

TILEHURST GO LOCAL FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT (GLOBE)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT YOUTH HALL, METHODIST CHURCH, 26 SCHOOL ROAD, TILEHURST, RG31 5AN ON 18TH MARCH 2020

Present: Liz Ellis (Chair), Jenny Cottee, Carol McLellan (Treasurer), Jean Rainey, Julie Alexander, David Glanville (Note: We sat 6 feet apart and had no physical contact during the meeting)

Apologies: Judy Cullen, Kate Jones, JJ Lally

1. RESCUE Report

- 1.1 The RESCUE event over the weekend of 14/15 March went well. Twenty-four adults and 7 (accompanied) children gathered 43 bags of rubbish, 13 bags of general recyclables and two bags of glass over the two days. Some larger items were also collected including a wetsuit recovered from a hedge! The numbers were comparable to last year's.
- 1.2 Liz had distributed certificates to the children who took part and the Raffle prizes generously donated by local businesses (voucher from Tyler's Rest & Lemon Plaice, bottle of wine from The Plough and The Prince pubs); all were much appreciated. **Liz** would send an event report to the sponsors. The rubbish had been collected promptly as agreed by RBC and participants had dealt with the recyclables. Liz said that organising the event was harder than last year as new people from 'ConnectReading' were involved, also some of the pickers supplied were faulty.
- 1.3 Those present thought that we could carry out a few smaller, non-sponsored, litter collections ourselves. Dave said that he could help with the removal of collected rubbish.

2. Tree Planting

- 2.1 Reading Tree Wardens had contacted us asking for help planting 11 trees in Blagrove Rec and Norcot Road as a result of their successful grant bid to Trees for Cities using our map and lists. Liz had emailed the request to GLOBE members and enough had volunteered for the planting on Monday 23rd March. Andy Gillespie, Head of RBC Parks Dept had asked us to let him know where we were planting the trees; **Liz** would contact him. **Jenny** was still trying to find out who owned the land by the Post Office and the Clinic in Corwen Road.

3. Planting Event

- 3.1 We agreed that the next planting event would be on Sunday 29th March between 11am and 1pm starting at Walnut Way behind the Co-op. Volunteers would be asked to bring any plants they had to spare; Jenny would bring some donated foxgloves and other plants.

Date of Next Meeting:

Please note that due to the Covid-19 (Coronavirus) restrictions the monthly meetings have been suspended until further notice.

Some planting events will be held where safe working is possible including on Sunday 29th March.

It is possible that the Tilehurst Village Fete may be cancelled and that therefore we will not be having a stall there this year. We hope that the July Walk will still be able to be held.

Keep a look out on our Website and Facebook page for updates.

**TILEHURST GO LOCAL FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT (GLOBE)
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT YOUTH HALL, METHODIST CHURCH, 26 SCHOOL ROAD,
TILEHURST, RG31 5AN ON 19TH FEBRUARY 2020**

Present: Liz Ellis (Chair), Jenny Cottee, Carol McLellan (Treasurer), Pat Ager, Lisa Moon, Pam Webb, Jean Rainey, Richard Buckingham, Louise Bancroft, Jane Sherwood, Maureen Cripps, Carol Brickley, John Venning, Carolyn Ribbles, Joan MacPhee, William MacPhee, Helen Alexander, David Pick, Heidi Evans, Helen Whitfield, Steve Goodman, Phillip Allen, Cllr Ricky Duveen, Julie Alexander, David Glanville

