NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 9 December 2015

Present: : Liz Ellis, Pam Webb, Sheila Smith, Pat Ager, Carol Mclellan, John Venning, Jenny Cottee, Judy Cullen, Tina Allen, Lesley West, Ray Clayton, Lynda Chater, Roger Sym

Martijn Gilbert, **Reading Buses** gave a presentation about how things are going for Reading Buses- he reported another award-best bus operator UK (top industry prize- first time awarded to Reading Buses – recent award ceremony. The adjudication was initially paper-based; final was determined by 'mystery shoppers testing every aspect of the service-reading buses were clear winners. Vindicated the focus on customer. other awards include women in transport

Martijn gave an impressive presentation on ensuring Reading Buses doesn't rest on laurels but looks to the future- new buses coming after trials considering many options including central doors to speed up exits, reviewing fuels, maintain colour branded services, looking for attractions- e.g. wifi, usb charging facilities university bus route, concentration on greening the whole company not just air quality issues. School buses (silver stars). Rise in use of smart cards- now 29%

Key emphasis on all staff, training, development. Bus drivers recruited from many customer focused backgrounds- people who like people.

Before asking for questions Liz commented that we had could rest easy-Reading Buses in safe hands after Martijn' predecessor, James Freeman had left to work for Bristol Buses many had been worried- but now reassured.

Questions covered Bus stops-, timetables, suspension, no change policy

New Year Letter is in hand- we plan to get it to the delivery volunteers before Christmas so that they can deliver during the holiday break

4 Christmas Lights are looking good at the Triangle – put up on Sun 29 Nov- will come down on about Sun 3 Jan The batteries will be replaced half way through the illumination period. Thanks Carol for organizing purchase to keep up with the growth of the tree and getting them up etc.

5 T.G. Face Book page – members congratulated Lynda on our super interesting and fun facebook page well done –we think it will help inform a good range of people about what we do , future events etc and help us keep our contact list growing-the bigger it is the more we can achieve.

Like it , pass on to friends and family

6. Planning issues : Dec 24 closing date for comments on West Berks sites for houses-e.g. Clements Mead field and Stonehams farm (wed 20 Jan Globe meeting about RBC next phase consultation)

7. Two more consultations

(a) RBC has launched a consultation on proposals to **allow cycling in Broad Street** - closing date **31st December 2015.** <u>http://www.reading.gov.uk/cyclingconsultation</u>

(b) RBC have launched a consultation on **Air Quality - closing date 11th January** – <u>http://www.reading.gov.uk/media/4209/Air-Quality-Action-Plan/pdf/AQAP_Proposed_actions.pdf</u>

and update- RBC decided not to do kerbside food waste collections http://www.reading.gov.uk/media/4262/ltem-14/pdf/ltem_14.pdf

8 **Outstanding items-** RBC comments needed: bike stands at Lloyds bank? , Planters at School rd, Litter team contact point when items such as lots of garden waste found

9 Research needed: ' Fields in Trust', 'Living streets'

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 18 November 2015

Present: : Liz Ellis, Cllr Ricky Duveen, Carol Mclellan, John Venning, Jenny Cottee, Ray Clayton, Debrah Chatal, Philip Webb, Lynda Chater

Apols:, Roger Sym

1. Why RBC refused planning permission for 3 houses on Chapel Hill Allotments site (application no 151610) We looked at the refusal letter which gave 6 reasons, only one of which could be answered by changing the application. The reasons were based on planning rules. The RBC Local Plan (see rbc website) contains these rules (some are based on national rules). An important one was core strategy policy 28 (CS28) which says people can only build on open space (publicly or privately owned) in exceptional circumstances, and then they must provide replacement land. Other reasons were about loss of the allotment (valuable community resource) ,preserving the character of the area, and visual effect of the proposal.	Also see items 4 below about consultation to update/revise the Local Plan starts in January. Speaker at Globe meeting 20 Jan
The letter illustrated the importance of the Local Plan and how it determines the shape of the area.	
2. Future for Tilehurst Library and rest of Library service . Petitions had been handed in, but personal responses needed. The closing date for the first stage of the consultation is Monday 23 Nov- paper copies and on line comments needed. The questionnaire is about how you use library services, and ideas about the future- how to make the savings. The library is important for Tilehurst Globe and other groups as well as for individuals. Many leaflets about local facilities events etc are displayed here. People see them and collect them. There is no alternative location. The events- coffee mornings, childrens story times and singing as well as book borrowing We considered the practicalities of volunteers helping-difficulties of having recommitting to specific times.	Respond asap
3 Finance –plans for next year (starting 1 april 2016) and the rest of this year (inc bulb planting and newsletter)	. Agenda January meeting
Carol had prepared a paper on cash flow, anticipated income/expenditure for 2016/17 and the remainder of the current f/y, and discussed with Liz and Jenny. Currently our income is about £1100 pa of which a bit more than 50% is from RBC. We have no evidence that we will receive any more RBC grants , and anticipate if we undertake the rest of our planned activities (eg bulb planting) we will start the new fe on 1 April 2016 with £700 in the bank. We discussed fund raising ideas- focusing on regular income sources. Ideas include seeking more business sponsors and asking individuals (members or members of the public) for small monthly contributions by standing orders More discussions, and thinking needed then decisions and action in jan	investigate all sources of income. Consider implications carefully
We decided (i) to maintain the current programme so bulb planting, newsletter etc proceed and we anticipate £700 balance 1 April., (ii) to publish planned activities in our new year letter according to a similar pattern and (iii) to tackle income sources vigorously early in the new year.	
4. Reading Housing Conference 17.11.15 Jenny reported the annual conference had been about the local housing crisis-fed by local prosperity, housing situation very serious. Govt. has removed many powers from councils and housing associations which makes the situation worse. Reading Council is particularly concerned about B&B –very expensive, unsatisfactory for any length of time. Exceptionally high prices mean that even with reductions renting and buying are out of reach of people on average incomes. Severe knock on effects on recruitment e.g teachers. RBC co-operate with other Berkshire councils regarding commissioning a consultant to estimate total housing need to 2036 and then negotiate and agree allocations that each council must include in their local plan.	Revision of Local Plan first stage of consultation jan- mid feb –have your say about housing and other policies like open space.
Reading Council say they are thinking 'outside the box' for new solutions eg releasing some temporary housing in Dee Park. Schemes to make renting better for tenants and landlords,	RBC Planning Officer Kiaran
The conference working groups considered different aspects , seek ideas from all. Housing supply group contained developers, housing assn reps , members of public. Emphasis on joint problem –solving.	Roughan will speak at Globe meeting 20
The local plan needs updating to reflect housing issues and changes- will cover 2016-2036. Updating process will be faster than writing the original. Revised housing figures require building 699 new homes per year for the 20 years to 2036 in Reading , an increase of 22% on the current plans requirement for 635 per year.	Jan explain the process and how to have your say.

