



MINUTES & ACTIONS, CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 26 July 2022 Held at Church House

Chair: NH

Minutes DK/WT

Attendees: Bob Busby, Jacopo Lanzoni, Lin Godfrey, Dave Kenny, Judith Barratt, Nick Haskins, Andy Johnson, Caroline Johnson, Vickie Abel, Tim Castle

Apologies – Wendy Rooke, Wendy Terry.

1) **Minutes of last GLOBE meeting** held at Church House on 24 May 2022 were approved

2. **Finance & Funding** We discussed contacting traders who benefit from the planters along with the companies who sponsored us previously and are advertised on the Globe web site for donations. (BB)

3. **Church Street Planters**

Thanks to everyone for help with watering during the recent hot dry weather. Caroline will get some new bedding plants to replace some of the gaps where plants have failed in the recent heatwave. (CJ)

4. **Litter & Graffiti issues**

a) **Litter** - Keep Caversham Tidy (KCT) continue to do litter picks every Saturday, very well attended. Jacopo said the trustees would decide at their next meeting whether KCT would do a cleanup along the road into Caversham Lakes which is just outside the borough. (JL).

b) **Graffiti** – Nick reported that RBC has reinstated funding for free graffiti cleaning of up to 2msq on private property. Jacopo said that there was an issue with some private landowners not giving RBC permission to clean graffiti, which may explain why graffiti remains on some buildings in Caversham long after being reported.

Nick to chase RBC for new graffiti cleaning kit and green paint for the telecom boxes. (NH)

c) **Reading Festival cleanup** – It was expected that there would be larger numbers of festivalgoers in Caversham this year. **Agreed that Globe would arrange a daily litterpick around Caversham Centre from Thursday 25 August to Monday 29 August inclusive.**

Nick would be attending meetings with Festival Republic prior to the event; the issue of abandoned tents was sensitive and clean-ups during the festival would also be on the agenda.

The need for St Martins Precinct to have extra cleaning in place over the weekend was raised. (DK)

5. **Christchurch Meadows & Thames Parks**

a) **Memorial trees** Thanks to Alan & Lin Godfrey for ongoing watering of the three memorial willows in Christchurch Meadows. There was some discussion as to where the water bowser could be stored over the winter. Somewhere in central Caversham would be preferable.

b) **River Thames cleanup.** Nick was talking to the Rotary & other about organising a river cleanup, ideally it would take place just after Reading Festival.

d) **Collapsed willow.** Need to check if RBC have cleared the collapsed willow from the Danall. (DK/LG)

e) **Sunken boats** at Bucks Eyot (by Caversham Bridge). These have been reported to the EA and RBC but there is no progress yet on getting them removed (NH)

6. Chiltern AONB extension

No date yet for the boundary review. MP Matt Rodda is due to have a meeting with the Chiltern Conservation Board. Globe would have a follow-up meeting with him once this has taken place. (WT/DK)

7. Wild flower Meadows. Concern was expressed over recent cutting of wildflower areas at Balmore Walk. It was also noted that the slope by the surgery had not yet been cut, this was a priority as the long dry grass here is now a fire risk. Paths at View Island also needed cutting. Dave to raise with Chris Capper who manages the RBC grass cutting team. (DK) [Update: to be cut first week in August]

8. Planning Applications – New or Updated planning applications:

211843 Reading Golf Club. Some preliminary works have taken place and fencing has been put up.

220409 and 220410 BBC Caversham Park. Awaiting decision from RBC. There have been a number of objections to the proposals, notably from Historic England.

212061 Riverside Academy, Richfield Ave. Despite environmental concerns this has now been approved by RBC and the Section 106 agreement signed.

NEW application ref: P22/S1691/FUL Caversham Lakes – Following rejection of the previous application another retrospective application has been submitted and the site continues to operate. The application does not cover the full extent of activities at the site. RBC have objected on traffic grounds. Oxfordshire County Council have also objected. Its expected to go to SODC planning committee in August.

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

220638. Application for 15m 5G mast on green at junction of Grove Rd/Kidmore End Rd. **Refused.**
NEW 220915 application for 15m mast on Kidmore Rd by Charlotte Close concerns expressed.

210544 Mill Green – Application for road access to The Mooring has been appealed.

220591 Mill Green – Certificate of lawfulness for existing use as a Boatyard is being strongly refuted by residents: The site used to be an orchard with moorings, not a boatyard. Keep in View. JB

9. Advertising Hoarding sites

a) **Bridge Street Triangle.** Sale of this land by RBC to a company planning to install a large digital (LED) display is ongoing. Globe had been approached to discuss landscaping of the site, but the meeting felt that we should not engage with the developer at this stage. There are strong views against an LED display here, on environmental grounds, being inappropriate in the conservation area and a distraction to drivers at this busy junction. Keep in view.

b) **George Street/Gosbrook Rd Triangle.** Following sale at auction by JCDecaux, many trees on the site had been felled. A temporary TPO was put on the remaining trees by RBC but the new site owner has formally objected to the TPO and wants to fell all but two of the remaining trees. The loss of so many mature trees is greatly regretted. The new owner is not known but it is presumed that there will be a planning application to build on the site. Keep in View

8. AOB

a) **Thames Parks plan** Lin raised the issue of the Thames Parks plan which needed updating, and that Globe should be involved in this. Possibly Cllr Rowlands could be invited to a future meeting. There was some discussion as to whether this was good timing, with several RBC parks staff having left.

b) **Cherry Trees** Tim presented a proposal for a line of cherry trees alongside the path from Gosbrook rd towards the Thames to provide spring blossom and enhance the park. To raise with the Tree Wardens.

9. Next meeting Tuesday 27 September at 7.15 pm – at CHURCH HOUSE

(NB No August Globe meeting as supporters will be concentrating on Festival cleanup that week)