

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 16 Nov 2016

Present: Jenny Cottee (notes) , Judy Cullen, Pam Webb, Sheila Smith, Christel & Clive Burns, Carol Mclellan, Liz Ellis (chair), Cllr Ricky Duveen Lesley West ,Diane Augustus, Ray Clayton, Ricky Josey

Apols: Lynda Chater , Cllr Tom Steele, , Pat Ager

<p>1 Buses in Reading- multi award-winning local company (see their website for details). We studied the up-to date route-maps (kindly provided by Reading Buses) to see recent changes, and discuss issues ,possible improvements etc</p> <p>Re Bus Routes</p> <p>We like</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access to Ikea by bus from town centre, Tilehurst, Dee park • Improved service to top of Mayfair • Accessible buses-ramps down etc,good bus driver help (usually) -well trained staff and friendly... • Clean, wll ordered-no punch-ups or fear of trouble late at night etc • Much better than buses else-where in ally categories-frequency etc <p>We think improved publicity needed for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 104 country/village route to Newbury from Walnut Way- flag up at other bus stops? • advance purchase, occasional user and oyster -type scheme .The no change rule causes LOTS of annoyance to visitors and deters occasional users-the first thing people talk about... We want lots of publicity (all media) <p>We think important improvements needed quite urgently</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasonably frequent bus route between the Triangle from Overdown Rd- (shops,railway station etc- there is no sensible way to get from Tilehurst station to the Triangle nor yet to get from Overdown rd shops to the library, banks etc) • Convenient way to coach terminus from Tilehurst now it is no longer at Sainsburys (junction 12 M4) . Coach travel now much more inconvenient -and additional cost <p>Re Bus Vehicles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We want audible announcements of destination, which stop etc -very helpful for visitors, and locals dozing off • We want lots of publicity (all media) for advance purchase, occasional user and oyster -type scheme .The no change rule causes LOTS of annoyance to visitors and deters occasional users-the first thing people talk about... <p>Conclusion- Comments were made in context of unanimous support for the buses-critical freinds</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Jenny</p> <p>Pass on notes to Reading Buses</p> <p>Put up bus route maps in library and TG noticeboard</p> <p>Pass on library request for Bus timetables in Library</p>
<p>2 Phasing out Red Phone boxes- We considered the official correspondence about possibility of community buying (very cheaply) phone boxes (phone removed) for use like informal information swop, lending library, art display location for de-fibrillator etc</p> <p>We noted the phone boxes in Tilehurst that are to be phased out, and considered if such purchase would be sensible- decided none fit the bill</p>	<p>Thanks to Emmer Green Resdients assn for passing on info</p>
<p>3. AOB (i) Important changes re rubbish an re-cycling collections from April (ii) NAG meeting reported success with installing fencing etc to prevent encampments. And prompting inclusion of local location for Travellers site (iii)No firm news regarding RESCUE -or adopt a street funding from TESCO (iv) Globe members will tackle planter in fron t of 5the element hairdresser- aim for spare permanent planting and some bulbs/ bedding- and home-made compost (v) grant idea- galaxy -for community cohesive event (vi) next meeting 14 DEC presentation on trees and buildings co-existing, and Xmas nibbles</p>	<p>Keep a look out</p> <p>Carol i/c</p> <p>Jenny check up</p>

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 19 Oct 2016

Present: Cllr Tom Steele, Roger Sym,, Jenny Cottee (notes) , Judy Cullen, Pat Ager, Carol Mclellan, Liz Ellis (chair),Cllr Ricky Duveen Lesley West John Venning,
Apols: Lynda Chater

RESPONSES and ACTIONS needed many items please e.g. see items 1,3,

<p>1. Bulb planting at St Michaels’ Rd /Walnut Way 8 October-(i) The usual arrangements worked well. Allocated bulbs (daffodils, crocus scilla and multi-headed tulips (all miniature to avoid wind damage) but disappointing that so few young helpers- but enough adults to get the bulbs planted. Tricky to estimate how many bulbs needed- we need to have spares available ii)future suggested locations-on bus routes /high visibility spots needed-we will maintain a list as ideas flow in. eg junction of Park land and Halls Rd Liz will produce a revised map to tell the RBC grass cutters where the bulbs are.</p>	<p>All send in ideas re bulb planting future locations</p>
<p>2. RESCUE March 2017.(i) Disappointing that there was no firm news re funding possibilities for RESCUE March 2017 and beyond main problem for us seems to be availability of arrangements to dispose of rubbish collected-sometimes very bulky stuff from the woods.(ii) we discussed alternative patterns. We decided to aim for 4 sessions in March - could be separated out-some weekday some weekend, depending on mechanism for removal of the rubbish we collect. Loan of equipment and central publicity less important to us. (iii) We will consider and make final decision about arrangements at the meeting 18 Jan 2017 latest.</p>	<p>All: Pass on any firm news about RESCUE funding.</p> <p>Agenda jan meeting-key decision date</p>
<p>3 . RBC Adopt-a- street and /or Tilehurst globe litter team ? i) We discussed the proposed adopt-a street scheme- very similar to our litter-team where people volunteer to look after an area near their home- use globe high viz jacket& picker. We give them contact details of RBC officer to sort out occasional problems- generally litter goes into the volunteers home bins (grey or red) . The similar excellent RBC adopt -a street- scheme is in final vote for TESCO funding in the first 2 weeks of November (Napier Rd TESCO :funded by carrier bag 5p levy). RBC bid went through to final so will receive at least £8,000 for jackets pickers etc possibly first prize of £12,000ALL VOTE PLEASE go to TESCO at least once between 31st October and 13th November and help boost this scheme. (get a voting token when you shop</p> <p>ii) Clear up your patch? We already have 5 people who clear up their local patch- please contact us to swell the numbers , improve coverage and get your pet hate blackspot cleared up</p>	<p>(i) ALL VOTE for RBC bid at TESCO Napier rd – contact Globe for press release and more details but just go to the shop...</p> <p>(ii) Volunteers Contact Tilehurst Globe with details of your patch and to receive your picker and jacket</p> <p>(iii)Jenny identify landlord of litter blackspot carpark area (at Triangle-Dominos etc)</p>
<p>4 Blundells Copse (i) The chippings and logs were deposited in error- will be removed Virginia Creeper will be cleared by restorative justice scheme. We need to identify help to, clear the drainage ditches (ii) Heritage lottery bid possibilities -linking with other West Reading woodlands? Jenny had spoken with Paul Jamieson-Forrest TCV about Issues and possibilities-of a joint</p>	<p>i)Jenny contact TVC re ditches</p> <p>ii) All consider contacts re research interests- and experience/skills to embed Heritage aspect of bid-</p>

