

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 19 Nov 2014

Present: : Liz Ellis chair), Jenny Cottee(notes), Ray Clayton, Carol Mclellan, John Venning, Judith Cullen, Pam Webb , Ron and Sheila Smith, Lesley West, Cllr Ricky Duveen, Pat Ager

1.	<p>RESCUE 25 year anniversary: Chris Cliburn, Jenny and Liz had been to the celebration event on Friday (displays of RESCUE photos over the 25 years). We could not remember how long we had been involved- more than 10 years, not the full 25. About 30 people from all sectors,(business partners, streetcare ,voluntary groups, RESCUE organizing team) joined to reminisce and chat. The Mayor spoke , warmly thanking all who had participated over the years , and congratulating all. During the formalities there were short contributions from participants- Jenny explained local involvement, Liz talked about swap shop. The Mayor presented community groups with certificates (ours was on show at our meeting). The event finished with refreshments including thick slices of birthday cake.</p>
2.	<p>Change of meeting time: The meeting agreed that the meetings would start at 7.30pm. The change was necessitated to avoid having to deal with keys. ACTIONS : change posters, website, handouts, adverts eg Tilehurst Directory</p>
3.	<p>Memories Project : The meeting congratulated Pat on her work during the year .After deciding some minor editorial/presentational matters the meeting decided that the booklet of memories was ready for production and agreed to buy 1000 copies of the 16page booklet at a cost of £200. We expect they will be available at the next meeting. We discussed arrangements for the launch of the booklet and the website- to be finalised when the booklets are to hand. We aim to distribute to members with the annual newsletter and have supplies for similar outlets to the popular woodland leaflets. Future contributions will be accommodated on the new website http://www.tilehurstmemories.org.uk-there are some photos there too .ACTIONS: Liz to arrange production , aiming for some copies available for distribution at Dec meeting.</p>
4.	<p>Other publications (i) In and around Tilehurst We discussed the trough leaflet which is ready for production. It could be part of a suite of leaflets as suitable ideas emerge. The meeting agreed to print 1000 (cost £60) (ii) Woodland leaflets are very popular- being promoted by Nature nurture , available in Central and 2 local libraries, the co-op ,etc. The need to re-stocking was anticipated in our budget planning . ACTIONS: Liz to arrange production and topping up arrangements.</p>
5.	<p>NHS issues (i) Healthwatch : Following her visit last month Caterine Grainger has said she will be happy to come again in the New Year to follow up different emerging issues. She had sent us 3 copies of the recent Reading Healthwatch report on Delayed Discharge from Hospital It contains reports of key findings and recommendations to improve the situation. Contact globe to borrow a copy.(ii) Latest NHS proposals for the next five years: <i>reduce demand</i> (by preventing illnesses, and promoting health), <i>be more efficient</i> , and <i>receive more funding</i>). Following the publication of the 5 year forward view (contact GLOBE to borrow our copy) the meeting decided to consider what might be done locally to reduce demand non NHS services , or to make demand - ie Hearing about recent developments and beginning to think what changes might mean for Tilehurst. We will a) investigate opportunities/facilities locally to help people keep well eg take more exercise, have a better diet, maintain social contacts, stop smoking, cut down alcohol etc b) how to publicize all of the choices available.- We spoke about the problems of actually changing behaviour...</p>
6.	<p>Other Projects : We heard that raised beds had been planted up, the water tower trough would be done on Saturday, Carol will be checking the stock of Xmas lights for the Wellingtonia, buy some more aiming to switch on at the start of Dec. Judy had discussed keep off the bulbs posters with Church end academy</p>
7.	<p>Updates: (i) Verge parking, Ricky updated us about verge parking ban. It is being extended on all streets within the experimental scheme except Mayfair. Residents of other streets eg in Southcote will be consulted about an extension of the scheme in the new year.(ii) We will consider how GLOBE could contribute to reinstate the compacted verges-and possible planting of small ornamental trees(eg sorbus) or shrubs.(ii) Rubbish In Blagrave Rec near the nursery is still there (iii) See Nature Nurture on Meridian ITV evening news on Monday 24 Nov. This local project has been using our woodland leaflets at their fun family activity events . It is based in Wantage rd and has ready done excellent work in helping children to be active outside, understand nature etc. They are through to the final of ITV's peoples millions scheme and are asking for votes to get lottery money and need 10s of 1000s of telephone votes to be in with a chance of winning £50,000 to make our town go wild.</p> <p>NEXT MEETING will be on SECOND wed in Dec- ie Wed 10th Dec- 7.30pm festive light refreshments</p>

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 15 Oct 2014

Present: : Liz Ellis chair), Jenny Cottee(notes), Ray Clayton, Carol McLellan, John Venning, Judith Cullen, Pam Webb , Ron and Sheila Smith, Lesley West, Tina Allen, Matt Harrison

