



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

Chair: NH

Minutes DK/WT

Attendees:, Caroline Johnson, Chris Burden, Dave Kenny, Dean Ezra, Jacopo Lanzoni, Judith Barratt, Nick Haskins, Sigi Teer, Vickie Abel , Wendy Terry

Apologies – Bob Busby

1. **Minutes of last monthly meeting** held on 28 September were approved

2. Finance & Funding

Change of Signatory failed at the second attempt, Judith has resubmitted the form for the third time, awaiting Bob uploading his ID documents again.

Nick to talk to traders about possible funding, notably Warings (NH)

Zurich Insurance has been renewed £292 again. TCV is continuing to give us a £200 grant towards this thanks to funding from Earley Charities.

3. Air Quality

No recent RBC CAST (Cleaner Air Safer Transport) meetings or updates to report.
(NH/ST)

4. Church Street Planters

a) Dave & Wendy have completed trimming back all the shrubs, soil has been topped up where needed with fresh topsoil and Caroline has planted up winter bedding.
(DK/WT/CJ)

b) Nick's carpenter Graham has collected some timber kindly offered by Maggie, it looks potentially useful for repairing the planters. Nick to liaise with Graham & Bob.
(BB/NH)

The holm oak planks offered to Bob will need seasoning before they are any use.
(BB/NH)

5. Litter & Graffiti issues

a) **Caversham RAYS** has recently carried out litterpicks along the towpath south of the Thames, King's Meadow and Christchurch Meadows. They are changing to a constituted charity to be called Keep Caversham Tidy. Links between the group and Globe to be discussed. (JB/JL)

b) **Graffiti** has been an ongoing problem around Caversham. Caroline has cleaned several green boxes recently. Jacopo mentioned offensive graffiti on play equipment in Amersham Rd, it should be reported to RBC on the Love Clean Streets App. (CJ/JL)

c) **Keep Emmer Green** continues to carry out some litterpicking and has also recently planted some shrubs on the green in front of Budgens . (ST)

- d) **Reading Festival** Nick will be attending a meeting with RBC on 6 December and will feed back comments on the litter etc. (NH)

6. Christchurch Meadows & Hill's Meadow

- a) **Tree works** Dean had a meeting with RBC's Tree Surveyor Jack Nicolls-Sames who has explained the work they carried out to pollarding various willows and poplars and mulch around some of the trees.
- b) **The Dannel.** RBC has cut back vegetation along the Danall through both Christchurch and Hill's Meadow. There is some water flowing in the ditch now, but it remains blocked with silt and detritus in places.
- c) **Sewage** continues to flow into the Danall from a pipe just east of the bridge over the main north/south footpath in Christchurch Meadows. Nick has a reference number when this happened previously and will report it again to Thames Water and the EA. (NH)

7. Planning Applications – New or Updated planning applications:

210544 Mill Green Footpath. Application to fill in flood ditch for vehicle access by the new owner of The Moorings. The EA and RBC highways have now objected. The applicant has submitted an additional report claiming this is reinstatement of access, which residents strongly dispute.

P20/S3501/FUL Caversham Lakes – Change of use of North Lake for recreation and sporting purposes. This application has now been Refused by SODC, but the operators have said they will continue to operate while trying to get retrospective permission.

211077: Reading School Boathouse, Thames Prom (off Cow lane). A new boathouse to replace one which burnt down. Utilitarian building needed softening with planting. RBC's ecologist has commented on the need for biodiversity.

211512 Reading Canoe Club, The Warren. Application to fell prominent willow tree just west of Caversham Court gazebo. This has now been approved by RBC. The Canoe club are understood to be intending to replace the tree.

NEW 211623: 80 George Street (Laundry site). 20m lattice tower & with satellite dishes & 5G transmitter. Concern was raised over the proximity to the landmark row of poplars. This is the wrong location for a mast: It should be located instead on the roof of one of the many tall buildings in Reading where such a tall mast would not be so obtrusive, there would be no conflict with trees and the mast would not be on the floodplain. **Globe to object.**

No change on these planning applications

182252 Former Royal Mail site 80 Caversham Rd– Application for 620 flats, 24 storeys.

200328 Vastern Court (The Range/Aldi etc) Outline permission for flats, offices, retail & leisure.

210373 Pipers Island bar – conversion to residential. **Globe comments sent.**

P21/S2089/FUL Reading Golf Course application for a "Family Golf Centre" off Kidmore End Rd, has raised a large number of objections from local residents. Awaiting decision from SODC.

8. Environment Agency Caversham & Reading Flood Defence proposals

No updates

9. Grove Road Hedge (Emmer Green Recreation Ground)

Margaret reported that work on the hedge would start on 11 November when the dead sections of hedge would be cleared out and fencing installed. Then on 16 November replacement planting would take place, initially with 100 container-grown hedging plants. Volunteers were needed for both dates. (MO)

10.AOB

- a) **Eco Fest.** at St Andrews Church, Albert Rd. on 2 October. Judith had taken the Globe display boards to the event, it was hoped that it might be held again next year when we would have more time to update the display. (JB)
- b) **Future events.** Chris was keen for Globe to attend events like the Reading Town Meal and suggested a meeting of interested members to discuss this. (CB)
- c) **Reading Golf Club** are carrying out a virtual consultation on slightly revised plans which still show around 230 homes on the site.
- d) **BBC Caversham Park** a pre-application publicity event had been held by Beechwood Homes together with the BBC and Savills over their plans to convert the mansion to residential units and build a care home plus housing on part of the grounds. Around 150 units in total. It was disappointing that they were proposing to build on the parkland east of the building, not only on brownfield areas of the site. Permitting some public access to part of the parkland was under consideration.
- e) **Future Globe meetings.** November meeting would be online. Dave is in contact with Church House over possible resumption of meetings there.

11.Next meeting - Tuesday 23 November at 7.30 pm - ONLINE