<p>collaborative bid. The group discussed Heritage focus- unique oasis in West Reading-how did it manage to survive- (investigate when surrounding houses were built, how planning protection achieved, industrial aspects-clay withies, lime ,) .New bid needs to complement Forestry Commission funded improvements. We hope for interpretation boards to include maps showing entrances (helpful addition to existing signage inside the copse) we plan to attend meeting convened, to consider/plan the stage 1 bid (iii) thanks to Judy and Pat for latest summary news</p>	<p>essential for success. Berks History Soc? Who to do the work? Liz'sTG www.walkontheweb.org.uk. has some history in it about the West Reading Woodlands More needed</p>
<p>5.New Projects? (i) planters on school rd- still thinking and waiting for RBC guidance. (ii) give way to pedestrians notices at garage exit- near the zebra?</p>	
<p>6.Street Tree planting – priorities. We have already requested completing the planting at Dunstall Close/Lloyds bank area, pass on any more ideas for the planting season .</p>	<p>ALL send in ideas sap</p>
<p>7. Updates - Green Bins-annual charge starts 1 April- we fear consequences and little income gain for RBC. Tilehurst Globe meetings will include An illustrated talk about Buildings and Trees- structural issues on 14 December from a member of The Reading Tree Network Local Planning news: Tilehurst Neighbourhood Plan (West Berkshire is coming on- you can see news on the website and all welcome to attend a monthly meeting ,completion is scheduled for Sept 2017. Reading Local Plan -consultation on the draft will happen in the Spring- Tilehurst Globe meeting in April will be about it and how to have your say.</p>	<p>http://tilehurstpcnp.org.uk/</p>
<p>8. AOB (i) propagating for planting out trough/planters- we will need plants- please think of us .(ii) areas of rough grass etc for wild flowers? Please identify , and contact us for ideas, help with seeds etc</p>	<p>Establish List of possible wild flower planting areas</p>

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 21 Sept2016

Present: Kate Jones, Sheila Smith, Jenny Cottee (notes) , John Venning, Keir Robinson (new member) , Judy Cullen, Pat Ager, Carol McClellan, Liz Ellis (chair), Cllr Meri O’Connell, Pam Webb, Ricky Josey (RESCUE), Apols (mostly due to routine commitments) : Lynda Chater , Cllr Tom Steele, Lyn Jones, Roger Sym, Julie Alexander, Natalie Ganpatsingh

