



**Go Local On a Better Environment**

## **MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 27 June 2017**

**Attendees:** Richard Denney, Dave Kenny, Margaret Skinner, Vickie Abel, Jean Newbery, Jim McMaster, Chris Burden, Isabella Pietrzak, Nick Haskins, Dean Ezra, Phil Bagge, Bob O'Neil. Ricky Josey (RAYS Project RBC)

**Apologies for absence:**, Judith Barratt, Malcolm Moye, Lin Godfrey, Annette Fairweather (EGRA), Margaret Ormonde (EGRA).

**1. Minutes of 23 May 2017** Approved – matters arising were discussed and noted below.

### **2. Parks, trees and green spaces:**

#### **2a) Christchurch Meadows:**

- **Slow flowing Danall** – Discussed the state of the Danall, which remains blocked in places by logs and vegetation. (We did ask RBC whether this type of task could be done by “community pay back” people but no reply was received, so it's unlikely.) **Discuss blockages, slow flow, etc again with RBC Parks**

- **Laundry fence in Christchurch Meadow** . We had reported to RBC Parks that this new security fence appears to have been erected within public land at the side of the laundry near the George Street entrance. Also that some Heras fencing sections have been dumped there. Andy Gillespie, Parks Manager said he was investigating and would report back to us. **No update received to date.**

- **16 mature Poplars by laundry site.** During recent high winds some large boughs fell from some of these trees, one of which damaged the laundry's new security fence. RBC has decided that almost all are dangerous, so felling is taking place. Replacement species suggested by GLOBE – Italian Alder (*Alnus Cordata*). We also asked that the commitment to reinstate the hedge should be done. Andy Gillespie, Parks Manager said he was investigating and would report back to us. **No update received to date.**

**2b) Balmore Walk - replacement of National Cycle Route metal millennium milepost** cast iron sign damaged in Feb 2016 by RBC machinery during hedge cutting. RBC Parks is investigating funding (approx £800) for casting and erecting the replacement sign. We also suggested re-siting it away from the hedge. We have asked Andy Gillespie, Parks Manager for an update on this. **No update received to date..**

**2c) Large oak tree on boundary of Elizabeth House with Westfield Rec.** Unauthorised parking on the grass by this veteran oak, compacting the root area, causing the tree to suffer. Chris reported that the RBC Housing officer has requested installation of barriers and some groundwork. **Review next meeting**

### **3. Planning matters**

**3a) Rivermead Leisure Complex – swimming pool extension.** Discussed concerns re earthworks and possible exposure of former waste tip. Nick and Bob are to follow up outside the meeting. **Keep in View.**

**3b) 170775 at 90 Oakley Road - erection of two 2 bedroom flats in former garden.** Noted that this is an “in-fill” proposal, several trees have been felled and no remedial planting appears to be shown on the plans. **Dave to comment.**

**3c) 171023 at Mapledurham Playing Fields – erection of new primary school.** Discuss next meeting.

### **4. Finance Matters**

**a)** Judith had spoken to Waitrose about GLOBE being included in their monthly Community Matters green token scheme and would follow this up by sending in the application form. **Review next meeting**

**b)** Nick is in discussion with Reading Voluntary Action about possible sources of funding to cover insurance for groups including GLOBE, now that RBC community grants have ended. **Review next meeting.**

**c)** Another possible grant source is the Tesco “Bags of Help” scheme. Anyone can nominate a local project and local organisations can apply. To find out more visit [www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp](http://www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp) .

## **5. Environmental Issues**

a) Now that EVAs have ceased residents should report any issues through the **Love Clean Reading App** or at [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com) **Keep in view**

b) **RAYS** (Reading Adopt Your Street) co-ordinator Ricky Josey reported that 100 volunteers and some community groups have signed up across Reading of which currently 35 are in the Caversham area. More volunteers are needed especially where litter hotspots occur. Ring for information on 0118 937 3534 or email [rays@reading.gov.uk](mailto:rays@reading.gov.uk). **Review next meeting**

c) **Fly tipping at the western end of The Warren** – Nick reported that this nuisance continues. This is a site where GLOBE has litter picked many times. In 2015 we also raised with RBC the necessity for CCTV monitoring to catch fly tipping offenders but it was refused, as was a subsequent request for a bin.

## **6. AOB**

**St Peters Conservation Area** Vickie reminded the meeting of the opportunity to review the proposed extension to the Conservation Area - on 8 July at the Church Fete in Caversham Court Gardens.

**Caversham Lakes** Jean reported that gates to the permissive path at Caversham Lakes had been locked when she tried to visit recently, there was also a lot of litter nearby. **Site visit & review next meeting.**

**Next meeting: Tuesday 25 July 2017 at 7.15 pm - Refreshments available from 7 pm.**