC in all areas during the event, particularly along the river bank. GLOBE supporters Vickie and Dave did daily clearing along Church Road and around the planters during the festival and removed several sacks of cans/bottles for recycling.

e) A river clean up by boat was undertaken by 3 GLOBE supporters after the Reading festival – 3 trolleys, 3 air beds plus cans and food packaging were cleared. Thanks to all participants.

f) Thames21 clean up event on View Island on Sunday 20 September - thanks to **GLOBE supporters Carol and Phil for helping with that.**

g) Westfield Rec. litter Jim has been litter picking here as well adjacent part of Gosbrook Road and some of the paths across Christchurch Meadows.

7. EFA Announcement re The Heights Primary School permanent site:

“..decided to pursue Mapledurham Playing Fields as the site.... ..and will commence the work necessary to put forward a proposal to the site’s trustees.” **Keep in view**

8. RESCUE (Rivers & Environmental Spaces Clean Up Events) our events for the **Autumn RESCUE** clean up confirmed as Friday 9th meet at the western end of The Warren 10 am and Saturday 10th October meet at the Badgers Rise/Hemdean Road junction at 10 am. EGRA rep Veronica Leeke will pass on details of our event in case EGRA supporters can help.

9 Any other business/recent correspondence this month

1. Recent news that Waitrose has decided not to proceed with expansion plans and that Hermes the developers will be issuing a statement.

2. two new people have been added to GLOBE mailing list

3. various emails about different GLOBE matters exchanged; e.g. RESCUE, Parks matters, 2 enquiries received about practical projects referred to ECONET/CV and Thames21. Various “Love Clean Reading” reports submitted.

4. **Caversham NAG meeting** - date changed to 20 October 7 pm at Mapledurham Playing Fields Hall.

5. **The Conservation Volunteers (CV)** planned event on View Island for 15 October at 10 am to work on the dry channel near the weir clearing fallen trees and creating log pile habitats as well as clearing paths and a litter pick. GLOBE supporters participating.

Next meeting Tuesday 27 October 2015 from 7 pm in Church House, Caversham
(tea/coffee from 7pm - meeting starts promptly at 7.15pm)