5. NAG meeting 17.11.15 – (statutory group for liaison between local police and neighbourhood groups) Liz had attended and reported what had happened. She had learnt of staff shortage- hoping to recruit- only 2 officers in west area. The meeting largely reported and talked about speeding and asking for volunteers to monitor roads using the equipment purchased. Liz put forward the idea of having more 30mph signs to put on bins s since you thought the trial was a success.	Follow up with photo,
Now RBC have only 1 dog warden	
Liz had reported problems for pedestrians at the Norcot lights/school rd up to Gratwicke rd area. Improperly parked cars , poor visibility issues leading to dangers and fear of accidents/near misses etc	
6. Blundells copse(i) , Calder Close hedge laying done by CROW had been very successful (ii) plans for imminent Community payback scheme to help improve the hedge at top-aiming for saplings of Spindle, Wayfarer, Guelder Rose, Buckthorn and or Hazel	Donations of saplings/ young trees welcome phone if you can help 9425169
7. December Globe Meeting (9.12.15) speaker: CEO Reading Buses with presentation – projector and screen sorted we discussed some questions we hope will be covered (. We decided to have some xmas eats after the presentation – small amounts of contributions welcome	Bring a small (one or two person size) contribution to the eats
9 Outstanding items - RBC comments needed : bike stands at Lloyds bank? , Planters at Scool rd, Litter team contact point when items such as lots of garden waste found	
10 Research needed.: ' Fields in Trust', 'Living streets'	
LATE NEWS: West Berkshire Planning Housing: Meeting at Cornell C Mead Friday 27 Nov 7.30pm called by KPG ((Keep Tilehurst Green) about trying to public being built on Stonehams Farm and Clements Mead Fields	

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 21 October 2015

Present: : Liz Ellis, Cllr Ricky Duveen, Carol Mclellan, John Venning, Judith Cullen, Pam Webb, Pat Ager, Sheila Smith, Ann Hunter, Lynda Chater, Tina Allen, Lesley West

Apols: Jenny Cottee, Roger Sym

1. Blundells Copse: Some hedging plants donated for a project in Blundells. Glen in charge the planting sessions.		
2. Bulb Planting : This year Parkers Estate agents in the Triangle gave us permission to plant daffodils and crocii in the grass verge outside the Tilehurst office in the Triangle. The guides came and were very keen and helpful, as usual, so a big thanks to them and to everyone else who came and helped. We also planted out bulbs under the hedge. So this should make a good show in the spring. Thanks to Jenny for organizing the event.	Is parking for larger vehicles a problem in central Tilehurst?	
As a matter of curiosity we had noticed a large white van had parked on the green verge outside Lloyds Bank. Liz had asked the driver why he had parked there. He said that there was nowhere else to park since all the car parks prevented lorries and van from parking. Liz asked at the meeting if there was a reasonable place for larger vehicles to park in the area and it seems that there isn't which isn't a very satisfactory state of affairs.		
3. Cattle Trough : Pat organized replanting of the Park Lane trough with Campanula and miniature daffodils.	Cllr Ricky Duveen offered to find out council contact names for us.	
David Moore, of RBC, who gave us permission to do the planting said "What a fantastic job Tilehurst Globe do helping make Tilehurst such a nice place. Thank you"		
Pat reported that the alley opposite was littered with dog business. We understand that from Monday 26th there will be 1 dog warden for the whole of Reading.		
Cllr Ricky Duveen to find out council contact names for us.		
4. Litter Teams : We are really pleased to have the new volunteers working to clear litter. Liz explained that previously as well as kitting out the volunteers with pickers and high vis vests we have advised the street care team in the council of these volunteers so that they have a contact to help with clearing difficult items etc. The contacts that we used to have now do not seem to be there and we would like to know where to get continued support.	Cllr Ricky Duveen offered to investigate.	
5. Budget Cuts : The RBC Consultation now over, the budget to be halved by 2017. Document on website and 1 copy in library. The council is looking for suggestions about what to do now and how to make cuts?		
 6. Consultation into Reading Libraries : Cllr Ricky Duveen told us that the petition urging support for our local library had received over 900 signatures and had been presented to the council. The meeting thanked him for taking on the task but we also thought it important to encourage people to send in their views (using the forms available in the library) as part of the ongoing consultation. We should be aware that the consultation is in two parts: the current one ends on 23rd November and in the new year there will be a follow up. The consultation is all about making spending cuts to libraries in Reading. Other suggestions made at the meeting were: homework club, coffee shop, renting out meeting rooms. It was also suggested we should try Face book Tilehurst Gossip Girls, and the website Streetlife. Also to try a Tilehurst Library magazine swap 	All to be alert to the dates of the consultation into library services. To continue to fill in and post the library services form available from the library.	

7. Chapel Hill Allotments : We had a broad discussion about the application to build houses on the Chapel Hill Allotments site. Cllr Ricky Duveen explained that he was on the planning committee and it was thought that council would approve the application; he said that he thought that the council did not view the land as open space and therefore was not protected by CS28, and that the Tilehurst Poors Land Trust would make better use of their resources by selling the land for development and using the money to provide for the needy rather than maintain the land as allotments. There was a general discussion about CS28, the core strategy document and what the implications for development might be.	We need to be more informed of the importance of Core Strategy policies so that we know how we are affected.
8. Kew gardens seeds : Judy reported back that the seeds were given to two teachers at Raniquet school (infants). She was unable to find out where the seeds had been planted because both the teachers concerned had left to teach in other schools.	
9. Donation: Thank you to Robert Thompson for his cash donation which group have suggested to be used for bulbs in Corwen Rd or Christmas lights.	

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 16 Sept 2015 Present: Jenny Cottee (notes), Carol Mclellan, John Venning, Judith Cullen, Pam Webb, Cllr Meri O'Connell,. Ray Clayton, Pat Ager, Rachel Chilton, Natalie Ganpatsingh.

