



MINUTES & ACTIONS, CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 26 April 2022

Held at Church House

Chair: NH

Minutes WT/DK

Attendees: Tim Castle, Chris Burden, Jacopo Lanzoni, Wendy Rooke, Lin Godfrey, Dave Kenny, Judith Barratt, Wendy Terry, Vicki Abel, Nick Haskins, Bob Busby, Ann-Marie Evans Plastic Free Caversham, Paul Ducker Plastic Free Caversham, Rachel Barker Plastic Free Caversham.

Apologies – Andy Johnson, Caroline Johnson, Dean Ezra, Sigi Tear.

Plastic Free Caversham gave a short presentation about their background and aims. They said their goal is to achieve accredited plastic free status for Caversham and they are actively working towards this. One of the requirements of accreditation is to recruit community allies and Ann-Marie asked if Globe would be willing to sign up as an ally. This was approved by the meeting and key members so Ann-Marie said she would send through the relevant forms for Globe to sign.

1) Minutes of last GLOBE meeting

held at Church House on 22 March 2022 were approved after the following corrections were noted.

- 1) Mill Road the area of land, formerly a back garden, is being used as a commercial parking area but there appears to be no planning permission for this. (see below)
- 2) Funding for the memorial trees has kindly been donated by the Jane Club including an extra £50 to cover total costs; the trees have been purchased and need planting soon. DK to arrange a planting date. Possible ceremony later hopefully with family members.

2. Finance & Funding

No updates.

3. Church Street Planters

No update since last month. Nick / Dave / Bob to arrange to meet and discuss possible new planters and repairs to other planters. NH/DK/BB

Caroline Johnson has been watering and tidying the planters and will soon plant out some bedding plants that she has grown. She will shortly draw up the annual watering rota and has asked for additional volunteers. Chris Burden offered to help but as more volunteers are needed an email will be sent asking for help. CJ/WT

4. Litter & Graffiti issues

a) Litter - Keep Caversham Tidy continue to do litter picks most Saturdays; Jacopo will arrange another joint cleanup event with Globe. JL/DK.

b) Graffiti – “Nuke” and “Mayney” graffiti is still a huge problem. Nick has raised the issue with RBC but the problem is not being dealt with and there are long delays in getting it cleaned. Nick has had no response to his request for green paint for utility boxes (which RBC used to supply). Dave has managed to obtain some paint that looks suitable and it will be tried out.

c) Flytipping –flytipping near the Pack Saddle has now been cleared.

d) Scrap metal Nick has found a collector who will take large metal items recovered from litterpicks etc.

5. Christchurch Meadows & Hill's Meadow

- a) **Shopping trolleys in the Thames.** Nick is dealing with this issue. NH
- b) **More Sunken boats** near Caversham Bridge have been reported to the EA. NH.
- c) **Hill's Meadow** Dave says the problem of fairs encroaching on the planted wildlife area has *not* been dealt with; another fair is there now and has encroached even further onto this area. It needs to be pursued with RBC. Vickie suggested raising it with Dan Cubbage. Nick / Dave to take photos and send them to RBC to highlight the problem. DK/NH.
- e) **Willow trees.** Lin reported that the fallen willow trees in the Danall are now being removed by RBC. Keep in view. LG.

6. Planning Applications – New or Updated planning applications:

211843 Reading Golf Club.

Wendy T reported that she, Dave and Judith had a Zoom surgery with Matt Rodda on 8th April to discuss what could be done about the planning approval. Matt said that there was little that could be done to get the decision overturned. Dave suggested a possible way forward would be to try and get the remaining area of the golf course and surrounding areas protected so that future development would be subject to much stricter planning controls. Dave told Matt about the proposed extension to the Chilterns AONB which the government has announced. It would be carried out by the Chiltern Conservation Board. It was hoped that Matt could help influence the review in order to protect several vulnerable areas locally. Matt was very interested and said that he would like to work with Globe on it. He asked us to arrange another meeting. WT/DK/JB.

220409 and 220410 BBC Caversham Park Dave reported that part of the proposed development is on listed parkland, which is a greenfield site and should not be built on, it also exceeds the local plan and will have a huge impact on traffic, wildlife and trees. Globe should object to it but he is not sure if he will have time to send the objection before 29th April which is the extended consultation deadline. Nick said he would contact CADRA and KEG. DK/NH.

212061 Riverside Academy, Richfield Ave. No update.

211077: Reading School Boathouse, Now approved but with a requirement for a landscaping and ecological enhancement plan to be submitted prior to construction..

Mill Road - Tim told the meeting that the vacant former back garden plot on the corner of Mill Rd and Kings Rd is being used by Reading Coachworks as an overflow car park. Dave said that if this is the case then planning permission is required. DK.

Mill Green - Residents have reported that the flood ditch has been filled in illegally. Planning Enforcement at RBC need to be informed, and also the EA. Judith is pursuing this. JB

182252 Former Royal Mail site 80 Caversham Rd– Application for 620 flats, 24 storeys. This has now been approved.

No change on these planning applications

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.

P20/S3501/FUL Caversham Lakes – No update.

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

Developer has appealed, a planning inquiry is underway

210373 Pipers Island bar – conversion to residential. **The EA has now objected**

7. Bridge Street Triangle. No update. Keep in view. CB/WT/NH

8. **AOB**

a) Flowering Meadows. Wendy R reported that she has got the agreement of RBC to stop mowing grass so wildflowers can develop in two areas of Caversham. The areas are next to the footpath at the top of Chiltern Road and the grass triangle at the junction of Peppard Road and Buckingham Drive. She is also looking at Balmore Walk. She encouraged Globe supporters with suggestions for other possible sites to contact Carolyn Jenkins Landscape Officer at RBC.

b) Mooring Enforcement. Nick is chasing. NH.

c) Cherry Trees. Tim asked who he should contact at RBC to discuss his suggestion to plant a line of cherry trees in Christchurch Meadows. He is keen to see a line of the trees beside the footpath from Gosbrook Road to the Danall, or possibly to the Thames. Dave said he would give him contact details. Nick suggested that funding may be available from the EA. TC/DK.

d) Bus Stop. Chris reported that he is working on getting a flag at the bus stop at the bottom of Westfield Road reinstated. CB

e) Bee Swarms. Bob informed the meeting that any sightings of bee swarms should be reported to the Reading BeeKeepers emergency number. He said they are common at this time of year.

9. **Next meeting Tuesday 24 May at 7.15 pm – at CHURCH HOUSE**