<p>1. AGM- we considered the annual report that had been circulated in advance and used it during the meeting. (a) we noted that the financial summary for the year ending 31.March 2016 on page 2 had been scrutinized by our external scrutineer and that he had signed it off as being a fair and correct summary, and that grants had been spent on the purposes for which they had been allocated. The meeting accepted the report. b) we discussed and considered the issues raised on page 1 – the key points are listed below. c) we agreed changes to the key members of Tilehurst Globe that the substantive list is Carol McClellan, Judy Cullen, Liz Ellis, Jenny Cottee, Pam Webb, Pat Ager, The bank signatories are unchanged as any 2 of the first four listed d) financial situation Sept 2016 and anticipating the year starting April 2017. Carol had prepared a report showing the situation mid - September and that we anticipate we will start the next financial year with a balance of £# based on previous spending patterns. We thanked Carol for the report and decided (i) to look for cost savings- e.g modest reductions –(ii) review the income situation probably seeking to increase the secure donations total.</p>	<p align="center">Inform grants donors</p> <p>Sow perennials for planters asap Re-consider planting ‘in the green’ feb event.</p> <p align="center">Review Jan?</p>
<p>2. Council cuts following central govt reduced funding We noted that the following 3 items (3,4,5) are consequences of RBC cuts. As well as these listed there are many cuts we are already feeling-staff reductions in all sections mean than it is difficult to get any response from RBC personnel re promised follow up to current projects (eg parking on pavements, planters) and there is little clarity about what those who remain can manage to get done in such reduced hours or ‘family tree’ structure.</p>	
<p>3 The future of RESCUE . Ricky explained the investigations and discussions proceeding to see if there are any modifications possible to ensure that some kind of RESCUE might happen in spite of the grave problems posed by removal of RBC funding for management and (even more significant) removal and disposal of rubbish collected. The situation is very fluid- news expected before October At present there are no funded plans for autumn 2016 RESCUE- (Tilehurst Globe has not participated in this autumn event in the past) nor for Spring 2017 RESCUE (Tilehurst Globe and 2 other Tilehurst Groups have taken part for many years) Members were grateful for the update and efforts being made..Tilehurst Globe will explore any possibilities that emerge and try to continue this important community clean -up event</p>	<p>Ricky will update all groups as news emerges</p> <p align="center">Major item in October meeting</p>
<p>4 Annual charge for Green bin use ? Many feel let-down about the proposal to make an annual charge: a reversal of the original policy when the green bins were introduced to reduce land-fill charges etc. We had been alerted to this by members, and one has initiated a petition. This is one cash saving proposal of many unpleasant options for decision by the council.</p>	<p align="center">Individual responses</p>
<p>5. Tilehurst Library Hours cut to 27 per week. We note the outline changed hours- decision not yet final. Very long detailed report, no comment about ignoring the West Berkshire users (40%?) so reducing Tilehurst branch usage stats. No hope re more space, no comment re Sunday opening, disappointing that no local book drop-off proposed, disappointing that proposed closing days of Battle and Tilehurst Branches coincide.</p>	<p align="center">Watch out for final decision</p>
<p>6. Tree warden Tree walk leaflets We are delighted to have received a few copies of the suite of tree-walk leaflets produced by the Reading Tree warden network- These excellent leaflets help people recognize trees in their familiar surroundings and provide useful introductions to new areas. See all the leaflets here http://www.readingtrewardens.org.uk/.</p>	<p align="center">Invite Tree warden speaker on tree - related topics eg succession planning</p>
<p>7. LED street Lights Despite national and international concern the new blue-rich street LED street lights are being ‘rolled-out’. Some members are pleased with increased visibility others don’t like them at all.member Tanja is the contact</p>	
<p>8. Bulb Planting Sat 8 Oct 10- 12 noon. Walnut way/St Michaels rd grass area .</p>	<p align="center">Adults and children welcome</p>
<p>9. Blundells Copse (i) This month has been in past years the time for an annual review of maintenance, undertaken and planned. It had been a condition of grant funding as well as being helpful. Although mowing the path edges has the done, there is considerable uncertainty about who will do other maintenance. Good news -japanese knot- weed seems to have been killed off. But there seems to be no one eg to maintain the drainage ditches that reduce path flooding problems .Problems with nettles meeting over top of path.... (ii) Eco-net meeting included a proposal to seek grant-funding for woodlands in west reading- eg maps at all entrances or interpretation boards- group feeling was that maps would be good.</p>	<p align="center">Judy will monitor Copse sending a monthly report to Tilehurst Globe for onward requests</p> <p align="center">Jenny to follow up liaise</p>

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 15 June 2016

Present: Jenny Cottee, Ray Clayton, Lesley West, Judy Cullen, Pat Ager, Carol Mcllellan, Liz Ellis, Lynda Chater

<p>1. What did people say at the Show and reflections on how it went, what we learnt We thought the generally show was very successful and that our stall had worked. The corner site layout helped to encourage people to venture in; the quiz was very interesting. Thanks to Lucy and regulars there were enough helpers on the stall over the (longer) duration of the show.</p> <p>Litter quiz :How long does it take to rot? We discussed the quiz which was quite tricky (no one got more than 50% right). Liz had delivered the prizes kindly donated by The Lemon Plaiice, Tilehurst Village Butchers, The Plough and The Co-op in School Road. The quiz had prompted lots of discussion at the show. We decided to try to extend its impact and offer it to schools and youth organisations to use as they wish. We decided to share out the tasks and see what we could achieve :Jenny to produce an introductory information sheet for members to deliver (and hopefully talk about to head teacher or someone in charge)</p>	<p>Liz following up contacts and adding to lists</p> <p>1.members deliver to schools 2.Invite comments and responses</p>
<p>2. The summer walk : Wednesday 20 July 7.00pm Bran Close entrance to Blundells Copse We decided on Blundells for a leisurely summer stroll in a very local wood. (note the time) We will chat and look at changes over recent years, and how plans to maintain and improve it are shaping up.</p>	<p>Suggest to possible participants.</p>
<p>3. Summer holiday break- things to check/catch up etc – We discussed things to be done during the summer break before our next meeting 7.30pm on Wed 21 September (to include the AGM) for which Carol will have prepared the accounts summary and there will be an outline of future activities and plans for the era with no RBC grant. Liz will be contacting existing sponsors about contribution levels. We plan to have another bulb planting event- in October and anticipate Library news, Ikea opening locally will have happened</p>	<p>Pass on ideas about activities, projects and speakers</p>
<p>4. Promotion Lynda has been working on eye catching wizzy update to the website to be unveiled soon. We need to use all kinds of media and aim to work with many partner groups and all ages keep on thinking</p>	<p>Try things out pass on ideas</p>

FREE OFFER to schools organisations and individuals :Here are the answers to the 2016 quiz. We hope that schools and other groups will find it fits in with their priorities and can use it. Please let us know what you think and what you did . No time limit

How long does it take these items of litter to rot down?

	Item	Answer	Alternative answers
1	Aluminium can	500 years	
2	Apple core	2 months	
3	Cardboard	2 months	
4	Chewing gum	Never	
5	Cigarette filter	10 to 12 years	
6	Crisp Packet	100 years	
7	Glass Bottle	1 million years	
8	Milk Carton	5 years	
9	Nappy (used!)	550 years	75 years
10	Newspaper	2 months	
11	Paper towel	1 month	
12	Plastic bag	20 years	100 years
13	Plastic food container	80 years	
14	Plastic Foam Cup	50 years	
15	Styrofoam food box	Never	
16	Tin can	50 years	

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 18 May 2016

Present: Jenny Cottee, Ray Clayton, Lesley West, Judy Cullen, Pat Ager, Carol McLellan, John Venning, Natalie Ganpatsingh **Apologies** had been received from Liz Ellis and Lynda Chater