Apols: Liz Ellis, Cllr Tom Steele, Cllr Ricky Duveen, Cllr Sandra Vickers, Tanja Rebel, Roger Sym, Rachel Chilton,

1. Blundells Copse: care arrangements and priorities for the next year. We had not produced a formal management plan for the next 12 months and have not been able to establish priorities for the future in liason with parks dept. In general there had been prompt response to phone messages requesting maintenance. Particularly H&S issues- risk to children Photos help. The usual issues- nettles, paths needing attention green waste dumping at calder close entrance . we had been grateful for big clearance of dumping near teviot rd entrance, and request further work when leaf drop has happened to clear up difficult bulky historic waste –eg old TV needs co-operation between housing, parks and police . we also want maintenance of damaged wood benches- metal not permitted so routine repairs essential. Ray reported new Health Walk from Meadway Centre into Blundells- future routes not clear .	Keep on reporting Send photos .Request repair/ replacement benches Remind re dumping clearance request Drop in maps of local woods to center.
2. Summer Activities : (i) litter teams continuing- many thanks to all. 2 new members had met up with Pat and have taken over a patch near Norcot rd entrance to Mcllroy's - formailities dealt with and equipment passed. (ii) watering plants many thanks to teams (residents and businesses) watering young trees-all are doing well – contrast to generality round the town The maintenance of troughs had been a bit more problematic- watering not a problem- lots of homemade compost, water-retention granules have helped, BUT we need to monitor weeds- groundcell smothering flowers (iii) memory project material coming in extra interviews and photos for the website. library being topped up Stetfords have sponsored a second reprint so we have excellent supplies. We anticipate demand will reduce but new aspects will spawn more need-ideas eg pupils talking with grandparents will help schools re different aspects of the curriculum – as well as being something that all value. (iv)battery boxes- carol does butts, Judy does C&G, Pam will try to retrieve one from convenience store near chapel Hill – suggest it would be good at Elvaston Rd parade Remember RBC collect batteries on red bin day (v)nature-nurture wild day in Arthur Newbery Park: Pat Liz and jenny had been to this event with a Globe publicity stall-Amazingly successful event- many more families came than anticipated- lots of stimulating activities –picnics all over the park- using all areas- eg wellies at the stream, collecting interesting objects eg prickly things, strange objects, art work games in the woods, bug hunting etc etc. lots of people who never had entered the park3 other events that week in different locations in Reading also great successes. Natalie reported that Nature-nurture organization has been awarded Nat. lottery funding for many more activities in Mclloys – this time narrowly focused on residents of specific localities /roads. She is establishing steering group will keep us in the loop.	(i) Any more volunteers to take on a regular patch? (ii) fix monitoring Pat will use more perenials eg campanula (iii) Judy follow up ,pass on ideas (iv) liz any more boxes? Publicize rbc red bin collections of bagged batteries. (v) watch this space- some all day events regular sessions Globe will work in partnership. judy (Norcot Nursery contact) will be involved two routes
3. Participating in consultation about Council Budget (i) Voluntary and Community sector - ie our grant from RBC- currently 50% of our income. Jenny explained that a new system is being sorted out in consultation with groups etc. The council will not give grants, but will commission services that they want- ie fit their priorities. There is a rapid reduction in the amount available it seems very clear that in all probability there will be no RBC cash for tilehurst globe from March 2017 and that from march 2016 we <i>might</i> get a bit. (ii) General budgetconsultation – see leaflet in library big file on table, and link to RBC website. Many issues-including Library services- ie tilehurst library is one of the branches facing possible closure this will be of concern to all businesses and residents- central hub of area etc	(i) keep participating , eyes and ears open, plan for big changes (ii) check it out look out for next steps

4. AGM – we considered the AGM report (on the website and very kindly copied by Village Properties for this meeting and sponsors etc) See agm 2015 report http://www.tilehurst-globe.org.uk/ for report and accnts or just on pg 3of these mins for accnts only .	Deliver to sponsors,helpers
1. accounts for year ended 31 March 2015 were accepted with thanks to Carol and our scrutineer. We noted that we have been spending our accumulated savings and have a good stock of leaflets/booklets, and the trees atre doing well. Some items we had been considering will show up in the next accounts-bills were paid after end of March.	Report next meeting
2. priorities and next steps . We decided we will need to secure our future finances by investigating both routes suggested in the report. We aim to continue on with projects being mindful of costs.	
5. Bulb planting event SAT 10 OCT 10-12 noon meet at Dunstall Close. jenny explained discussions with Parkers estate agents- possibly some future planting, but bulbs (miniature daffs and narcissi) can be accommodated. If space limited we can plant on space available near library.	Publicize participants & helpers needed
6. AOB- (i) Kew gardens seeds-what happened how did they grow? Judy had passed on to Raniquet school (infants)- she will find out so we can respond	Judy
(ii) Reading Hydro scheme open meeting : wed 23 oct 7-9pm at civic offices – council chamber-latest news, speakers	All welcome
(iii) we welcome ideas for future meetings- booked so far- chief exec of reading Buses Mr Gilbert- December (2 ND NOT 3 RD WED) . In Jan we will look at consultation about the Local Plan	
West Berks news soonso probably get a mention in Oct.	
Ideas re speakers,topics,indepth study/projects welcome We will need to be very careful re cash but we want to proceed	
NO NEWS YET re planters- or Bike rackswill chase up	

Tilehurst Globe Summary of Income and Expenditure for 01/04/2014 to 31/03/2015

Balance brought forward 1st April 2014 2,452.64 Income during Period 861.74 Expenditure during Period (1,796.48) Net expenditure over income (934.74) Balance carried forward 31st March 2015 1,517.90 which is made up as follows: £

Bank statement at 31/03/2015 1,517.90 Cheques to be presented 0.00 Cash 0.00 Total 1,517.90

Income and Expenditure for the year ending 31/03/2015

INCOME	For y/e 31/03/15 £	For y/e 31/03/14 £	EXPENDITURE	For y/e 31/03/15 £	For y/e 31/03/14 £
Grant RBC 01	0.00	24.99	Office (including Insurance)	333.31	328.15
Grant RBC 02 ³	163.74	156.66	Rent	248.80	220.00
Grant RBC 03 *	0.00	500.00	Promotion		49.00
			Christmas Lights	61.92	70.00
Donations Sponsors 5	500.00	500.00	Projects 6	1152.45	311.46
Donations Christmas	0.00	0.00	BCF	0.00	39.50
Donations Other ⁵	198.00	5.40	Events	0.00	0.00
Totals	861.74	1187.05		1796.48	1018.11
			Year ending 31 Mar 2015	Year o 31 Ma	
Balance (or shortfall) of R	eceipts over Pa	yments	£(934.74)	£16	3.94

Notes: 1. These accounts have been prepared on a cash basis.

2.

3.

The group is responsible for payment of all bills including insurance. RBC grant 02 was spent on the allocated purpose (is insurance top-up). The 5500 RBC grant 03 towards our running costs for 2014/15 was received early (March 2014)* and was used in the year starting 1st April 2014 for the allocated purpose (is office costs, rent, contribution to insurance). "The sum is not included in the above table, as it was shown on the previous year's income & Excenditive attertement for 2013/14.... 4. Expenditure statement for 2013/14.

5. We lost one of our long-standing sponsors during the year, but this was offset by the two additional sponsors gained towards the end of the previous year, and a donation (from Setfords) to cover a reprint of the Memories booklet.