Apologies: Cllr Ricky Duveen, Roger Sym, Pat Ager

1	<p>NHS Update: Catherine Greaves from Reading Healthwatch explained that in April 2013 all areas Healthwatch organizations were established as part of the NHS reorganisation that happened then, but they are not part of the NHS, are independent and give free advice . Based in central Reading there are 5 people working giving advice/advocacy services and helping to sort out issues and pass on comments and concerns to relevant bodies. In their first year they handled 600 cases, and concentrate on getting their message out to all groups of people communities and individuals in ways that suit the general public.</p> <p>Catherine explained the roles of Clinical Commissioning Groups, the patients groups at surgeries and the RBH PALS (patients liaison service) as we considered different issues that had concerned members.</p> <p>The NHS is very large complex organization with many acronyms and is difficult to navigate- the Reading Healthwatch advocacy service can help in big problems that may need formal complaint procedures and smaller matters that phone calls and conversations can sort out.Regarding boundary issues Reading healthwatch covers all who use Reading NHS services (even if they live outside the borough) , but if formal complaints routes are needed then people need to contact west berks healthwatch</p> <p>After an hour of discussion including the role of NHS England to secure GP services to an area, c Catherine left us lots of leaflets with many thanks from members and a lot the wiser and less daunted.</p> <p>ACTION: Pass on leaflets ,refer to the service and feature on Globe stall at local Show etc.</p>
2	<p>Planting (a) on Sat 11 oct Lloyds Bank : (8 adults , 15 Children), Halls Rd (5 adults,9Children) planted lots of miniature narcissi near last year's plantings with some crocus and grape hyacinths at the bank as well. Good weather, excellent turn out –many thanks to all adults- very necessary, very successful. Excellent Churchend team- children learning lots and had a good time. Good participation by 9th Tilehurst Guides, 79th Reading Scouts-excellent growing community links Liz has already modified the maps for grass cutters- updated pack to be sent to RBC early Feb 2015</p> <p>(b) Probably Monday 20 Oct planter outside Corals Ruth Crouch has this in hand-hazard arrangements in hand –plans for pansies, wallflowers and bulbs now, then in summer cornflowers and marigolds – so not too severe soil requirements. There will be some clearing etc needed initially but seems manageable</p> <p>(c) the cattle troughs - beautiful at the moment- will probably need changing mid November- pat and ruth will deal with water tower and Arthur newbury respectively-again formal hazard arrangements and permissions will be sorted out to secure insurance valid.</p>
3	<p>Updates: (a) Jenny attended meeting about better re-cycling Thurs 9 Oct – good news glass recycling working well- very little going to land fill . No plans for more complex recycling collections- now priority is to make current system work even better, keep stuff going in correct bins so best prices obtained. – no carrier bags or yogurt pots in burgundy bins.lead Cllr Liz terry keen on helping local community events (like swop shop) but it is tricky... looking into bulky waste collection arrangements. (b) GP question Time meeting at Town hall 11November you can have a say in what is discussed (see health watch website) (c) verge parking feedback-have your say about your road- see rbc website (d) nature nurture childrens events and Churchend academy for Blundells Copse activities. Judy explained about big event in Mcillroy on sat- lots of children enjoying our woodlands- many adult helpers-excellent event organised by nature nurture. Churchend Academy have plans for a year of events relating to outside- wildlife and the community part of a competition sponsored by Rolls Royce</p>
4	<p>AOB (a) woodland leaflets the meeting agreed to immediate reprint 1000 of each of the woodland leaflets- very popular following publicity drive- within agreed budget plans. Other publications coming on – memories booklet , troughs handout.</p> <p>(b) How to stop/ reduce parking on verge at Lloyds bank and prevent damage to bulbs . We talked about childrens notices- saying please take care etc- like oxford rd front railings and other places- simple childrens messages- possibly notice board with glass front on Lloyds bank wall...</p> <p>Judy to discuss with Churchend teacher</p> <p>(c) Blundell copse path widening has been happening as explained by Dave Booth last meeting</p>

Present: : Jenny Cottee(notes), Ray Clayton, Pat Ager, Carol McLellan, John Venning, Judith Cullen, Pam Webb , Cllr Ricky Duveen, Ron and Sheila Smith, Rachel Chilton

Apologies: Liz Ellis, Cllr Meri Oconnell, David Webber, Roger Sym, Tom Steele

<p>1</p>	<p>Blundell’s Copse –Annual review and what is planned for next12 months, a)Dave Booth (RBC) updated us about progress with the grant-aided work referring to the official plan. He then explained that the recent extra path work had been funded by additional grant cash being available so that some more widening and drainage work had been possible. He was not confident that all the flooding/mud problems in the tricky area where the path runs parallel to Calder Close will be permanently solved, but anticipated more progress. Some of the tree-work had been done by a training firm. This had been successful and he anticipates further use to do more of the work to create glades following the agreed plan. b) In discussion about the copse the meeting agreed that it is being well-used, the path improvements have been good and the bridge is sound, the path is better, but we noted that there are still places with tricky gradients, and a bit too narrow navigable path. We had noted less use by wheelchairs- it is fine for buggies. Dave will check what can be done. The strimming, felling of branches overhanging the path will continue as agreed- the path surface is less vulnerable to deterioration when there are no overhanging branches.</p> <p>Japanese knotweed is being treated following agreed procedures- it will take several more years. Please follow guidance- no touching etc</p> <p>Regarding the bad litter dumping and requested fencing at the back of Teviot/Ogmore houses-(as had been erected at the back of Aylsham close a decade ago) Globe had received supportive email from Parks department the summer but no detectable action Jenny to follow up</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>Tilehurst Globe AGM- (Report and summary copy of scrutinized accounts available) We noted and thanked the generous support of all our sponsors who make the achievements possible.</p> <p>a) Considering the report. We looked at the report and thought it gave a representative summary of activities etc ,the list of speakers etc was a good reminder. We congratulated those who had produced the report and particularly one of our sponsors, Village Properties, who generously donated the printing .</p> <p>b) The accounts for the year that ended on 31 March 2014 had been scrutinized by Colin Robinson- treasurer of Tilehurst Horticultural Society, and found to be a true record .The meeting accepted the accounts with thanks to key member one, Carol McLellan, who had presented the report taking us through the figures.</p> <p>c) Plans for the year ending 31 March 2015, and the budget for these activities, and looking a bit further ahead. We looked at the outline plans and draft budget in the report. We noted the pattern of unexpected delays in implementing. Things take longer, life intervenes, so we thought the plans were reasonable, give sufficient flexibility and reflect our interests, priorities and lie within the remit of the group, so we agreed them.</p> <p>d) Elections: i) key members Carol McLellan, Judy Cullen, Liz Ellis, Jenny Cottee, Tina Allen, Lesley West were re-elected, with Carol being key member one iii) Colin Robinson will scrutinize the accounts</p>