<p>1. Library Consultation. We noted that the consultation had closed on the previous Monday . All who wished to had sent in comments. We had found the questions asked frustrating and limiting. In respect to Tilehurst Library clearly there were very few , if any, fund raising possibilities given the limited size of the library and lack of public access toilet. We had found many ways of increasing use of the library but not without investment. We were very unhappy about the nature of the questioning of the opening hours- weekend and late night opening was severely curtailed in the (Aunt Sally?) suggested opening hours. It seems silly that Battle and Tilehurst Library should have the same single late night opening . The level of public involvement and discussion should be raised before decisions were made- we felt bounced into unsatisfactory solutions. Issues such as social isolation, need for safe welcoming places all the week – alternatives only seem to be say The Link-church run so cannot be expected to be open on a Sunday</p>	<p>Use display at the show to raise discussion about opening hours eg (i) weekend (ii) late night Which days etc</p> <p>Jenny check on arrangements for report on consultation and next steps</p>
<p>2. Update re Organised Activities in Local Woods. Nature Nurture etc Natalie told us how the safari in Lousehill on Saturday had attracted 200 people for family fun- many had lived close by for years but not ventured in to the woods, seen the pond etc. The activities appealed to many ages- sufficiently challenging and fun too. Lots of different activities many different ages and in different areas of the woods. This had been the first of a series of events funded by Catalyst Housing. Another exciting development is support for the Friends of Lousehill group to do practical tasks and strengthen the group. Tasks will follow on , from some excellent work done by restorative justice tackling large difficult tasks. We discussed the need for a range of tasks to suit personnel available We compared notes about different groups we knew of in West Berkshire and Reading and schools helping young people and families enjoy the woods learn and explore. Swoping contacts was very productive. This 'outreach' work is enabling many more to find out about and use magnificent facilities on their doorstep</p>	<p>Tilehurst Globe display at the Show to include samples of Nature-nurture info and materials publicity for forthcoming events colouring/painting table for children?</p>
<p>3. Planning our future- Jenny reported progress made since last meeting in trying to increase our income- Liz has had some preliminary discussions with sample sponsors , and has produced two standing order forms (for monthly or annual donations) .The next step on this front would be to decide how to publicize/level of publicity(We have made less progress with our other task- recruitment so we have people to do the work that sponsors and the general public value so much. We need a steady flow of recruits in to offset the losses when people move, or become less energetic due to passing years/ changes in circumstances. . We discussed having tasks available to suit different interests and capabilities-paperwork and routine tasks appeal to some. Need to talk through and think carefully</p>	<p>Next agenda- (i) wording for publicity-NB voluntary people give time and/or cash (ii) recruitment</p> <p>NB Display and helpers on stand</p>
<p>4. Tilehurst Globe stall at the show. Jenny reported that Liz has a (free) quiz in hand.. Liz had remembered what we said after last year's show- we need to attract people into the gazebo so they can read more and learn more about Globe. Need to entice people in. We discussed the stall layout to attract people into the gazebo. The second aim would be to try to find future members . We discussed motivation- main factor seems to be wanting to get things done- achievement, manageable tasks, having help to tackle different problems We talked through possible content of the displays, arrangements etc. noted problems caused by calendar-(half term) and longer opening hours so less time to set up display etc.</p>	
<p>5. AOB. (i) Updating contact list- need to keep this up and remind people to tell us of changes (ii) Shop window posters- Thanks to Pat who has taken on Tina's round since she moved- Lesley reported all had gone well so far- we sent good wishes. (iii) Blundells- concern re tree. Judy and Jenny reported how concern about apparent improper moving a fence to enclose a tree had been sorted out- helpful response from RBC Parks after we had passed on neighbours concern- all clarified and is OK- Tree protected by TPO land ownership clarified.</p>	<p>Need to remind people Tilehurst Globe can help sort out concerns- send messages to right people</p>

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 20 April 2016

Present: Liz Ellis, Pam Webb, Jenny Cottee, Ray Clayton, Lesley West, Tina Allen, Pat Ager, Carol McLellan, Norma Wilkie, Lynda Chater, Pam Sands, Sheila Smith, Joan Macphee, Lynne Jones, John Venning, Cllr Ricky Duveen, Rachel Chilton

1. Library Review- Stage 2 Liz explained that Reading Council is holding the second stage (and final) stage of the consultation about the Library Service. **Closing date for replies is 16 May. Tilehurst Globe will not make a group response- it is up to individuals to answer-either on line, or in a letter.** There are booklets in the library that explain the proposals (pg 10 for Tilehurst) and ask the questions.

Tilehurst Globe will concentrate on the **proposals for Tilehurst Library**— how to increase community use, reduce opening hours and save money.

A. Increase Community Use -these points were made in discussion: Available space and facilities are very limited- only two rooms and a lobby down-stairs, no public toilet (there might be some space available upstairs- needs checking out) Assuming no possibility of even modest expansion. Current community events (monthly talks) can only accommodate 18 people- frequently fully booked months ahead. Some events make eg craft sessions make borrowing books difficult since space is so constricted. The childrens library area (even though more space) is only used for childrens events ('Head office decision') We will check what upstairs facilities, but even though there is a shortage of meeting places available for clubs etc in Tilehurst, there seems to be minimal scope for community use outside the official opening hours- costs for opening security etc.