- Projects costs were somewhat higher than in the previous year; expenditure included: Plants for planter outside Setfords, two print runs of the Memories bookiet, printing of the Troughs leaflet, and a reprint of the five Walks leaflets.
- 7. The balance carried forward at 31.3.15 of £1,517.90 includes £144.86 allocated for Xmas lights.

NOTES OF MEETING - TILEHURST GLOBE - Wed 17 June 2015

Present: : Pat Ager, John Venning, Roger Sym, Cllr Ricki Duveen, Judy Cullen, ,Jenny Cottee (notes), Carol Mclellan, Pam Webb, Ray Clayton, Julia Lawrence Apols: Liz Ellis ##

 looked out for our stall/the quiz and knew what to expect- good board displaysQuiz was a god way to start conversation and engage people. (b) helpers reported that people expect a quiz-nd enjoyed it enough correct answers to match the prizes available. Some residents surveys had been collected for later completion-free-post was good. Memories booklet was well known and well-received , people interested © Not many suggestions about how to improve Tilehurst (perhaps include in new year mailing) 	
 2. Planters :Planting out the troughs and planters-all in hand/done thanks to green thumbed volunteers (a) water tower Pat will be doing on sat- we will hunt for resident to do watering (b) Arthur Newbery Park-Ruth has tidied this up –mostly perennials watering is problematic(c) Setfords: Ruth has liased with Corals and setfords- and done most of the planting – a few more home- reared annuals will be added as they grow a bit more Future /other planters (d) we still get asked about the unsightly/dangerous conical planters outside the library. Long saga, they really should be demolished if cannot be usedOther planters- eg Help the Aged are cared for by shops We noted the reports of Oxford Rd planters (Baker St residents and arious other groups) need to check out to help our discussions re several planters at SchoolRd/Rec rd. 	 d) enquire again any volunteer deal with red-tape.? All: (i)Pass on congrats to shops (ii) check out Oxford rd planters Jenny/liz Follow up Simon Beasley OK location. size etc also what rules re disabled parking bays (top rec rd.) Future agenda : planters at SchoolRd
3. Memories project- progress and updates (a) We will do a stock check re numbers of booklets in the summer- Library know to phone 9425269 for more supplies. More memories coming in and are typed up, agreed with the source, and then go to the website. Liz deals with website matters, Pat interview specialist – and progress is steady– we do not plan for another booklet since the website is most flexible and less costly. (b) 15 July walk 'down memory lane' (meet 7.00pm at Butchers Arms, Lower Armour Rd) will be linked to the memory project with people with specific memories of the Arthur Newbery Park contributing.	Pass on memories via <u>tilehurstmemories@hotm</u> <u>ail.com</u> and the library
 4.Looking forward to rest of the summer what needs follow ups: y /e Accounts (b)Simon Beasley re plans (see 2d above), (b) Blundells Copse dumping we note that there remains some –now covered by overgrowth-will need attention in say nov. also that a similar problem at Lousehill has been tackled via multi-agency and residents. Worth investigating , Clearance/maintenance: lots of ussues- and attention needed asap also autumn/winter planning .good news: calder close dog bin restored 	 a)Carol to get to scrutineer by mid july b) jenny to contact Glenn Jones forward pics from judy
 (c) Blagrave Rec – pruning/planting. Julia reported no progress re rec maintenance, and more problems with over grown shrubs invading pavementWe noted the major staff cut back and that some work needs to be done in the autumn but will follow up, (d) plans for Lloyds bank green area- climate change focused grant application for cycle rack and more trees. We discussed the plan- more details needed but seems to be a good idea? (e) Autumn bulb planting. The date (SAT 10 Oct 10.00am-12) (already on the calendar on new year letter) needs to be sent to possible participants (eg scouts and guides asap. We also discussed possible locations for attention-, we want one major site and one major event –bus route /high visibility, enough space too accommodate say max 30 –40 volunteers safely suggestions: (i) green area Halls rd/Park Lane junction ,(ii) Top of Downing Rd,(iii) By library fence,(iv) Mayfair –nr Holicombe Close (f) Street Litter bins- we said we would report requests for suitable litter bins- ie with tops so litter does not blow out. please note where replacement needed- giving street and 	 c) jenny to Parks dept pass on Julias letter d)All: ideas etc- observe walking /improper car parking patterns to help get design right. e) jenny mail groups. All consider these 4 nominated locations for decision at sept meeting f) All

5. AOB a) Conservation volunteers - Roger reported it is has a local office ,is well- organised tools ,tasks and drinks all sorted work on Thursdays and Saturdays- see website <u>http://www.tcv.org.uk/</u>	
b) NAG –police consultation group now covers bigger area, is attended by reps from police etc –good route through if there are issues that might be relevant to policing.	Ask local Cllr.
Reminder . Reading Neighbourhood Survey 2015 is due in soon closing date 5 July. you can get paper copies at the library (FREEE POST return) or electronicly- (link below). The idea is to ensure police (and council) have an annual summary of opinions about matters that might benefit from police attention. Replies are sorted by post code so Tilehurst policing priorities will reflect what local residents said.	

http://beta.reading.gov.uk/neighbourhoodsurvey

NOTES OF MEETING - TILEHURST GLOBE - Wed 20 May 2015

Present: Liz Ellis (chair), Pat Ager, John Venning, Paul Jenkins, Cllr Tom Steele, Cllr Ricki Duveen, Judy Cullen, Jenny Cottee (notes), Carol Mclellan, Pam Webb, Tina Allen, Ray Clayton, **Apols:** Roger Sym, Cllr Meri O'Connell

1.Simon Beasley, RBC: Liz welcomed Simon to the meeting, reminding members that he had spoken with us many times over the years discussing ways of reducing problems and improving Tilehurst starting at formative stages and later on.

Simon reminded us of the discussions about safety improvements- that finally resulted in the **pedestrian traffic islands**. They have been in place for more than a year and people are pleased with them, the hoped for improvements have happened- motorists lookout for pedestrians, people feel safer crossing School Rd and traffic speed has reduced. He moved on to explain several issues , and respond to members questions

Funding : Traffic improvements are largely paid for by funds held by central Government- usually with Reading Council making a contribution from a levy on developers. Although a small % of the total bill the Reading contribution is not easy to fund. A new mechanism for collecting and allocating the levy on development started in April aiming to make a clearer link between local development and local improvements. The arrangements to secure local agreement on how the levy should be spent will be strengthened.

Simon's Department 's role is to **develop ideas and schemes that people want** and for which funding is possible in line with current requirements- e.g the more stringent requirements regarding surface water. The process of developing schemes involves talking through ideas and bringing them to the council's Traffic Management Committee for decision about how to proceed.