3	<p>Meeting plans- we noted last years topics and considered future planned local events to establish if we knew of any specific times when we need to be geared up for a specific topic and could plan to invite a speaker.</p> <p>Regarding transport the matter of verge parking-the particular issue of problems in Mayfair and then the possible extension of the trial will be topical in November, and then early next year. The current work to improve the timing of the Norcot traffic lights may reduce queues up to the School Rd zebra. There may be work to reduce rat-run problems in Blundells /Recreation rd in the new year. Of a wider front we anticipate the use of gas-fuelled buses (with the new re-fuelling station at the bus depot), and the possible monitoring of air quality at the Triangle ‘</p> <p>Some had expressed interest in health issues- we need to establish specific areas of questioning –GP, acute services, hospital, clinics or general governance matters –the local Health Watch Service is a possible a source to cover the whole area,but best to have specific focus .</p> <p>Please pass on ideas for meeting topics.</p>
4	<p>Regular activities and projects</p> <p>(a) planters The currently planted troughs (Park lane and Armour Hill) will need attention- Pat and Ruth respectively are i/c and will arrange. The group congratulated them on the lovely appearance of their planting . Other planters are more problematic- it seems that we have OK to plant the ones outside Stetfords –to be funded by Globe, but we need to identify one person to lead for each planter. Volunteers welcome. Then matters such as compost, and design and the decision perennials/ bedding can be decided</p> <p>c) woodland leaflets supplies are located in Tilehurst and Battle libraries, and being distributed at events eg Nature-nurture Oxford Rd Community fair –always well received- we will need re-prints especially Lousehill in the autumn</p> <p>d) roadside bulb planting- We decided to thicken up last years planting at Lloyds bank and probably halls Rd/Meadway junction during the coming year starting with Sat 11 October 10-12 noon at Lloyds bank planting miniature daffodils- possibly two varieties to extend the flowering season. Jenny to sort out arrangements- please come to help</p> <p>e) Corwen gardens - jenny explained pleasing developments- gardens are looking good and well-maintained under the leadership of 2 residents .Lots of colourful bedding plants .Jenny will inquire and assess ,but it seems little external help needed at present .Very successful project</p> <p>f) Tilehurst Memories-Pat has been working very steadily at this, she has many interviews recorded-(typed by Carol) ready to go into a short limited edition-booklet to be ready for use as a Christmas present. The website is ready for unveiling soon –this will be able to be expanded as more memories come forward.</p>
5	<p>New projects –New leaflet on Tilehurst troughs may well be start of a series showing Tilehurst sights.- similar size etc to Japanese knotweed /OPM leaflet</p>
6	<p>Other updates and AOB (i) Judy will be helping at Nature nurture event at Prospect Park and event promoting the woodland leaflets and Tilehurst Globe (ii) Judy will also be meeting with a representative from Churchend lane Academy aiming to make good use of Blundell’s copse in the outdoor education programe in the coming year. (iii) Rachel Chilton told us of the event to publicize the proposed Reading Sustainability Centre near Caversham Lock (http://readingsustainabilitycentre.co.uk/)</p>
7	<p>‘Sustainable Development’ are we any clearer about what it means? Have we been following our constitution? Any obvious omissions?</p> <p>We discussed how much the phrase is used- especially when developers want to build houses-(clearly many disagreements in practice about what is a sustainable development) . We noted how it embraces many aspects, and taking too much of the earths resources so the future of next generations is jeopardized.</p>

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 18 June 2014

Present: : Liz Ellis (chair) Jenny Cottee(notes), Ray Clayton, Pat Ager, Carol Mclellan, John Venning, Judith Cullen, Pam Webb , Cllr Ricky Duveen, Cllr Meri Oconnell

Apologies:

1	<p>Review of how the show went. As it turned out. , after the immense downpour in the morning, the weather was favourable. We discussed lay out of the stall. After agreeing that it needs to be inviting – we want people to come in spend some time looking, browsing etc. and talk/ask if they feel like it, do free quiz etc. We do not want to handle cash- all free.</p> <p>It was good that people recognize the stall, look out for it, remember the quiz, and know what the group do. However, but photos confirmed that there were blockages – entrance inaccessible etc. The rain lay out and large tables caused problems. We did not use the stand out vertical displays</p> <p>The leaflets re Japanese Knotweed and Oak Processionary Moth were well received- well done Liz for rapid action, and thanks to Village Properties for copying them</p> <p>Decisions,-(i) we want several small tables- no big ones- need to arrange so that entrance is not blocked we need easily portable – not heavy- borrow jenny’s so TAS will borrow an additional one from THS .</p> <p>(ii)We need to very strategic in use of flat surfaces- eg no bulky display of bird boxes just a sample ,</p>
2	<p>Updates on projects, (i) Planting in raised beds etc . Judy had approached Setfords who had shown interest, and recognized the need to maintain the planter,-more discussion needed Pat had planted up the water tower trough and neighbour would be dealing with the watering. Corwen gardens- another session is needed Jenny will aim to do this to supplement the residents’ efforts (ii) Memory project Pat is proceeding with interviewing elderly residents and has a good number- residents read and check though an agree the final version. They agree to publication.. We are still undecided how to proceed with publication- will need to do a trial version, with a view to doing a business plan to present to possible donor(s).of a grant</p>
3	<p>AOB</p> <p>(i) July Walk -Wednesday, 16 July, : following discussion we decided to do a walk focusing on the 3 water troughs, and bringing in the new railway bridge and the improvement to the thames footpath reducing the length of Oxford Rd included. Ray will bring information about how the latter was achieved, leading the footpath aspects of the walk. We will meet at entrance to Arthur Newbury park, Armour Hill nearly opposite the thatched cottage, at 7.15pm . People who are less keen on walking may wish to get up to the water tower trough using the 17 bus- others will walk through Mcillroys park</p> <p>(ii) Japanese Knotweed in Blundells Copse- has been sprayed but needs more attention over a long time. DO NOT TOUCH THE WEED-live or dead</p> <p>(iii) Community Garden- We looked at a leaflet about this historic project planned by Tilehurst Globe members a decade ago- facilitated/ by RBC officer Julie Wickham, approval obtained but then encountered problems due to proposals for building on the laurels site. We decided to investigate possibillity of a more modest plan Ricky and Liz will check land ownership/planning status .</p> <p>(iv) Chestnut slice: this is now dry and ready for sanding , annotating the rings and making perspex frame- progress slow but not stopped.</p> <p>(v) Reprinting walks leaflets We decided to reprint the leaflets when supplies run low- the printers we use are economical and reliable.</p> <p>(vi) Storage space for Globe display stuff if any one has spare dry storage available in say a garage they could lend (free) this would be helpful. Please keep ears open and pass on any ideas</p> <p>(vii) WEB site: please look at this and pass on any thoughts- is here anything there that should be culled?</p> <p>(viii) Bird Boxes- Jenny has a stock of bird boxes, some partially made for a variety of birds. We need to offer the boxes for sale/use at appropriate time of year. Any ideas? Jenny will approach Parks Department</p>

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 16 May 2014

Present: : Roger Sym (chair) Lesley West, Jenny Cottee(notes), Ray Clayton, Rona and Sheila Smith, Pat Ager, Tina Allen, Carol McLellan, John Venning, Poppy Cottee, Judith Cullen, Pam Webb

Apologies: Cllr Sandra Vickers, Tanja Rebel, Steve Goodman, Cllr Ricky Duveen, Liz Ellis

1

Air Quality : Roger welcomed **Ross Jarvis (Senior Technical Officer ,Environmental Protection, RBC)** who had come with graphs samples etc to help us understand issues regarding air quality answering questions prepared at our April meeting

Q1..What pollutants are there- what sources- road traffic- how much does speed of vehicles ,types of vehicles fuels used matter-what about bonfires? What is the legal situation re exhaust fumes-MOT cars/lorries Which pollutants are worst/ particulates, invisible gases

A1. Pollutants in the air are particulates and invisible gases. The most serious particulate pollutants are not the 'large' ones- eg the recent sahara dust particles, but very small a few microns (millionths of mm) in size. The most serious invisible gas is nitrous oxide. Vehicles accelerating (and idling) cause pollution rather than just speed. The emission regulations for new vehicles (EURO standards) are improving the situation, but MOT regs do not have much effect. Diesel fuelled cars produce a lot of pollution when going on short journeys- the converter needs about 30 mins non-stop driving to be effective. Bonfires and the increase in people burning wood to heat homes have some effects, but most significant source of pollutants in Reading is traffic

Q2..How far does the pollution go- eg how high, how far across the pavement /cycle lane /pavement cafes ?

A2 There is no clear data about this-locally or generally. The data is collected continuously from fixed points in Reading using diffusion tubes(eg fastened to lamp posts) and four large green 'stations' that monitor continuously (3 at road side and 1 in the cemetery).. In general pollution is worst if air is caught in canyons- (lines of buildings both sides of roads and no/minimal front gardens/ amenity areas) Plants may absorb a small amount of pollutants.The Reading monitoring station in the cemetery with trees etc around is 100m away from the busy cementry junction traffic lights shows the lowest data in Reading.

Q3. What conditions make for the worst pollution effects- eg weather conditions times of year-

A3 Pollution is worse in winter- particularly cold dry spells, when pollution is slow to disperse .Temperature inversion makes it hang around and build up.

Q4.What health effects and mitigation/reduction? How significant, relative to other road safety data eg accidents, costs who is most vulnerable , do masks work? what about other mitigation tactics? Eg trees.Is it sensible to be far more worried about traffic accidents that air quality?