Suggestions to increase community use

- 1. Use Childrens area** for popular activities for adults(during the day so more can fit in-hence increase income a bit. le Do not restrict use of childrens area to only children
- 2. Daily coffee mornings (or afternoons?) not just weekly,** (Tilehurst is very short of places where people can meet up -help combat loneliness etc) (who pays?)
- 3 Use the foyer for displays (to rotate with sales displays) – by local societies etc- to be booked in advance-eg art work,** one off costs would be some pinboard -admin could be run by volunteers eg Tilehurst Globe -there might also be space in childrens area- would encourage members of the societies to venture in ...
- 4. Children's art and craft and activity sessions** in school holiday time (who to organize- childrens centre?) can charge for these

Ways of promoting use of the library by more residents and different ages /backgrounds

- 4. Publicize** availability of periodicals, and consider new ones eg have beano in childrens section,
- 5. Consider relocating** the teen readers section from the childrens section
- 6. Electronic lending library:** sell cheap kindles have kindles available to borrow, tuition in using in using Kindles, sort out the IT so that more than one reader may borrow IT book at the same time
- 7. Advertise facilities widely-** eg outside the library so nonusers find out what there is...Tilehurst Directory? Show quiz?
Photocopy and fax available
- 8. Find a way that users can have printing done-** take in a USB stick get printing done? Like snappy snaps?
- 9. Make things easy for users** – eg Enable tilehurst library users to have an icon on the library computer screens so you can click and see Tilehurst features- eg AmDram, Tilehurst memories website etc. This seems rather like more autonomy for Tilehurst Library/librarian to make local decisions. We want a Community Hub- virtual or real.
- 10. More publicity for existing facilities-** eg magazine swap, and **reinstate or introduce others** eg book sales
- 11. Ask children** -eg via schools what would you like in the library?
- 12. What can you find in your library?**-event, questionnaire, etc- basically few people know about what is on offer...
- 13. What are practicalities of other services-** jigsaw club /swap?

NB all comments regarding publicity mean publicize outside the library as well as inside- not everyone even goes in...and even when you are in it is easy not to notice what there is.. **A recurring theme was to empower the Tilehurst Librarian to make decisions to benefit our community.**

B. Discussion about the suggested opening hours

How were these hours arrived at? We note that current timetables events eg Rhyme time are protected-**but** a) Were library staff consulted or **was data on usage throughout the week collected?** On observation the middle of the day (10.00am -

2.00 pm) *is the least busy time...* so why is this period sacrosanct?. What about Sunday opening to attract families? Would it not be better to be closed 2 days per week than have such restricted hours? Few people seemed to be content with the suggested revised hours-

C. Responding, having your say and securing maximum response

NB a) Everyone needs to respond individually- see pg 10-11 and **say what the effect of the proposals would have on you and your family..**

b) pass on info to friends and families-maximum responses from all age groups needed. We decided to contact schools to pass on information and encourage prompt responses. Although may 16 seems a long time away there are bank holidays etc...so get your responses in soon

2. Next steps for Tilehurst Globe to secure our future.

A. Finance- Next March, when the RBC grant finishes our income will be reduced by about 50%.We need regular income to cover routine costs like insurance, rent etc. We agreed three possible approaches to the problem last month- (i) ask sponsors to consider increasing their monthly donation (ii) seek more sponsors (iii) accept voluntary donations from members/friends- eg small standing order arrangement.

We considered these alternatives and decided to proceed with (i) , .There are many issues about accepting voluntary donations- does it affect the ethos of the group etc- after considerable debate we decided to progress slowly and make final decision re (ii) at May meeting

B .Recruitment of new blood- succession planning- we had talked about this at last meeting and are reaching out more effectively but noted some links seem broken. We did not re-visit at this meeting

Liz will contact sponsors

Agenda May meeting- prepare standing order forms

3,Tilehurst (Parish-ie West Berkshire) NeighbOURhood Plan. Lynda reminded us of the second drop in session happening on 23 April- although relating to West Berkshire parish of Tilehurst all interested are welcome.

4. Updates and AOB – (i) keep on **looking at the websites- Tilehurstglobe** has links to Tilehurst Memories and Walk on the Web.

(ii) thanks to Lynda for excellent rapid **facebook** prompts etc

(iii) Jenny and Ron had walked round Blundells copse with RBC Parks staff- Glenn and Julian discussing maintenance issues and ensuring that Ron's excellent drainage expertise was shared. We have written up the findings

Late notes

Glenn are trying to find groups to carry out the urgent routine work identified

We understand that Clinton got a conviction for littering Blundells Copse from rubbish identified during the Rescue Clear Up. And he thinks that the littering at the back of Teviot has been cleared. Thank you Clinton – this is good news.

(iv) Safety for pedestrians Liz reported that she would be reporting a major incident she had witnessed to the NAG meeting on 21.04.16. Two cars driving at speed on the pavement on School rd. ,and parking on the pavement by HSBC cash machine- she had sent photos to authorities. Many other less dramatic infringements are noted regularly .In discussion we noted very few enforcement measures in place- people unlikely to be caught- prevention measures seem more effective eg bollards?.

(v) street Lighting meeting to be arranged by Andrew Turner M.P. has been cancelled

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 16 March 2016

Present: Liz Ellis, Pam Webb, Jenny Cottee, Ray Clayton, Lesley West, Tina Allen, Pat Ager, Carol Mclellan, Tanya Rebel, Lynda Chater, Judy Cullen, Lyn Jones, Sheila Smith

1. RESCUE clear up weekend (also Clean for The Queen) -how it went. This was the first RESCUE that TG had taken part in organised by the RBC neighbourhood team (not a dedicated RBC RESCUE team) following the handover. We had participated in feedback but had still anticipated some problems. In general things actually went OK on the day, but we had some mishaps involving us in extra work before the event - eg important late information too late to go into our leaders information packs.