Apologies: Judy Cullen, Kate Jones

1. Recycling

- 1.1 There was a lively discussion about local & non-local recycling including: RBC's recycling and waste disposal survey; Liz would respond on behalf of GLOBE. John Venning's local recycling chart was available on the GLOBE website. RBC circulated leaflets of items for kerbside collection and recycling at the RE3 Waste Centre [West Berkshire Council had their own version of these]. Hotel Chocolat in the Oracle accepted some black plastic but not all types. It was worth asking companies not to use polystyrene packaging. Co-op no longer recycled plastic carrier bags, supposedly because they were replacing their own bags with compostable ones but this had not yet happened. What sort of plastic bags could be recycled at larger supermarkets? RBC should have local collection points for recyclables unsuitable for the red bin. Carol Brickley explained the Terracycle scheme that she ran at The Gate (Baptist Church on the Meadway). See Terracycle website for details of all local collections. Newbury&Thatcham Council website had a lot of useful information about recycling. People were generally confused about what could be put in the red bin. Lots of things could be recycled but people didn't know what/ where/couldn't be bothered. Jenny distributed a list of Triangle signs which showed what could be recycled. There were too many different recycling symbols; some only indicated that the manufacturer recycled not that the item the symbol was on was recyclable. RBC is adding food waste to its kerbside collections (in a separate bin) and was happy to come to a GLOBE meeting to talk about this. We should ask RE3 to widen the scope of what they recycled centrally. How much in recycling bins was rejected? How clean did stuff have to be? Had anyone had spoken to local shops and suppliers about the amount of packaging they used? Liz said that she had asked the Co-op to open bags of vegs so people could buy small amounts of stuff instead of buying more than they needed and wasting it and they had done so, so speaking to local suppliers can work.

2. RESCUE

- 2.1 RESCUE collections: March 14th 10am-12 noon Mcllroys/Norcot Rd/Gypsy Lane/ Lousehill Copse along Tay Rd meet at Tyler's Rest/Pottery Rd and 2pm-4pm Blaggrave Rec/around THA shed Gratwicke Rd/Downing Rd/back of British Legion Kentwood Hill meet at the Triangle Co-op. March 15th 10am-12 noon Blundell's Copse meet at Teviot Road entrance. Collection was done by RBC via Connect Reading and paid for by Thames Water.

3. AOB

- 3.1 The Tree Wardens needed information about ownership of some of the sites for new trees: verges by Post Office, Corwen Rd clinic, Links Drive/Church End Lane. Jenny would liaise with them about this. Ricky suggested planting trees along the soon-to-be-installed bund on Church End Lane. The Post Office would not display our leaflets and the Library wouldn't let us have our own stand. Pam Webb would deal with batteries collected at Butts News.

Next Meeting: Wed 18th March 7:30 pm, Youth Hall, Methodist Church, School Road

TILEHURST GO LOCAL FOR A BETTER ENVIRONMENT (GLOBE)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT YOUTH HALL, METHODIST CHURCH, 26 SCHOOL ROAD, TILEHURST, RG31 5AN ON 15TH JANUARY 2020

Present: Jenny Cottee (Chair), Carol McLellan (Treasurer), Judy Cullen, Lesley West, Pat Ager, Lisa Moon, Pam Webb, Jean Rainey

1. Apologies

1.1 Apologies were received from Liz Ellis.

2. Newsletter

2.1 Jenny thanked everyone who had delivered the latest Newsletter and asked that they **let Liz know** of any recipients no longer requiring it so that she could update the circulation list. Jenny praised the new layout of the Newsletter and suggested that the date of the next meeting should be mentioned specifically, to highlight this for all.

3. New Barbers Near The Library

3.1 Liz had reported that there had been incidents of rowdy behaviour, possibly related to drug dealing, near the new barbers behind the Library. She had been advised that concerns about such behaviour should be reported to the Police. Any concerns about possible drug dealing elsewhere in Tilehurst should also be reported to the Police.

4. Leaflets In The Library

4.1 Liz had reported that the Library would not allow us to have our own rack for leaflets etc and asked for ideas for other places to display them. One suggestion was the Post Office as customers often had to queue there and might welcome some reading material; **Carol** agreed to make enquiries.

