



MINUTES & ACTIONS, CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 26 January 2021 (virtual meeting - held online via GoToMeeting)

Chair: NH **Minutes:** DK

Attendees: Bob Busby, Judith Barratt, Dave Kenny, Dean Ezra, Nick Haskins, Chris Burden, Caroline Johnson, Sigi Teer

Apologies for absence: Wendy Terry, Vickie Abel

1). Minutes of last monthly meeting held on 24 November 2020 were approved

2). Finance & Funding

£200 has now been received towards our insurance for 2020/21 - thanks to TCV. **DK**

3). Air Quality

Sigi reported that air quality readings for 2020 should be available by March. With less traffic on the roads the readings are expected to be lower. **ST**

4. Church Street Planters

i) Bob is manufacturing pegs to refurbish the planter box at the corner of Church Rd. The task will be arranged when the weather improves.

If anyone has any spare garden-centre type railway sleepers or similar sized timber please let us know (not actual railway sleepers as these contain oil).

The minimum dimension of timber that we need to refurbish the boxes are:

140 x 65 x 835 mm for the shorter lengths

140 x 66 x 1735 mm for the longer lengths

BB

ii) Thanks to Caroline for recently tidying up the planters and adding some primroses. **CJ**

5. Bridge Street/Church Rd triangle improvements. Wendy has contacted RBC valuations for a response on the proposed adoption of the grass Triangle. Paperwork promised by March. **WT.**

6. Litter & Graffiti issues

i) Wendy & Maggie did a litterpick along the Danall in Christchurch Meadows before Christmas but reports that there is more litter in the ditch again, and has asked RBC to clear it. **WT**

(The recent floods may have washed some of this downstream into Hills Meadow)

ii) Hill's Meadow could do with a litterpick again - if anyone would like to help.

iii) Sigi reported that KEG (Keep Emmer Green) have started regular litterpicking at Emmer Green Rec, Stuart Close and other locations. They are also talking to the car park managing agents about improvements to the green in front of Budgens, which may include planting. **ST**

7. Planning Applications

182252 Former Royal Mail site 80 Caversham Road Reading RG1 1AA . Slightly revised application now for 620 flats, 24 storeys (ex 658 flats, 25 storeys) .

192049 Queen Annes School, Henley Rd, Application for new artificial pitches, floodlight tennis courts, new pavilion & changing rooms. Concern remains over impact on trees, wildlife (badgers & bats); potential light pollution and traffic. Objection sent.

Update: This application was approved at the January planning committee.

200188. SSE site, 55 Vastern Road Demolition of buildings and construction of up to 11 storeys, with walkway from Christchurch bridge. It was noted that the EA were objecting on grounds of over-shading of the river and insufficient mitigation planting at the river edge. Update: Berkley Homes has submitted a detailed response to the various objections.

200328 Vastern Court (The Range/Aldi etc) Outline permission for flats , offices, retail & leisure. Objections from Environment Agency and Historic England.

NEW: 201734 Rivermead - new leisure centre. Plans for new build on the car park to the east of the current building. Clarification is sought over the landscaping plans and the need to retain a number of existing trees which appear to be marked for removal. Comments sent by DK.

NEW 210018 Reading Golf Course - outline application for demolition of golf house and new residential-led scheme with 257 dwellings. Only 3 dwellings fewer than the previous application and 122 trees to be removed, 4 more than in the previous application. More details on the Keep Emmer Green web site <https://keepemmergreen.com/> Deadline for comments is 18 March.

P20/S3501/FUL Caversham Lakes Change of use of North Lake for recreation & sporting purposes (retrospective). There are a number of concerns about these proposals although the site operators (who lease the lake from Tarmac) have announced that it will fully open as an Aqua Park on 2 April - despite no planning permission yet. Oxfordshire County Council has now objected, along with objections from local residents , Eye & Dunsden Parish and the EA. Concern remains over the extent of vegetation clearance and installation of buildings on what is supposed to be a nature reserve. **Keep in view**

9. Environment Agency Caversham & Reading Flood Defence proposals.

The Ecology survey (carried out last July) which the EA said they would send in December is still awaited. The TRFCC minutes note that the EA has only £11m of the total £30m needed to build the Caversham & Reading scheme. **Keep in view.**

11). Church House will carry over our payment for 2020 meetings until we can resume meetings in person, hopefully later this year. For the time being we continue with virtual meetings.

12. Any other business.

b) **Cleaner Air & Safer Transport Forum.** NH will attend the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 23 February at 7:30 pm - Virtual meeting via GoToMeeting..