An example of the approach with the public is verge parking. In Reading the gradual introduction of verge parking ban has general public support. The hoped for reduction in traffic speed is welcomed, nuisance to pedestrians etc is reduced. Areas are pressing for the ban to be extended to cover their roads. The general public opinion varies with circumstances and locality. West Berkshire demographics and housing differ so public opinion differs resulting in different rules as one moves along some roads that are part in Reading and part in West Berks. The officers of both authorities have close contact, and there are some arrangements when money can be saved by joint working, but each office needs to reflect the opinions of their residents so uniformity is not a priority.

Regarding **local traffic schemes in Tilehurst** we discussed possibilities that might be feasible and meet funding criteria - (e.g. improve road safety). **Simon will work on (**i) **an additional pedestrian island** in School Rd between the library and Recreation Rd. (ii) **cycle hoops** in Dunstall Close near Lloyds Bank (iii) **planters on the pavement** between Norcot Rd and Recreation Rd and will bring back news of issues etc to a future meeting.

Regarding **pavements** the situation was less promising .Unless there is a safety issue there is little chance of significant improvements-e.g there is no business case for sorting out the unsightly Park Lane pavements, (dropped kerbs that do not match entrances etc.) Some pavements are very narrow, have odd cambers and are tricky to use., such historic problems unlikely to meet funding criteria.

The meeting thanked Simon for his helpful and informative input, and look forward to further more detailed discussions

2. Planning for our stall at the show Sat 6 June at Victoria Rec. Liz led discussion about the themes for the stall and arrangements. As usual we will not have any items for sale, but there will be a free quiz, and displays about ongoing projects. Our sponsors Village Properties are again helping with photo copying.

More helpers welcome-contact Liz

3. **Reading Neighbourhood Survey 2015.** At the recent NAG meeting copies of the new neighbourhood survey were passed round. This is a form to be completed by as many Reading residents as possible (all ages etc) to identify priorities for police attention-**closing date 5 July.** Responses will sorted according to postcodes so local priorities will be identified.

We decided to have forms on our stall and to publicize explanation etc and electronic version on the RBC website-(will also be available at police stall)

http://beta.reading.gov.uk/neighbourhoodsurvey

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 15 April 2015 Present: : Liz Ellis (chair), Roger Sym, Judith Cullen ,Jenny Cottee (notes) , Carol McIellan, Pam Webb , Tina Allen, Lesley West,. Ray Clayton, Sheila Smith Apols: Pat Ager, Ron Smith, Louise Bancroft

 RBC new Neighbourhood Officer working: Transportation and Street Care) Clir Liz Terry (Lead Clir, neighbourhoods), Mark Smith, (Head Transportation and Street Care) and Gina Frost Introduced the new 'patch working' arrangements in relation to the Transportation and Street Care, explaining that the arrangements are designed to make required savings and secure better working -less duplication, more efficiency. The new neighbourhood officers (NO) work 5 days per week 9-5,(but cover events eg waterfest , area clear ups and projects eg anti cigarette butts) they will work as a team, sharing expertise each acts as a single point of contact- regarding issues in their area/patch. They will do required routine inspections of roads, pavements and deal with dumping/litter issues including on private land, liaise with dog warden etc. The NO team do interagency work eg with Environmental Health (i) Our Neighbourhood Officer is Adam Hales-please contact via contact centre so all calls logged 01189373787if you have the love cleaner reading ap that gives RBC details of location and a pic even better to use this The team members very grateful for volunteers' help , want to work in partnership. Each NO will aim to keep in touch with community groups in area and local PSCO . We considered the questions raised In March and noted all had been covered- e.g. Parks Dept remain <i>i/c</i> H&S checks of parks equipment (ii) Rights of Way are included in the brief of this section- need to clarify who i/c. Cycle lanes covered by highways standards for potholes- (iii) Litter bins –programme for replacing- and for having separated collections (iv) cigarette butts campaign (v) considering revising bulky waste arrangements- expensive,possible effect on fly- tipping The phone ap is recommended for reporting flytipping etc http://loveclean.reading.gov.uk/reports 	 (i) route queries through call centre please- including parks (ii) Ray Clayton follow up (iii) Pass on requests re inadequate litter bins (eg without tops etc) via NO Possible Globe listing- the first priority is near the library by the bench
http://loveclean.reading.gov.uk/reports See end for questions raised at previous meeting and more detailed responses to questions at this meeting 2. RESCUE-cleaning up last weekend in March- how it went etc In some respects disappointing: We noted that the weather had been OK , there was less litter than historically , but for not very clear reasons we had fewer volunteers and especially fewer children (no organized groups from schools/scouts etc) than previous years. We had good prizes (business donations) for the volunteers, schools and local roads had been contacted . Less press pre-publicity Jenny and Liz had been feeling uncertainty re arrangements – communication problems,(and had subsequently sent in feedback summary about organizational matters). Perhaps attention distracted from mustering volunteers Bin men had been very helpful in spite of organizational issues.	(i) More posters, school /youth contact in jan. (ii)Raise profile. (iii)Research locally?iv)Agen da in Dec?

 AOB (i) Gazebo – The meeting agreed we need to research costs of replacing elderly fragile pop-up gazebo (must be another pop-up) -needed for Show 	(i) All-pass on info to jenny- Decide next meeting
(ii) memories project .More contacts welcome. library have arrangements for the talk in hand	(ii) tell Liz
(iii) planting more trees Jenny researching sources of cash we have several urgent siteswatering plans for recent planting are in hand	
(iv) altering trust deeds The meeting noted that consultation about location of new primary school in Caversham includes proposals to alter conditions of trust deeds in two of the suggested alternatives (Mapledurham playing Fields and Albert Rd Rec). Tilehurst Globe members can have their say-use forms available in library or on line http://beta.reading.gov.uk/schoolsite	MUST give a rank order- although can comment
Closing date Friday 1 May 5.00pm	
(v) Jenny reported we have received a donation- £20 thank you for getting rubbish shifted	
(vi) Parks Dept: Glenn Jones and Blundells Copse Jenny reported that she had met new officer Glenn Jones and discussed various matters needing attention in the Copse. Glenn welcomes the updates Glenn has already arranged for Probation team to do clearance of the dumping in Blundells on Wed 22 and Friday 24 April –Jenny had alerted Adam Hales (NO) asking he should alert Housing dept too. This is a very long standing problem will good to work together to prevent recurrence.	 (vi) Jenny and officers hunt for cash for boundary fence, also alert PCSO Judy will check
(vii) Free wildlife seeds from KEW-Liz had filled in a request form and received lots of packs-	out and suggest ways of using-
viii) Poster sites- more needed-Turkish barbers are keen	next meeting