5. Shop Closures

5.1 C&G Newsagents was closing down and as they are one of GLOBE's sponsors Jenny asked for suggestions for replacements; these included the Asda garage shop in School Road, the picture framers in Park Lane, the Nepalese Restaurant on the corner of School Road, the two Funeral Directors in School Road, the carpet shop and Lemon Plaice fish & chip shop on Norcot Road and the Tilehurst Directory. Carol cautioned that we did not want too many sponsors because, as our activities were limited by volunteer numbers, we might not be able to spend all the money. There was some general discussion about various shop closures and the prevalence of hairdressers and beauty parlours in the area. Jenny recalled there being some legislation that controlled the number of the same type of shop in any one area but was not sure if it still applied. **Lesley** agreed to check. The meeting agreed that to keep the variety of shops and services in Tilehurst, residents needed to shop locally and support local businesses – 'use it or lose it'.

6. Planting

6.1 Jenny suggested sometime in March for a bulb/seed/plant planting weekend on the bunds in Walnut Way or in another location, maybe Links Drive, depending on who had plants and how many there were; we may be able to plant up more than one place. In order to give people time to gather together any plants they might have, and bearing in mind the RESCUE event scheduled for 13/14 March, it was agreed that the **weekend of 28/29 March** would be best.

7. RESCUE/Rubbish Clearance

7.1 Liz had asked if anyone wanted to take charge of the RESCUE event. Those present agreed that it would be **useful to have a list of tasks** required to see who could take on which one [NB Need to discuss the organising of the next RESCUE event at the February meeting].

Lesley mentioned her frustration with getting the Council to remove fly-tipped waste from Blundells Copse. Jenny advised reporting it via the call centre as this generated a complaint number which could be chased up. **Lesley** agreed to keep a log of her contacts with the Council on this issue.

8. Battery Collection

8.1 **Judy** agreed to arrange battery collection from the recycling point at C&G Hardware. **Pam Webb and Kate Jones** would discuss who would do the one at Butts News (there was no longer one at Today's Local – **Jenny** would mention this to Liz).

9. Posters

9.1 Jenny reported that the Library wanted our posters to be portrait rather than our usual landscape but that she had said no. Most of those present agreed that they should remain landscape since they felt that portrait would mean that text would have to be made too small and would not be so easy to read. Liz asked everyone to **keep an eye on our posters** in the Library and, if they had been covered up by someone else's, to remove the offender! **Jenny** would do this. **Jean** offered to take over producing the posters; **Jenny** would send her details of what was required.

10. Stall At Tilehurst Summer Fete

10.1 Liz had asked if someone else could take over organising and running the information stall at the annual Village Fete. Those present agreed that it would be best to break down the project into individual activities e.g. preparing the quiz, preparing the display boards, gathering the prizes, putting up the marquee, manning the stall etc etc and different people could take on different tasks. **Jenny would ask Liz** to prepare a list of tasks and issues for discussion at a future meeting.

11. RBC Biodiversity Action Plan

11.1 Our representative on the RBC Biodiversity Plan Group, **Julia** Waters, was at their second meeting tonight and would report back.

12. Any Other Business

12.1 Pat asked if there had been further progress on the tree planting project. **Jenny** would contact the Tree Warden Network, which was running the project, to find out.

12.2 Jenny reported on a very interesting talk she had attended on development plans in and around Reading Town Centre; there were planning applications pending for 6485 new 'dwelling units' and applications for 2840 units had already approved. Those present were concerned that there was no indication of additional facilities or open spaces for these homes. **Jenny** thought that there were regulations requiring the provision of open spaces, particularly playgrounds for new homes and would check the RBC Revised Local Plan Open Space Policy and report back.

STOP PRESS: Jenny had received an invitation for GLOBE to attend the next RBC Cleaner Air and Safety Forum meeting at 6:30pm on Wednesday 29th January 2020 in Committee Rooms 4a & 4b at the Civic Offices. She would forward more info to anyone interested.

**Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 19th February 7:30 pm at
Youth Hall, Methodist Church, 26 School Road, Tilehurst, RG31 5AN**