



MINUTES & ACTIONS, CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 25 May 2022

Held at Church House

Chair: JB

Minutes DK

Attendees: Wendy Rooke, Jacopo Lanzoni, Lin Godfrey, Dave Kenny, Judith Barratt, Nick Haskins (part), Andy Johnson, Caroline Johnson, Libby Ball, Chris Burden (part)

Apologies – Bob Busby, Wendy Terry, Vicki Abel, Dean Ezra, Sigi Tear, Vickie Abel.

Plastic Free Caversham. Following the presentation at last month's meeting, Globe has signed the pledge of support. JB suggested that we publicise this on the Globe web site. (JB/DE)

1) **Minutes of last GLOBE meeting** held at Church House on 26 April 2022 were approved

2. **Finance & Funding** No updates.

3. Church Street Planters

Caroline has circulated a rota for watering the planters over the summer and is in the process of replacing the winter primulas with summer bedding. (CJ)

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

4. Litter & Graffiti issues

a) Litter - Keep Caversham Tidy continue to do litter picks every Saturday; Jacopo will arrange another joint cleanup event with Globe, possibly covering the road into Caversham Lakes. JL/DK.

b) Graffiti – There has been less new graffiti recently but some of the older “Nuke” and “Mayney” tags have not yet been cleaned despite being reported to RBC. Jacopo can raise this up with RBC if we can let him know what dates the graffiti was originally reported.

Dave and Tina Barnes plan to tackling some of the long-standing graffiti on Friday (27th).

5. Christchurch Meadows & Hill's Meadow

a) Memorial trees The three memorial willows to Globe founding members Phil Bagge, Jennifer Millest and Jean Newbery have now been planted. Chris Burden has kindly agreed to look after the watering. Plaque to be investigated. (Wood if possible).

b) Shopping trolleys in the Thames. Location still to be confirmed, awaiting lower river levels. NH

c) Hill's Meadow barriers to stop fairs & circuses encroaching onto the wildlife area still needs to be reinstated by RBC. Dave & Nick have photos and will raise. DK/NH.

d) Willow trees. RBC removed some of storm-damaged willows but in the process of pollarding one of the trees have felled a large bough which now blocks the Dannel. Keep in view. NH/DK/LG

6. Chiltern AONB extension

The Government announced last year that there would be a review of the AONB boundaries (review date TBC). Matt Rodda MP is supporting GLOBE's proposal to press for an extension of the AONB to cover the rural areas around Caversham/Emmer Green which could help to protect these areas (such as the Golf Course and Gladman site) from further speculative development. CADRA and KEG are very supportive and GLOBE would also be contacting the parish councils for their support. WT/DK/JB.

7. Wild flower Meadows. Wendy R reported that despite having the agreement of RBC to stop mowing the grass triangle at the junction of Peppard Rd/Buckingham Drive, RBC had mowed it on 16th May. She manage to intervene to stop it being fully cut. Balmore Walk was suggested as a suitable area where mowing could be reduced, especially the strip between the main footpath and houses. WR

8. Planning Applications – New or Updated planning applications:

211843 Reading Golf Club. Despite this application having been approved, the developers are pressing ahead with an Appeal over the refusal by RBC of their earlier application **211088**.

(Update: The Application has now been withdrawn and the Appeal therefore will not now go ahead)

220409 and 220410 BBC Caversham Park Globe Objection has been sent covering three issues: Building on listed parkland east of the mansion; building on field adjacent to Peppard Rd; Trees.

212061 Riverside Academy, Richfield Ave. This is now recommended for Approval, apparently with no changes despite widespread ecological concerns

P20/S3501/FUL Caversham Lakes – Despite refusal of this application last October the operators have opened up for the 2022 summer season and were also promoting large music and other events including a fair with 120 stallholders. SODC had advised that they a revised planning application is being submitted. Keep in view. **NEW application ref: P22/S1691/FUL**

NEW 220189. Demolition of 205-213 Henley Rd and building of 2 x retirement blocks. Concern raised over this application generally. Proposed felling of T39 a rare Sorbus Domestica tree is unnecessary.

NEW 220630. Field adjacent to Highdown Ave: Proposal for 35 houses on greenfield site.

NEW 220638. Proposal for 5G mast on green at junction of Grove Rd/Kidmore End Rd. Large mast proposed here is out of keeping with the area and would prevent proposed tree being planted here

Mill Road - 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. Judith to raise this with RBC planning. JB.

Mill Green - Residents are concerned that part of the flood ditch has been filled in illegally. Judith is following up with contacts at the EA. Keep in View. JB

9. Advertising Hoarding sites

a) **Bridge Street Triangle.** No update. Keep in view. CB/WT/NH

b) **George Street/Gosbrook Rd Triangle.** This site now has a large notice advertising it is for sale at auction. It was thought that the same operator who wants to install a Digital (LED) hoarding at Bridge Street is also interesting in acquiring this larger site. As well as producing heat and light pollution, it was noted that each LED hoarding typically uses as much electricity as 3 houses. Keep in View

8. AOB

a) **Mapledurham Estate** has built new raised roads either side of the bridleway covered in artificial grass – completely inappropriate in the AONB. Dave to raise with Mapledurham parish and SODC.

9. Next meeting Globe AGM Tuesday 28 June at 7.15 pm – at CHURCH HOUSE