Questions raised at March meeting : Current situation what will happen in the future?			
1	Out of hours emergency contacts available e.g. if glass found in the Rec or dangerous structures. Dealt with including weekends		
2	Public direct contact with dog warden re persistent dog mess, consistent barking		
3	Daily early morning patrols of parks to sort out overnight problems checking safety		
4	Public phone numbers to report problems in the park direct to parks dept – e.g. trees overhanging path, Globe members use direct email/phone contact for these matters and keep on reminding re ongoing problems e.g. damage to entrance notice, contractors filling up drainage ditches ,fences, gates		
	Ensure grant-funded work e.g. Forestry Commission undertaken Annual management plan discussed/agreed with locals and RBC officer at (Sept Globe meeting)		
5	Routine care of park- e.g. stream gully clearance reducing flood risk		
6	Commission volunteer groups probation service, business team building e.g. through Connect to do specific practical work in the parks identified in plan (Econet ,CROW etc liaison)		
7	Commission and oversight of contract work in parks-sort out if problems -e.g. not as spec.		
8	Graffiti removal team-contact details available to public and through Cllrs		
9	Contact details shown on park notice boards		
10	Litter- removal of dumping etc -street		
11	Pavements dangerous uneven and /or slippery, puddles e.g. Rec. Rd, Park lane		
12	Parking warden, verge parking camera patrol van		
13	RBC housing officers deal with housing matters-partial limited success re liaison aboutproblems associated with the parks- eg dumping /boundaries encroachment Blundells McIlroys(legal issues?)		

Responses to Questions asked at Tilehurst Globe Meeting Wednesday 16th April

- Refuse Collection comments about wheelie bins not being returned to the curtilage of the property?
- Response: Bins should be returned to the point of collection. However, we do not collect and return to any bins located within front gardens/drives etc unless resident is an assisted collection. We will remind the crews to put bins back to where they were collected from
- Pot Holes clarification as to whether we apply the same criterion to cycle lanes/footpaths and roads?
- Response : There is no different investigatory criteria for cycle lanes/paths. Usual footway/carriageway defect investigatory criteria applies as appropriate
- Litter Bins The issue of litter bins was raised, bins without tops are causing a problem. Globe to carry out a survey/confirm what they'll do and where/what is our policy on new bin provision?
- Response: We have just changed a non-hooded bin to a hooded bin near to the entrance Westwood Road (10/4/15). We are happy to consider any other requests but there is only a small budget for bin replacements across the borough. We would very much welcome a 'bin audit' to either change, add, remove or replace bins and would be happy to work with the group but as stated previously there is only a small budget to work with.
- Recreation Road surface dressing of footpath, left an undulating surface?
- Response: With regards to Recreation Road footways, these were surfaced with a thin layer of bituminous material known as 'Slurry' back in 2013/14. This is a widely used cost-effective surfacing process which helps to seal and protect the underlying footway structure, effectively extending the life of the footway. Although this process provides an improved footway surface and skid resistance for pedestrians it will not remove all existing depressions/undulations given that the material is only a thin coating. Slurry material is limited in what it will achieve and certainly cannot be compared with the more costly processes of footway reconstruction/resurfacing. As this is a cost-effective treatment it enables the Council to treat many more footways across the Borough each year within the available highway maintenance budget. The more costly processes of carrying out full reconstruction/resurfacing of footways would mean that the Council would only be able to deal with a very limited number of footways each year leaving many other footways to deteriorate further'.
- Recycling Litter bins raised in the context of all litter bin waste goes to landfill, are we trialling recycling litter bins, should we?
- *Response:* There are a number of on-street litter recycling bins across the borough and we are confident that 40 50% of the waste generated is suitable for recycling. There are currently no funds to increase the number of on-street litter bins (cost approx. £600 each + installation along with additional costs to 'sort' the waste at the point of disposal). We would estimate that a recycling litter bin would generate a maximum of 200kg of recyclable waste per year and that the cost of collecting and sorting would not make this an efficient and cost effective service. Every household receives a fortnightly recycling collection service and this is by far the most efficient way to recycle waste.
- Targeted Bulky waste collections in specific areas, look at options for the future?
- Response: The current and future provision of the bulky waste service will be subject to review as part of the Waste Minimisation Strategy 2015 2020"

NOTES OF MEETING - TILEHURST GLOBE - Wed 18 March 2015

Present: Pat Ager, Judith Cullen ,Jenny Cottee (notes) , Carol Mclellan, John Venning, Pam Webb , Tina Allen, Lesley West, Ray Clayton, Louise Bancroft, Apols:, Ron& Sheila Smith, Liz Ellis

 RESCUE-clean up happening last weekend in March- Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 March New HQ organization, we have kept ours stable, emergency phone numbers as before- see leaders' packs (i) preparation is in hand all to schedule- Liz had done briefing packs etc, we have experienced leaders, with additional one on Saturday pm -busiest session. We expect delivery of borrowed kit some time next week. Jenny will then deliver full pack to Ray Friday . Posters/handouts etc going out. (ii) Note black spots etc to report to next meeting (new one -corwen Rd garages, also top Berkshire Drive, entrances to parks iii) delivery of posters, schools leaflets etc and collecting raffle prizes in hand iv) situation re children's certificates unclear , so don't promise anything. However main volunteer attraction are raffle prizes and fun. 	Please come also pass on info including Meeting places Sat 28 March 10-12 at Triangle Sat 28 March2-4 Teviot Rd entrance to Blundells Copse Sun29 March 10-12 Thirlmere rd roundabout entrtnce to Mcilroys park Sun 29 March 2-4 Kentwood hill end of Gypsy Lane
2. Preparing for Globe meeting Wed 15 April : RBC new Neighbourhood Officers- we looked at the explanations and family tree and map sent to Jenny, highways and waste staffing , the intention is to provide 'front line services'' working smoothly and efficiently. Main emphasis seems to be Highways and Waste. We considered the structures in preparation for the April meeting (when Cllr Liz Terry, Mark Smith Interim Head of Street Care , and a Neighbourhood officer will be discussing new structure and arrangements . We discussed and listed points we hope to clarify, services we currently value, what do we hope RBC will provide , and how might help make the new arrangements work efficiently .	Ask us for copies of papers we used, Pass on invite to reps of any other community groups Kentwood Tilehurst or Norcot wards to the meeting See Summary below
3. AOB (i) update re tree planting 5 Crabapples (2 paid for by grant to Reading Tree Wardens and the other 3 by Tilehurst Globe) now safely planted at Walnut Way back of the car park . Arrangements for watering partially sorted . Dunstall Close : Tulip Tree planting (paid for by Tilehurst Globe) in hand., along with discussions re cycle rack soonish and more trees in next planting season. May involve moving some bulbs .Many thanks to RBC teams, and Tree warden network Multi-disciplinary expertise helping to make Tilehurst nicer. (ii) memories project . Steady progress regarding -2 nd edition of booklet , trough	 (i) Complete watering arrangements for both locations. Follow up cycle rack plans and budget/arrangements for up to 5 smaller trees eg Crabs (ii) pass on info encourage more contributions, possibly
 (ii) Interformed project 1. Steady progress regarding 22 reduction of bookter, itodyn leaflet and website. Booklets available free in Tilehurst Battle and Central Libraries. Website additions include photos following on from earlier reminiscences . Talk in Library-Thursday 30 April 10.30 will show off the website and encourage more contributions (iii) bulbs- gaps to remedy next season more snowdrops (left hand side of library- as you face it, under the Rowan at the Triangle,) white and purple striped crocus near Youth and community hall above co-op) ,more at side of small Co-op ? (v) ideas where to plant fruit trees-free trees available for public planting, but problems re fruit (possible use as missiles)- ideas welcome (vi) grant news Stop press –good news :RBC grant application to pay for rent and 2015-16 running costs eg insurance was successful. (vii) future meetings- Wed 15 April: RBC Neighbourhood Officer team as above Wed 20 May: Simon Beasley RBC Highways Wed 9 Dec : Martjin Butler, Reading Buses viii) Maintenance of Setford planter-looks good now- needs weeding Who? 	(iii) pass on suggestions