A4 Effects on health- mostly breathing and heart problems are largely invisible to most people, the best way of considering the significance is by comparing reduction in average life expectancy. E.g. in UK road accidents reduce life expectancy by 2-3 months whilst air pollution reduces it by 7-8 months (3 times as much) but road accidents have a much more visible effect. The approach to reducing air pollution is by many small changes that add together to reduce the problems of breathlessness and aggravation of heart issues etc. Mitigation strategies- masks for cyclists as in japan etc not proven although specialist ones can remove small particulates. Reduction strategies include improving new vehicles- lpg fuels (buses) , historic effect of Clean Air Act 50 years ago, tree planting, re-routing traffic, improve cycle network, car sharing, use buses, electric charge points for cars, walking routes, and education not to have idling engines- school runs... (bus drivers have rules) .Vulnerable individuals well advised to use the DEFRA pollution forecasts.

Q5.How is it monitored-what about legislation where in Reading are the monitoring points, how do levels eg at Norcot Junction and The triangle compare with the worst in Reading eg cemetery junction/Oxford rd? What are the trends? How do we compare with other parts of countries? How is it changing in Reading- how much have changes by reading buses affected totals?

A5 Ross showed us graphs of the output from four fixed stations that monitor nitrous oxide in four key points in the borough over the last 10 years- they show little significant change over the time, the worst increasing less bad decreasing only one below target. The level near cemetery junction is worst – double that the New Town station, with the roundabout at Caversham bridge and oxford rd being between these extremes. Reading like many/most European cities has very challenging targets to meet 2016 legislation targets . The borough has an Action plan, identified the worst routes and will tackle through many small steps.

Q6 What is pollution level in Tilehurst- eg at the Triangle?

A6 We have no data currently- likely to be low since little canyon effect- disperses, and trees. **However we will consider moving one of the diffusion tubes to collect data.**

Note there is a very good clear information on RBC website:

<http://www.reading.gov.uk/residents/environmental-health-and-protection/AirQuality/air-quality-monitoring-data/>

Roger led the group in thanking Ross for his input about a very significant, but unglamorous health issue.

2

Updates on projects, (i) Corwen gardens-compost donation, compost bin saga, good progress with maintenance of island bed and some others- we plan another session with Globe volunteers to supplement the residents' efforts. **(ii) water troughs** doing well , Pat and Ruth will replace the winter bedding as needed . We discussed other containers in central tilehurst- some being well maintained- eg Help the Aged, others serve only to hold up advertising hordings and/or weeds. Several volunteers ready to undertake maintenance if containers available. **Judy to approach Library, possibly Stetfords** **(iii) Memory project** Pat is proceeding with interviewing elderly residents, aim is to have say 10, not clear about form of publication or timing.Will discuss with Liz whether application for small grant in the next round would be sensible

AOB

(i) **Oak Processionary Moth** – The caterpillar of this moth eats oak leaves, and can threaten the life of the trees and cause consequential problems to birds etc higher in the food chain , whilst also having nasty health effects on humans. There are areas in West London where the outbreak has not been contained, and a small outbreak in past 3 years in Pangbourne area- Sulham woods. Recent aerial spraying was planned to maintain the reduction/eliminate the moth from this area.

We decided to have a small display about the moth at the show to alert people , help them identify oak trees in woods, roadsides etc, and follow guidance

DO NOT TOUCH SUSPECT CATERPILLARS-nest etc report to council

(ii) **Japanese Knot weed** in Blundells Copse- persistent ,long term problem dangers- The group are anxious about the knotweed which is growing fast – and wish the spraying to be done asap .We do not think warning notices would be sensible. notices?

DO NOT TOUCH THE WEED-live or dead

(iii) **Litter**: local guide group have been given the OK to borrow high liz jackets pickers and bags to undertake a litter pick- we suggest using maps to study the local alleyways-many need attention.

(iv) **Thames Hydro-electricity scheme-at the weir by Caversham Lock- there will be a picnic there to see the site on wed 4 june meet at the weir 5pm-6pm**

(v) **Friends of RBH Show- Sat 7 June open to the public 11-4.00** We discussed arrangements .

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 16 April 2014

Present : Liz Ellis (**chair**) , Lesley West, Jenny Cottee(notes), Ray Clayton, Rona and Sheila Smith, Pat Ager, Peter Nicholson ,Helen Alexander, Rachel Chilton, Tina Allen, Carol Mclellan,Cllr Ricky Duveen

Apologies: Cllr Sandra Vickers, Tanja Rebel, Steve Goodman

1

Simon Beasley RBC: Liz welcomed Simon to the meeting-who had been invited to update us on progress on the Road safety measures and verge parking . The consultation regarding safety measures had shown general approval for the proposed measures but that people wanted more extensive coverage- further along school rd –to the traffic lights at least , and other roads e g oaktree /westwood rd .

The **traffic Islands** been the subject of the consultation had had been installed in areas of conflict between pedestrians and vehicles along school rd using money passed on to RBC from the government for such specific safety measures. Simon had already received feedback saying that the islands were working- traffic speed had been reduced, people felt safer , many were using the crossings etc. There seemed to have been a reduction in improper parking to use the cash machine at Lloyds bank. There had been some delays regarding Thames water sorting out a manhole cover ,but apart from this all was completed.

