



MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 27 October 2015

Attendees: Judith Barratt (Chair), Richard Denney, Dave Kenny, Dean Ezra, Malcolm Moye, Margaret Skinner, Jim McMaster, Bob Busby, Peter Trout, Chris Burden

Apologies for absence: Jean Newbery, Cyril Walkington, Vicki Abel

1. Minutes of 22 September 2015 Approved - matters arising discussed as follows:

2. Parks and Open Spaces and Tree issues:

a) Planters on Church Street – Winter planting and any further care will be scheduled for November or December. **Keep in view**

b) Hill's Meadow: The cutting of the conservation grass area has still not been done though it has in Balmore Walk. Dave has again been raised with RBC Parks. **Review next month.**

Car wash construction by the recycling bins is in progress.

c) Construction of the new footbridge on Christchurch Meadows. GLOBE concerns have still not been resolved regarding whether the widening of paths had been included in original planning approval and whether EA had approved for flood impact. Write again to Councillor Ballsdon. Noted that plant and machinery has been removed now that the new bridge is open. Ground reinstatement is in progress. **Review at next meeting.**

d) Proposed hydro-electric generation near the weir and natural “fish pass” on View Island. GLOBE supporters attended public meeting on 23 September. Planning application is being submitted very soon (see section 3 below). **Keep in view**

e) View Island 15 October – Work was done by Conservation Volunteers and GLOBE people on the dry channel near the weir clearing fallen trees and creating log pile habitats, clearing paths and a litter pick. **Further event on 25 October with Thames21.**

f) Public land at Deans Farm open space. (First discussed at August 2015 meeting) The informal paths that gave access to the adjacent lakes on land owned by Lafarge at the Reading Borough/South Oxfordshire border have been blocked by the erection of high fencing at both entrances to the path. Concerns that the Lafarge security patrols appear to be resident on public land at this site and how long will this be allowed to continue. **Dave will raise with ward Councillor.**

g) Mill Green Residents have contacted GLOBE regarding private land on the river bank known as “The Orchard”, concerned that possible development may be intended, with consequent road access plans via the Mill Green Footpath and the adjacent strip of land, including the drainage ditch. **Keep in view**

h) EGRA planted some daffodil bulbs on Sunday 25 October opposite St Barnabas Church, Grove Road on the public green space where former bulbs have died.

3. Planning matters

a) 150853 Caversham Weir Hydro Project/View Island - request for screening option. Public meeting of 23 September provided some detail, await their October newsletter. **Keep in View. Subsequent note – see also 151715 submitted 24 October re The installation of two Archimedean Screw Turbines with a hut covering the generators, gearboxes and the control system (hydropower infrastructure).**

b) Former Arthur Clark site in Albert Road – Likely that formal planning application will be made in Nov/Dec. **KIV**

4. Finance Matters – Nothing to report.

5. Environmental Issues

a) **Environmental Visual Audits (EVAs)**. Noted that EVAs for Thames and Mapledurham wards, which were suspended due to job vacancy, should be resuming soon. **Keep in View.**

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 still 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.**

6. RESCUE (Rivers & Environmental Spaces Clean Up Events) our events for the **Autumn RESCUE** clean up took place on Friday 9th at the western end of The Warren 10 am and Saturday 10th October along Bugs Bottom and Beechwood. We collected 29 sacks (12 were recyclable) and fly-tipped items e.g. TV, shopping trolley, scrap metal, plastic and wooden things, plus many glass bottles. Thank you to the 6 GLOBE supporters and 1 EGRA member who took part.

7. Any other business

a) **Caversham NAG meeting** – Jim and Dave attended this public meeting on 20 October

Next meeting Tuesday 24 November 2015 from 7 pm in Church House, Caversham
(tea/coffee from 7pm - meeting starts promptly at 7.15pm)