Neighbourhood Officers and patch working

Questions re structure

- (*i*) what is project officer,
- (ii) what does transfer to street care mean- it seems that this is all street care.
- (iii) Who will do the work spotted- currently lots of problems reported already so are the problems really reporting and progress chasing rather than implementation- is the balance right? Why do we need to chase progress?
 (iv) What chave the birth task reporting arrangements among the phase on the integration of the phase of the
- *(iv)* What about the high tech reporting arrangements- smart phone ap –is it used to the max.

Current situation what will happen in the future?			
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	damage to entrance notice, contractors filling up drainage ditches ,fences, gates		
	Ensure grant-funded work e.g. Forestry Commission undertaken		
	Annual management plan discussed/agreed with locals and RBC officer at (Sept Globe meeting)		
5	Routine care of park- e.g. stream gully clearance reducing flood risk		
6	Commission volunteer groups probation service, business team building e.g. through Connect to do specific practical		
	work in the parks identified in plan (Econet ,CROW etc liaison)		
7	Commission and oversight of contract work in parks-sort out if problems -e.g. not as spec.		
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	Future pattern some questions		
1	Where based? mobile? what pattern to working week? Use cameras sufficient quality for prosecution?, out of hours		
	contacts?		
2	How do patches match with police PCSO patches ? Future of NAG meetings?		
3	Plans to share expertise / use expertise within NO team.		
4	Plans to publicise new arrangements/ induction of key recipients of the services?		

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 18 February 2015

Present: : Liz Ellis (Chair) Jenny Cottee (notes), Carol Mclellan, John Venning, Pam Webb, Tina Allen, Lesley West,. Ray Clayton, Louise Bancroft, Apols:, Ron& Sheila Smith, Pat Ager, Judith Cullen, Cllr Sandra Vickers

Liz revise planting map for **1. Planting sessions (i)** how it went on Saturday 14 Feb. Thanks grass cutters **Jenny** send to all involved : Lots of volunteers- 17 children (Churchend Academy. revised pack to RBC by 1 scouts, guides, rainbows and general public) and 18 adults helped plant March 1500 bulbs (2 varieties of miniature daffs, some iris, and mixed crocus in the grass between Walnut Way and St Michaels Rd .Total of £200 spent . Successful community event, but need to consider arrangements. Need more hand-on guidance available to all children (and some adults) to ensure Planning next time : (ii) adult minimal damage to growing tips when planting - Planning next time : we teams, staggered working want to have achieved a successful community event and minimal losses times eg set up by 8.30am, so will try (a) All holes dug and grass tops removed . Soil separated from grass holes dug by 9.45am, 10into buckets, soil gently sprinkle on top of bulbs. (b) most holes done before 12noon help children planting, children get going so all get enough knowledgeable attention and help. People 12-1.00 final quality rarely read/remember even simple instructions, well- signed samples help but tend monitoring/tweaking and to be obscured- need adults whose task is to ensure planting done well. clearing up 12 noon -1.00pm (ii) plans to plant trees. Following last meeting TG will pay for 4 trees and Reading Tree Wardens will pay for 2. The 5 walnut way flowering crab Jenny to check guidance to apples (with secure post barricades), and the Dunstall Close Tulip tree (RBC grass cutting team, will have a metal guard) will kindly planted by RBC staff very soon- the Jenny and liz update with trees will have arrived by end of Feb.. recent planting pass on to We discussed safe growing – (i) need to ensure tree trunks not damaged RBC by strimmers/cutting blades as has happened in West Berks tree planted Jenny meet with RBC Fairford Rd. personnel re possible cycle rack, tree planting (+ bollard?) (ii) problem driving on grass verge at Dunstall close to ATM to use it : locations to deter motorists bulbs now getting squashed- some success with deterrence but not 100% (liz had put notice(s) up, and jenny put prunings in grass- many motorists had judy liaise with Nick re been deterred from parking on them) childrens keep off notices -asap (i) Group delighted that 2. Tilehurst Memories : (i) booklet issue 1 had been very well Setford's sponsorship has received -good display in the library. Setfords had kindly sponsored enabled a second issue. All issue 2. (1000 copies same content, with Setford logo on front) (ii) website congratulated Liz on -Liz reported tat she had noted down some more excellent memories and excellent work been lent some more photos so website is growing (iii)Please **encourage** (iii) Free Talk re memories and introducing the website for archive pics people with memories and etc Thurs 30 April 10.30 Liz will encourage more contributions or photos etc to share to (iv) **Troughs leaflet** is being printed and will from the library and part of book tickets their entrance display All the suite of materials promote discussion, interest (iv) Encourage people to and sense of place and knowledge of heritage. Tilehurst Library have phone use them. numbers to request top ups, and are the main outlet for all materials, less at Central and Battle. This is leaflet is first of a short series 1. Leaflets/posters to **RESCUE-**cleaning up on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 March 7. schools (late in week of 16 (i) Liz reported that the HQ management and some arrangements will be March) and houses different this year. We have tried to get well ahead with arrangements and around Blundells Copse make everything as familiar as possible. The risk assessments have been (in week of 23 March) done, registration and equipment orders completed for Tilehurst groups (Globe, Armour Rd Residents Assn and Allotments Soc) Team leaders have Jenny distribute information packs thanks to Village Properties. (copying) Posters will soon be equipment ready. Usual problems about limited poster sites and need local publicity to All pass on message re get volunteers-few arrive from central info. important event