Evaluation would include collecting speed data in similar times and conditions to that collected before the installation of the islands. The intention is to make the area safer and pleasant for all road users –and not to alienate drivers

The consultation regarding the **20mph** had been less conclusive and it had been decided not to implement the restricted proposals, but to consider later in town-wide considerations that would happen following some schemes in other areas.

Later in the year some work to **refresh the traffic lights** at Norcot (timing etc) may improve matters- eg reducing the back up of traffic waiting fro the lights right up to the zebra crossing .

The experimental temporary **verge parking ban** in specific roads intended to protect grass verges, ensure safe pedestrian access to the pavements and reduce traffic speed will continue until November 2014, when the experiment will be evaluated. At initial consultation 72% of respondents had agreed with the proposals. Some residents have raised a petition against the application of the ban in Mayfair

Playstreets are a new scheme whereby residential streets (not on bus routes) are designated as play streets for up to 3 hrs following evidence of community support- locally Armour rd has had one such closure and others are scheduled. Good humoured events- sponsorship , social activities, chalking in the road , adults and children socializing... Any roads interested should contact Simon.

2

Updates and AOB (i) Sustainability centre/hydroelectricity generator following the talk by Tony Cowling there has been good progress key contact Tanya for more join the picnic at View island (4 june 5.30pm at view island just down from caversham weir, (ii) **neighbourhood network** we had not got to the annual get-together-any contacts/info welcomed (iii) **Corwen Rd flats-gardens-** liaison with residents and collection of compost from the Bolams , and plants for the planter (colour scheme pink/mauve/blue) proceeding we will contact people interested in practical session when details clearer. (iv) **TG Website** please contact liz re any thoughts about additions/changes etc (v) **posters** We thanked Tina and Lesley for doing the regular task of distributing posters to shops etc in well-placed locations to be seen by passers by. We note that some changes in use etc have happened- we need more sites to keep up the coverage- Village properties will display in their noticeboard, but we need to seek about 3 or 4 more (vi) **Deep clean streets-** aim to find out how streets are selected- several areas that need such attention.

3

Air Quality : preliminary discussion and sharing information in preparation for our meeting on 21 May when we will have a speaker from RBC

After reminiscences about smog, comparing notes about friends and relatives who have breathing problems with considered issues we want to know about

1. What pollutants are there- what sources- road traffic- how much does speed of vehicles ,types of vehicles fuels used matter-what about bonfires? What is the legal situation re exhaust fumes-MOT cars/lorries
2. How far does the pollution go- eg how high, how far across the pavement /cycle lane /pavement cafes ?
3. What conditions make for the worst pollution effects- eg weather conditions times of year-
4. What health effects? How significant, relative to other road safety data eg accidents, costs who is most vulnerable , do masks work? what about other mitigation tactics? Eg trees.Is it sensible to be far more worried about traffic accidents that air quality? Which pollutants are worst/ particulates, invisible gases/
5. How is it monitored- where in Reading are the monitoring points, how do levels eg at Norcot Junction and The triangle compare with the worst in Reading eg cemetery junction? What are the trends? How do we compare with other parts of countries? How is it changing in Reading

Next meeting Wed 21 May at 7.15pm

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 19 March 2014

Present: John Venning, Carol McLellan ,Jenny cottee, David and Anne Bollam, Tina Allen, Pat Ager

Apologies: Liz Ellis , Lesley West, Jenny Cottee, Ray Clayton, Rona and Sheila Smith, Judy Cullen

