Go Local On a Better Environment

MINUTES & ACTIONS, CAVERSHAM GLOBE MEETING 23 January 2024
Held at the Meeting Room The Griffin

Chair: NH **Minutes** WT/DK

Attendees: Dave Kenny, Nick Haskins, Wendy Terry, Lin Godfrey, Chris Burden, Chris Murphy, Francis Hamley, Judith Barratt.

Apologies: Tim Castle, Bob Busby, Vickie Abel, Caroline Johnson, Andy Johnson, Jacopo Lanzoni, Brian Murphy.

1) Minutes of last Globe meeting held at The Griffin on 24 October 2023 were approved.

2) Finance and Funding Nick asked about the letter to Festival Republic requesting a donation for a new planter, which was discussed at the meeting in October. Wendy explained that there had been a discussion outside the previous meeting about the practicalities of installing a new planter. Dave said that he now believes that a Globe work party could accommodate this and Wendy agreed to draft a letter to FR. (**UPDATE** A letter has now been drafted and Nick will pass it on to his contact at FR). Keep in view. (DK,NH).

Dave reported that there has been a price increase from Google, which is now charging £70 per year. This is because Globe is treated as a business.

Nick asked Dave to remind the JANE Club about the renewal of the Zurich Insurance, of about £200. JANE Club have kindly offered to cover this again. (DK).

3) Church Street Planters Dave reported that he has planted some new shrubs and that Caroline and Andy have replaced some of the winter bedding that was affected by the frost. Thank you Dave, Caroline and Andy.

4) Litter and Graffiti. New packs of graffiti wipes have been received from RBC. Dave reported that litter is still a serious problem in the Salters/River Spice car park. The Police and councillors have been informed. Globe is keen for RBC to tackle the problem of littering and also to address the criminal activity that is taking place in the car park. (DK/NH).

(UPDATE A Globe litter pick in Milestone Woods has been arranged for Saturday 24th February at 2pm). (DK/WT).

5) Christchurch Meadows and Thames Parks.
a) Sunken Boats Nick reported that the two sunken boats in the river by Caversham Bridge and Bucks Eyot appear to have gone. (NH).
b) Hill's Meadow. Winter Wonderland Now that WW have departed Globe will check the area to evaluate the damage cause during their stay. Keep in view. (NH/DK/LG)
c) Hills Meadow Car Wash Globe has been informed of planning application 231306 for a 10 year extension of the lease. Comments by 8th Feb. (DK).
d) The Danall The ditch has not been cleared since 2013 and is now in urgent need of clearance to reduce flooding in Christchurch Meadow. Also the whole area needs to be cleared of litter and rubbish. (**UPDATE** Two Globe litter picks in Christchurch Meadow and Hills Meadow are planned as part of the Great British Spring Clean, which is 15th - 31st March. It is hoped some of the blockages in the Danall can be cleared with help from local residents who have volunteered to help). (DK/WT).

6) Chilterns AONB Extension No update. (**UPDATE** Globe have been advised of the revised date for the start of the public consultation, now Spring/Summer 2024). Keep in view. (WT/DK).

7) Planning Matters.
Caversham Park Planning applications **220409 & 220410**. Historic England have objected to the planning application. Keep in view

Caversham Lakes (UPDATE Appeal has been refused and the operator must reinstate the area within four months). Keep in view.

De Montfort Island A local resident had contacted Globe about a jetty being built on the island, there does not seem to be a planning application for this, unsure if needed. Keep in view.

Persian Palace An extension to the restaurant's dining room at river level has been built apparently without planning permission and may be restricting the river flow at Caversham Bridge. The Environment Agency should have been consulted and a flood risk assessment done. RBC planning are investigating. Keep in view (DK/NH).

8) Advertising Hoarding Sites
a) Bridge Street Triangle No update. Keep in view (DK/JL).

b) George Street Triangle No update. Keep in view.

9) AOB
a) Christchurch Meadow Cherry Trees No update. Keep in view. (TC).
b) Tree Felling on Warren Escarpment. Replacement planting is still required. Keep in view. (NH/DK).
c) Bench on Balmore Walk. No update. Keep in view. (CJ/WT).
d) Bench on View Island No update. Keep in view. (LG).
e) Hedge at Emmer Green Rec Completed.
f) Wall on Balmore Walk There is no progress on the reinstatement of the demolished wall and Wendy contacted the pub to ask for an update. The Manager at The Last Crumb says that he is getting quotes from builders after being let down by a previous builder. He did not provide a new date for completion. Keep in view. (DK/WT).
g) Gravel on pavement by Caversham Court Gardens Vickie reported that the gravel washed away, RBC did not attend. (VA/JL).
h) Sandbags in Christchurch Meadows Lin reported that RBC has not removed the sandbags that it put across the entrances to the meadows during the recent flooding. (LG).
i) Graffiti on Reading Bridge Chris B reported that the graffiti is very bad on the bridge and in the underpass. (CB).
j) Litter in Iceland car park Wendy reported that there is a serious litter problem beside the footpath in the car park by the rear of Iceland and the other shops. Dave had cleared it but the litter keeps returning. **(UPDATE** Wendy contacted Jacopo and he has taken it up with RBC. An officer has visited the site and is planning to discuss the problem with the landowner (Hermes/Workman) to ensure that there are proper procedures in place to control the problem. Keep in view (WT/JL).

Next meeting Tuesday 26th March 2024 at 7.15 pm – at Meeting Room in The Griffin