2050 Tilehurst – we continued discussion about patterns of daily living 35 years hence- noting already rapid changes in shopping patterns shops/collection points etc, speculating about how people's social needs would be met '

8. AOB (i) Blundells Copse jenny and Liz had met with Dave Booth noting issues for attention-(boundary with resident property, precarious tree near path, some blocked ditches by path,fencing and entrance needing repair). The future mechanism for review etc not clear- a supervisor will be appointed soon .In the mean time we should pass on to head of Parks .Boundary issue with neighbour had been passed on.	Liz/jenny follow up if no news by 1 March
ii) Parking restrictions consultations eg Armour Rd Corwen Rd. The sudden arrival of notices had prompted concerns – on the phone Simon Beasley had emphasized that nothing is decided responses needed etc – Liz reported business and residents concerns- lots of comments being sent in.	Respond
iii) How to reduce nuisance parking on pavements- should we	Agenda soon
 investigate possibility of pavement planters iv) Future meetings jenny reported that a major re-structuring in the ways RBC services are managed (following reduction of income£ £56.8m drop since 2010)-move to 'neighbourhood patch' organization) sensible for TG to consider how too interact with new structures The group also wish to meet Chief Executive of Reading Buses (April meeting) and consider Highways issues in May 	Meeting on 18 March- Rescue and considering revised structure, communication routes Publicize external speakers posters etc
v) West Berkshire consultations about future location of housing etc. We noted different timescales compared with. We recalled the extensive consulta tion stages and the clear timetable that we had followed. Since then some national guidance has changed, so some stages have been curtailed. Many concerned about processes and content-	Respond to west Berks consultation- see website
vi) Churchend Academy children have produced an excellent fun colourful child-friendly map of Blundells Copse- mcillroys in progress. Liz has advised on some technical matters and suggested looking for sponsorship to help with printing costs.	

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 21 January 2015

Present: : Jenny Cottee (notes), Carol Mclellan, John Venning, Judith Cullen, Pam Webb, Tina Allen Lesley West, Cllr Meri O'Connell, Tom Steele. Ray Clayton, Louise Bancroft, Pat Ager Apols: Liz Ellis, Ron& Sheila Smith, Steve Goodman, Cllr Ricky Duveen

1. Local opportunities to help us stay happy and healthy (and possibly reduce

pressure on the NHS): We noted the list collected last meeting and that we had decided to build the list up and try out different opportunities and **report back.** We decided Jenny should keep a consolidated list ,deciding ultimate format later.

Additions at this meeting: Sources of cheap/free local activities: Library has a mass of info for individually planned and organized events close to us (eg bus access) and a bit further away. -see also Parish magazines- eg St Catherines, Berkshire Age UK Directory.Check venues for notices eg Meadway Leisure Centre. Cornwell centre. Web search reveals lots of organized events

Clubs vary -depends on volunteer availability. Check likely venues

2. Planting Trees and flowers in Tilehurst: Updates

(i) Park Lane Roadside verges –Jenny reported that in response to suggestions she had been investigating possibilities to restore compacted verges RBC guidance is that *more grass or flowers-bulbs/wild flowers/annuals in the grass or else suitable trees would be acceptable. Shrubs not a good idea-collect litter.* Jenny had delivered letter to about 90 Park lane residents- (thanks to Village properties for copying costs) asking their opinions- 2 responses- We might be able to get RBC help to add tarmac to places where the dropped kerb does not align with the drive entrance. Further research is needed. and more consultation with residents,RBC highways and planting experts. Care and planning needed- wild flowers need poor soil,but even so will need to sort out compaction and ensure levels correct. May need to remove turf/weeds.... On going discussion will take time

(ii) **Trees** In response to offer of 2 trees from Reading Tree Wardens just before Xmas Jenny had been in discussion with Ceres Estates, RBC Highways and Parks department, also Walnut Way residents and Parkers and Lloyds bank The scheme that has emerged is that Tilehurst Globe should contribute about £500 to the funds available through the Reading Tree Wardens to purchase a total of 6 trees- (5 decorative crabs to be planted at the back of the car park in **Walnut way**., and 1 Tulip Tree at the side of **Dunstall Close**). The meeting looked at photos of the proposed sites, noted that the final planting position of the Tulip Tree might involve re-siting some daffodil bulbs, and might be a compromise between deterring nuisance parking near the cash machine, and the most significant location for a landmark tree. The meeting were delighted with the proposals and decided to vire the funds allocated for a banner and the chestnut slice table to fund the trees. Negotiations re planting arrangements will continue-**look out for more news/requests for help**

iii) bulb planting on Sat Feb 14 10-12noon Jenny reported we have heard from three youth groups that they will bring groups to do planting on the selected date, so the meeting decided we need to ensure safety and manageable location- we will plant bulbs at the large grass patch between Walnut way and St Michaels Rd to strengthen the existing planting. Jenny to contact RBC, publicize and order bulbs Lots of helpers welcome/needed...

3.Tilehurst memories : Update about the booklet and website etc The booklet has been very well received-lots of compliments and demand at the library. We are very pleased with the mention on first page of Tilehurst Directory. Liz found the radio interview scary but interesting. Stetfords have offered to sponsor the cost of issue 2 when needed. It is ready to be printed. Liz added a few pages to the **website**, following tales sent in-see **lower tilehurst** page about Kentwood- and keep checking...

Pat's project is helping people remember and value our heritage / past. Liz has been working on the planned/budgeted trough leaflet to help people notice features of our locality and it is ready for printing.

4 New Year letter: feedback and delivery arrangements. Many thanks to everyone for doing the delivery before Christmas- New year letter seems to have been reasonably well receivedmemories booklet has been most commented on. **Please pass on messages re delivery (gone away etc) asap** so we don't waste cash/effort next year **5. Looking forward to 2050-** (a) We considered *what we want Tilehurst to be like* in groups consolidating at the end.

Consensus : (i) we want it to be green, small areas of amenity space tended and valued , succession planning of trees, housing and infrastructure to match need, all parks still protected, limited back garden infill so not over-bearing.

(ii) Local Centre: varied shops and businesses serving locality thriving. Easy access to countryside, bikes

(iii) We want evidence of our past cherished- used, known about

(b) **To do: consider small steps** could we take individually or as a group to make aspirations more likely- **ideas welcome**

6. AOB (i) Carol is working on our application for **RBC grant**-(to pay for our basic running costs April 2015-March 2016 (due in soon) to enable sponsors' money to be spent on projects eg memories project, planting etc..

ii) the meeting **decided to permit virement** (movement of money from one category in this case the banner and table for the chestnut slice) to another (in this case to meet the cost of the trees (item 2).Slippage and problems had made this possible and good opportunity should be taken.

(iii) Cleaning the noticeboard- contact jenny please to help