1	<p>RESCUE: How it went etc. The weather had been excellent , we had a good number of volunteers and lots of litter had been cleared. Thanks go to the team leaders and everyone who did preparatory and sorting out work before and after the event.all had gone very smoothly- 9 of the ten donated prizes and all child certificates had already been delivered.</p> <p>The bin collections had happened, and neighbours had been very helpful in keeping an eye on things and communicating when collections had happened.</p> <p>Liz's guidance material and Rescue packs had again been excellent- thoroughly tested now with far more volunteers – very good to spread the expertise .</p> <p>The litter black spots were bad, some showing antisocial behaviour happening regularly .We discussed which authorities should be notified-and decided to inform NAG /police about habitual drinking areas as well as RBC departments.</p> <p>It seems very difficult to keep out of the way grassy areas/bushes pristine- lots of dumping of household or drinking waste in eg back of Teviot Rd houses into Blundells Copse, junction of Park lane and ## Rd, at end of Rodway Rd. Unsavory patches off Bates Hill</p> <p>We discussed how to keep such vulnerable areas in better condition-public alleyways eg off Norcot Rd into the potteries , some commercial premises- eg telecom building in Norcot Rd,need specific attention..</p>
2	<p>Improvement areas we decided we need to concentrate on some specific areas for improvement- (a) alleyway off norcot rd to Potteries (b) chip shop alley way (c) teviot rd/blundsells copse (d) Rodway Rd cul de sac (e) Park Lane / ##</p> <p>We would aim to involve local councilors and candidates seems timely and needs joint efforts jenny to establish which ward and try to divi out the work.</p>
3	<p>February meeting: Jenny aplogised for the delay caused by forgetting to passon the key... Tony's experience of building-in energy saving into the structure of his house was very interesting, food for thought. We talked about the differences with the houses many live in- no cavity walls upstairs etc.</p>
4	<p>Road safety Improvements so far : traffic Islands ; Jenny reminded the group that the traffic improvements were funded on the basis of there having been accidents/near-misses in the past. The statistics in specific areas need to justify the expenditure. The idea was to reduce the speed of traffic and make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists.</p> <p>We noted the immediate effect that having three new traffic islands has produced. Traffic seems slower. We think the problem of people stopping in School Rd to get cash from the cash machine will be reduced- much harder to stop there now with the island The area seems more pedestrian friendly already .We noted that the plans showed a total of 5 traffic islands- 2 more to come, 20mph speed notices , and bus stop re-positioning yet to happen</p> <p>Comments and debate centred around (i) why is it necessary to spend so much money when all that needs to happen is that pedestrians should not be lazy ,but cross in the designated places.</p> <p>(ii) why can't we have traffic islands further down towards the traffic lights to include the whole of the Tilehurst District Centre shopping area</p>
5	<p>Posters and Publicity- seeking more members We talked about poster sites- Tina reported a couple that had either temporarily or possibly permanently become unavailable. We need to keep the profile of having up to 25 in windows of local shops so decided to try to get replacements. Jenny and Tina to liaise</p> <p>We extended the discussion to having posters in other locations- dentists and doctors waiting rooms etc- There is less footfall going past, but more time to read them... The limitations on extending this coverage are time- would need more people to do regular monthly chore of distributing the posters- talking and ensuring they go up... cost of printing etc –decided this was a lower priority see how main effort goes</p> <p>Publicity in tilehurst directory.press etc articles etc = needs more effort when we have something specific to say .</p>
6	<p>Updates on current projects, (i) horse chestnut slice- liz will report on her return- some progress ,but slow sorting out location... (ii) Corwen Rd flats gardens- need to try to make progress re compost bins, spring clear up , jenny to contact possible volunteers with suggested timing of preliminary tidy up/on-site discussion aim for weekday afternoons.</p>
7	<p>AOB (i) RBC grant application for funds to pay for hire of room and general running costs- carol had submitted the appliucation- we expect to hear the result b e end of march. There are other grants we can apply for –we need specific ideas re what they are needed for- our routine running costs are rising- eg more troughs to maintain... specific ideas welcome (ii) Anne and david explained they will be moving to be nearer their family all wished them luck- we will miss them. Jenny to liaise re compost</p>
	<p>Next meeting Wed16 April (in Holy week) at 7.15pm:</p>

NOTES OF MEETING – TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 19 February 2014

Present: Sarennah Longworth-Cook, Nicola Longworth-Cook, Pam Webb, John Venning, Tanja Rebel, Steve Goodman, Ray Clayton, Cllr Meri O'Connell, Ricky Duveen, Carol McLellan (notes) Liz Ellis (chair), Tony Cowling (Speaker)

Apologies: Sandra Vickers ,Jenny Cottee,

1	<p>Liz welcomed Tony Cowling - 'Draught Buster' and retired builder, and who is now leading the Reading Sustainability Centre project (which includes looking into the development of a Reading Hydro-power scheme). He still has contacts with RBC as a result of his involvement with <i>Transition Town Reading</i> and the <i>draught busting project</i>, and recommended them as the people to contact for those with draughty homes.</p> <p>Tony took us through a presentation on the processes involved in the construction of his own home (2009) and the various design considerations and innovations incorporated to achieve optimum insulation and heat storage, and minimizing ongoing costs. The resultant benefits of his self-built home are: no dust, good air quality, quiet environment, warmth, no maintenance. More information can be found on his website http://www.tonyshouse.info.</p> <p>The top 5 most important features to consider when building yourself a home are: design/durability/ongoing costs/sustainability/technology. One might consider for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what heats a house: the sun, lighting, etc. (for example using solar thermal collectors, and a thermal store for the excess heat); • use of an air handling system - ie a continuous process for maintaining air quality – but it does require maintenance (changing filters say every 4-6 months); • Air tightness: Any holes in the property being built in/out as part of the design (thereby reducing unwanted draughts); • Triple glazing (as in 95% of windows in Austria); • External insulation on solid walls (typically used in Germany); • Type of insulation – eg sheeps' wool (organic, but gets wet); hemp and lime is better. (Tony prefers to use petro-chemicals ie that make polystyrene.) • The type of light bulb used affects the amount of heat generated/retained in a room; • Drawing the curtains saves 5% of heat going out through the (double-glazed) windows; • 'Sick building syndrome' – Houses as well as commercial properties can suffer from this. <p>Liz thanked Tony for an informative presentation and discussion on such an important topic. We all would leave the meeting armed with helpful tips and ideas for conserving energy in our homes and possibly reducing our fuel bills. We looked forward to hearing more from Tony on the hydro power scheme some time in the future.</p>
2	<p>RESCUE event Sat/Sun 15/16 March – between 10 – 12 and 2 - 4pm (both days)</p> <p>Before discussing details of the event, Liz Ellis reported the sad news that Kris Jarvis and his friend had been killed recently whilst on a bike ride. Kris worked for RBC Streetcare and has been very helpful to TG over many years particularly in connection with RESCUE.</p> <p><u>Sat 15 Mar: AM meet at the TRIANGLE (Leaders: Ray Clayton/Pam Webb; plus Lynne Jones with a small party from the Tilehurst Horticultural Society); PM meet at TEVIOT RD entrance to BLUNDELLS COPSE (Leaders: Jane Blake/Pat Ager)</u></p> <p><u>Sun 16 Mar: AM meet at THIRLEMERE Road (mini roundabout) entrance to MCILROYS PARK (Leaders: Janet McFall/Chris Cliburn); PM – meet at GYPSY LANE (Kentwood Hill end) (Leaders: Roger Sym/Jenny Cottee)</u></p> <p>Team leaders to contact Liz for their information packs. Session 1 TL (Ray/Pam) to arrange collection from Jenny Cottee of RESCUE folder (containing all requisite documents, guidance notes, etc.) and essential kit (eg litter pickers, gloves, hi-viz vests, refuse sacks). Key Points to be observed by team leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will get an attendance certificate – ensure their <u>school is recorded</u> on Sign-In sheet. Children to be supervised at all times – and not go off on their own, or with just one adult! • Note: there are TWO types of refuse bags: for recyclables and general waste; do NOT touch hazardous waste – just phone the HOT LINE. • At end of session, ensure folder with completed documents (sign-in sheets, summary reports - numbers attended, no. of bags, etc) and all kit passed on to leader of following Session (and returned to Jenny Cottee after last session); • TLs to advise RBC where bags have been left for collection. <p>Liz advised that a new Risk Assessment had been done this year and submitted to RBC.</p> <p>As usual, there will be a PRIZE DRAW for volunteers (prizes being donated by local sponsors). All participants MUST sign in (a Health & Safety requirement) at which time they will be given a raffle ticket.</p>