The totals of adult sessions worked (27) were roughly similar to last year – considerably fewer children participated (6 sessions) than peak years when we did some door to door advance publicity. Rubbish collected :(bigger bags than previously) 27 land fill and 22 recycling- and several large items (bed, builders waste) collected directly by the very helpful refuse collection team (who carefully separated re-cycling from land fill) . Nasty dumping had occurred within the previous 24 hours- local residents were very fed up with it, Our efforts were welcomed- and rewarded with cups of tea.

We did the usual 4 sessions but avoided Mothers Day morning- doubling into two locations on Saturday morning. We co-operated with a new partners Nature-Nurture, as well as THA. Locally Armour Rd Residents Assn had a very successful swap shop, and Tilehurst Allotments Society participated.

2. Library Review-stage 2. We noted that the findings of the review stage 1 have resulted in draft proposals and consultation now happening – closing 16 May. We have time for initial discussion, further meeting time at April meeting before submitting comments (Individual or group) before the May meeting. **See the display** in the library showing reference copy of review findings, fairly thick consultation booklet to take away, and a simple handout that includes details of electronic communication arrangements. We noted that not all suggestions had been logged- e.g. possibility of Sunday opening. Library is very important to Tilehurst Globe e.g. - exclusive access for memories, walk and troughs leaflets kept topped up – freely available.

The **consultation proposals specifically for Tilehurst** (and Battle) are for **increasing community use**, and **reducing opening hours**. We decided need accurate information about current usage and facilities. Main issue would be opening hours-availability in the evening? (cost). Toilets for public use? Is there any possibility of minor works to increase room availability?- Problems are cost and that the proposed large scale re-modelling (Park Lane School scheme) **remains in Local Plan** in spite of lack of realism- (problem re compensatory provision of playing field that is not surplus to requirements, so current plan not viable apart from funding issues)

Pam Webb was asked to research regarding points raised in discussion-see her findings below:

1. **Space** There isn't much more available than what you can see in terms of space. The room upstairs is used by the Childrens' Centre so the increased Community use that RBC wants is going to have to fit into existing accommodation -i.e there are no toilets for public use, and only small spaces in the two library areas.

2. **Current community use** in the week. Rhyme-time takes place on Monday 9.30-10.00 and 10.45-11.15. There is also a Friday session 10.30-11.00 On Tuesday the Childrens' Centre has a session from 9.30-11.00. In the afternoon there is an Adult Craft group of about 8-11 people who meet from 2-4 pm but there is no staff input to this. Wednesday Library is closed Thursday is the coffee morning and on the last Thursday of each month there is a talk (March is by the Berkshire Family History Society. In April it is the turn of Digital Angels - both are already fully booked (capacity issue) .On the 2nd Thursday a Book Group meets and Andrew said if anyone wants to set up a Book Club then he will consider their request on the understanding that there is no input from the Library Staff. Friday - see above.

3. **Facilities** There is WiFi at the Library (for library members). There are 5 Adult computers with Internet access (1 in the Childrens' section). Battery collection point, Notice Board - but only from non profit making organisations, leaflets. The Mobile Library will continue to be based at Tilehurst (lots of details given that are

not really relevant except that space is needed to store books from that), Magazine swap box.

ACTION PLEASE -think about and *contact/ consult with local groups* about any possible increased community use ie how best to use library facilities and benefit the community in ways that :

a) that might be possible in current restricted space (or with very minor works)

b) could be self-organising ie with minimum/zero library staff time commitment

thinking imaginatively eg would evening /sunday activities /opening be attractive/financially viable?

Pass on your ideas to Globe and be ready to discuss at next meeting (20 April)

3. Reading Local Plan- No action anticipated until 2017 at a guess autumn

4. Tilehurst Globe-looking forward to this time next year We decided that we wish to maintain roughly the same balance of activities into the foreseeable future. Monthly meetings on a range of topics- **SUGGESTIONS for topics NEEDED**, occasional practical activities, and projects . However circumstances change- we need **constant refreshment of people** who attend meetings and or do jobs since people move, get older, have family commitment changes. We need to reach out and attract people. Our activities have to match both the cash available, and the people available to get things done

Re running costs we face a 50% loss of income from 1 April 2017 when there will be no more RBC grant funding.

Decisions (1) We will aim to keep the same or similar number of sponsors, inform them of the funding problem and seek help- (2) Lynda will work on polishing the face book page to ensure attractive to sponsors 3) All to think how to find recruits, share jobs, plan succession. 4) We will aim to have task mentor arrangements so we have people ready to take on new things 5) must consider activities at different times of day – eg after school in Blundells was popular decades ago and suited young families- ideas welcome

5. Updates and AOB

(i) Dunstall Close- the hoped for plan to reduce/eliminate improper parking on the grass at Dunstall Close is being implemented- two white flowering crab apple trees, have been planted- the preparations for cycle rack are in hand, bollards and no parking sign being re-aligned and painted. Plans agreed for probably two further white flowering cherries to be planted in 2017. A few bulbs have been moved to slightly different locations

Many thanks to
RBC Dave
Moore-
Highways for
speedy positive
action

(ii) RBC Grant- application for £500 for the year ending 30 .03 17 was successful -excellent news- gives us more time to plan...

(iii) Website payment issues It has been extremely stressful securing implementation of agreed arrangements to pay for websites fused by Tilehurst Globe, fortunately bill was paid just in time.

(iv) Facebook Lynda is doing amazing things with the facebook page- keep looking, liking and passing on-

(v) Street Lighting . Tanja explained that Andrew Turner MP, the Member of Parliament for the Isle of Wight, has agreed to convene a meeting in Westminster to discuss the growing public concerns about LED street lighting. It is hoped that a number of other Members of Parliament will attend, along with representatives from the Department for Transport and concerned residents. Tanja said that if you have concerns about any aspect of LED street lighting, please can you send a **short e-mail to Mr Turner** (mail@islandmp.com) thanking him for arranging such a meeting, and confirming whether you wish to attend. Please also write to your own MP **Alok.sharma.mp@parliament.uk** expressing your concerns, and ask them to get in touch directly with Mr Turner in order for them to attend the meeting - as it is important that as many MPs are present as possible.

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 17 February 2016

Present: Liz Ellis, Pam Webb, Jenny Cottee, Cllr Ricky Duveen, Ray Clayton, Lesley West, Tina Allen, Pat Ager, Carol Mclellan, Tanya Rebel, Lynda Chater

1. Denise Huxtable, Reading Citizens' Advice : How best to cut your energy bill and still be comfortable

Liz welcomed Denise who had brought a laptop so that we could see for ourselves the process of deciding which energy supplier was best for us.

Denise explained that although there is lots of help on the internet- and she supplied a booklet from citizens advice which gives all the steps there is also help for people who don't want to use the internet. Citizens Advice can also help individuals with such matters- you can phone, or go to the office in Minster Street and get personal 'hand-held' help to assess what is best for you, but it is not difficult and is worth doing-significant savings over a year for a small amount of effort- and there are cooling off periods in case you want to re-consider.

During her presentation Denise explained that many are very familiar with shopping around for groceries, do this once a year for car insurance but many stick with the same energy supplier (and bank) for years. She explained that it was sensible to think of selecting your suppliers as a similar task as selecting car insurance- do it then leave alone until significant date comes around.

What you pay depends on your decisions about how you decide to pay-(cheque when a bill comes through the post is likely to be the most expensive-other methods that involve less administration will be cheaper) suppliers often offer discounts for dual fuel on-line fixed tariff for the duration of the contract you sign up for, etc It is worth shopping around.

There are many energy suppliers, and many energy change websites. Use an **ofgem accredited** supplier-change website to be sure of good unbiased advice. (download 'Be An Energy Shopper' from goenergysshopping.co.uk) to investigate-but need to be careful-there will be penalties if you want to change before the end of your contract.

To check out what alternatives are available you need to have recent energy bill(s) to hand (all the information you need is on every bill), go to the website, and use the information when the computer asks you to. It comes up with several alternatives. When you have decided what is best for you (i) contact the new supplier, (ii) confirm the details of the deal you want -there is a cooling off period (iii) check the contract is what you want, and the changeover date (iv) pay any outstanding bills (it is possible to transfer if you owe less than £500 contact citizens advice for guidance v) take meter readings on changeover date

There are extra free services to help vulnerable people- Priority services register etc

We tried a dummy run with an energy switch website- saw it generated significant annual savings and was easy to operate. The fictitious person would have had all the information ready to contact the selected supplier and start making a change.

Denise gave out useful packs containing information from Citizens advice, and RBC about re switching suppliers, winter watch etc.

In discussion members explained how they had switched suppliers, compared notes about recommended room temperatures for working/relaxing etc.

Liz thanked Denise for the presentation which had showed that whilst it might take a small amount of effort and determination re-thinking our energy supply arrangements is worth doing say once a year.

2. Choosing Light bulbs- what have we learned. The main message is to study the package. Look at variety. LED are cheapest to run. Some of the savings are related to life of the bulb and there seems to be some discrepancies between claimed and actual life ... There are safe disposal issues regarding fluorescent bulbs. People find warm white more pleasant- less harsh than bluer light.

<p>3. Street Lighting :Tanja has been working with colleagues to draft a policy on street lighting for suggestion to RBC for inclusion in the Draft plan to be published in 2017 She explained that LED lighting is cheaper to run than alternatives, but the design of the light fittings, the colour of the light, and the duration of illumination all are important to the quality of illumination achieved. Lighting affects wildlife and humans. Sleep patterns Safety is important so are ambience and the effects produced. Avoidable unpleasant effects, the sky illuminated as well as roads so that stars cannot be seen due to glare. This is non-technical explanation of the draft policy that is being prepared which we studied.</p>	<p>Tanja will submit to RBC Local Plan team.</p> <p>To see version that was submitted. contact Tilehurst Globe</p>
<p>4. Reading Local Plan –Issues and Options - we listed the issues that seemed to be most concern to local residents, and how Tilehurst Globe members had been trying to maximize awareness and responses to the consultation. The RBC response from to all the questions was quite unwieldy. The single page sheets were easier to use and gave space for more response if needed.</p> <p>We discussed how to maximize response, passing information on to others etc.</p>	<p>RBC website response closing date 7 March, BUT slightly later letter or email responses will be accepted...</p>
<p>5.AOB (i) bulb planting- Although cold and a bit damp this had gone well- we were delighted to have additional support from a Scout Group from central Reading 58), so the total of 15 children and 14 adults completed the tasks rapidly. We planted more bulbs in the green (2000 snowdrops and 300 miniature daffodils) to the left of Library entrance as you face it - avoiding the buried invisible concrete path no longer in use... The damp conditions meant transplanting has seemed without casualties.</p> <p>(ii) RESCUE planning was in hand- registration completed requests for equipment and collections submitted, and team leaders identified, briefing in hand. The early date coincides with Clean for the Queen – and mothering Sunday. Now we need volunteers and kind weather.</p> <p>iii) Other items -to be carried over- Planning for the future including recruiting more active members and sharing out tasks, succession planning, managing with 50% of our current secured income and still having time to undertake activities</p>	

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 20 January 2016

Present: Liz Ellis, Pam Webb, Jenny Cottee, Deborah Catherall, Cllr Jean Gardener, Jacky Major, Cllr Ricky Duveen, Ray Clayton, Dave and Anna Griffiths, William and Joan Macphee, Nigel Turner, Roger Sym, Judy Cullen, Lesley West, Tina Allen, Lyn Jones, Carol McLellan, Tony Hales, Tanya Rebel, Cllr Meri O'Connell.

Reading Local Plan- consultation on Issues and Options :

Kieran Roughan (RBC Planning Manager) explained the Reading Local Plan (started 2008, adopted, 2012, scheduled to run until 2020+) is being updated to run to 2036 due to changes in circumstances and legislation. Updating is underway; there are 2 people working on this now, not the team of 4/5 who worked on the original, only sections that need revision will be altered. We anticipate this whole process will be finished not before 2018. The responses to this discussion paper that will shape the draft plan, which will be consulted about before the final version is agreed.

This first document – agreed in November is designed to establish the topics and approaches (Issues and Options) to be included in the revision process. You can read about the process and see the document on the council website <http://www.reading.gov.uk/newlocalplan> or in the libraries. There is a summary leaflet too. The discussion document has many pages of text (with questions at the end of each section) and several appendixes- with maps and plans of sites. A few pages refer directly to Tilehurst, although many/most affect Reading as a whole. Everyone is invited to comment on whatever parts of the document they want, preferably in an email, or in a letter. There will be **workshops** (including one at the **Tilehurst Village Hall, Victoria Rd, on Thursday 4 Feb 7.30-9.30pm**) to tackle some of the issues and help people think about how they want to respond. It is best to say that you plan to come, there are also drop in sessions eg 15 & 16 Feb at Civic Offices. The closing date for responses to this consultation is 7 March.

The first question asked is do people agree with maintaining the core objectives as stated in the current Local Plan. Main proposed changes to the plan reflect changes in legislation and relate to revised housing figures. All the Berkshire Councils were required to agree how many dwellings (houses + flats) each will build over the period of the plan- following independent objective assessment of need over the period of the plans taking into account such new matters as Cross Rail, current pressures etc. These housing assessment figures were agreed in November. They say that Reading is to plan for about 20% more houses per year than in the old plan. The figure is now **700 dwellings per year not 572** as in the current plan. It will be challenging to meet this need without jeopardising jobs and/or quality of life. It is a major task to sort out how and where to accommodate these numbers. Reading Council asked locals and developers to suggest possible sites. All suggestions have been included appendix 3 of the current consultation paper along with sites that are in the old plan but have not yet been built (Appendix 4). All are up for initial comments.

The independent assessment of need has been agreed- however responses sought on how many should be planned for

In discussion we explored many relevant issues and influences. In these notes the relevant references are given. In each case the document gives some possible responses are given (a-e) - people may select any one of these or say whatever they want (there is an electronic form or a letter is fine) :

1. **Neighbouring councils-** eg West Berkshire are going through the process at their own paces and with their own priorities. In Tilehurst the West Berkshire/Reading boundary is close so the neighbours plans to rely on RBC infrastructure (eg schools, doctors, roads) and services for residents of the proposed housing developments.
2. **Parking standards** in new developments- how many per house- depends on location and size of dwelling. Parking spaces affect house price eg £20-£30k underground much more.
3. **Local Green Space-** is a new designation- (main document 5.5)
4. **Building on the flood plain**
5. **Finding sites** to build on housing vs/ employment/offices
6. **Sites of local interest** : a) Tilehurst Allotments etc- land owned by Tilehurst Poors lands(appendix 3, A14) – Park lane School (Appendix 4 carried over from current plan B46), Chapel Hill allotments- Appendix 5 possible local green space 76.
7. **Affordable and starter homes** and number of large homes not terraced houses being built locally

2.: The role of Tilehurst Globe re the Local Plan is to publicize consultation opportunities, raise issues and encourage participation. As a group we do not have preferred options

Noticeboards etc

3. AOB: updates etc for the record or very brief discussion

(i) New Year Letter : pass on comments on content, delivery ,database changes needed etc (preferably just in writing to go with the others already collected)

(ii) Light bulbs : keep collecting old boxes , we will give out a fact sheet to help interpret the labels ready for item at 17 Feb meeting(main part is on saving cash on energy bills)

iii) Xmas lights- thanks to Carol- any points to note for next year- eg do we need longer ladder?

iv) Bulb planting Sat 13 Feb 10-12 outside library entrance.

(iv) Next meetings and publicizing consultation opportunities
RBC Local Plan – RBC meeting Thurs 4 Feb at Village Hall 7.30pm. **Globe Wed 17 Feb** 7.30pm Energy saving/ reducing your bills, and different kinds of light bulbs- what are they all?

(v) Finance – RBC grant application in hand- we hope for £500 for y/e 31.03.17

vi) Trees and hedge planting **a) Dunstall Close/Lloyds bank** will have 2 white flowered crab apples planted soon (at no cost to our budget) (still waiting re cycle rack news) **(b) Blundells Copse** restorative justice finished planting the Calder Close hedge- (donations from several sources , a few plants left- if you spot any gaps please tell jenny)

vii) Street Lighting Tanja will suggest a draft policy on *quality (colour- warm white, and directional issues)* of street lighting for consideration of inclusion in Local Plan at next meeting - background paper available also **internal lighting** quality issues warm white not blue

viii) RESCUE - Friday 4 March- Sunday 6 March are the dates now confirmed after erroneous information given on website Admin and arrangements eg risk assessments proceeding

Homework-
study Info sheet
contact globe for
a copy

Consider using
long reach
garden tools to
wind round too

Homework-study
doc-contact
globe for a copy

Note correct
dates watch for
local info

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