3	<p>Updates on current projects, news etc.</p> <p>(i) Bulb Planting - Sat 15 Feb – well attended and completed early; planted lots of bulbs in the green outside library – excellent display of yellow aconites and white snow drops. Autumn planting: bulbs planted junc. Halls Rd/Mayfair beginning to appear; but those pushing thru by Lloyds Bank may be limited owing to people parking on the grassed area! Please advise RBC via email to simon.beasley @reading.gov.uk to report such parking infringements. <u>Are there any other places we can plant? Suggestions welcome.</u></p> <p>(ii) Planting Water Troughs - Liz reported the trough by top of Arthur Newbery park (opposite thatched cottage) had now been planted out, having got the necessary permissions, and will be monitored/tended by a nearby resident. It was also noted that the trough in Scours Lane had been planted with lavender – but not known who by. (iii) Corwen gardens - compost heap: Following a complaint from one of the residents (damp wall), the compost heap/bins have been removed.</p>
4	<p>AOB (i) Blundells Copse: footpath/drainage – RBC have widened the paths, giving clear sight lines, and followed on from Ron's earlier drainage work. CROW have successfully re-laid the hedge along Teviot Road. (ii) Rubbish/litter dumping: please take photos and email to TG. They will go on the TG website.</p>
5	<p>Next meeting Wed 20 March at 7.15pm:</p>

NOTES OF MEETING– TILEHURST GLOBE – Wed 15 January 2014

Present: Judy Cullen , Tina Allen, John Venning, Pam Webb, Carol McClellan, Tanja Rebel, Steve Goodman, Marie Hubbard, Mary Green, Ray Clayton, Pat Ager, Terry Bryant, Cllr Meri O'Connell, Jenny Cottee (notes) Liz Ellis (chair), Emma Barnett (WRAP):

Apols Cllr Sandra Vickers, Cllr Ricky Duveen, Lesley West , Sheila Smith, Ron Smith ,Roger Sym

1	<p>Liz welcomed Emma Barnett – who is a local resident who works for WRAP.</p> <p>Emma started with a presentation explaining she would be talking about preventing and reducing avoidable food waste. This is a worthwhile task (7million tones of food and drink thrown away in the UK every year) and relevant to us since households are responsible for the majority of food waste. WRAP establishes information- collects the data, works with groups manufacturers and retailers on the problem and spreads the message. The idea is that after meetings like this people will pass on ideas information and tips to friends and family and spread the messages so people change their behaviour.</p> <p>Retailers and producers etc have been working together to reduce food waste (Courtauld Commitment –launched in 2005 now in its third phase) they tackle different issues- portion size, long life wrappings, clearer labeling etc.</p> <p>After 15 mins convincing us that the issue was important- quite complicated but that individual households could tackle some issues and save £££, Emma explained that more information could be found on the website http://www.wrap.org.uk/ and we set about discussing issues relating to five key behaviours that could reduce food waste</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get portion size right (especially rice and pasta) • Planning meals and shopping • Use leftovers • Storing food well to maximize food life and safe eating • Taking advantage of improvements in food packaging <p>In discussion at the end we were given the right answers, handy tips were shared, and very useful booklets were passed on</p> <p>Liz thanked Emma for making the evening an informative, thought provoking and fun way to consider such an important topic. We all would go home and change our behaviour in some way, and pass on at least one bit of information to someone.</p>
2	<p>Updates on current projects, news etc-(i) bulb planting is arranged for Sat 15 Feb 10-12noon meet at library- see posters- all welcome- tasks for grown ups and children we will plant lots of bulbs in the green – for instant effect (yellow aconites and white snow drops) – so please do what you can, and keep fingers crossed for decent weather...This is by far our most expensive annual event- we want to make it a great success.</p> <p>(ii) planting the water trough- we have had one response to appeal in newsletter- Liz is following it up- more volunteers welcome tending other neglected planters may be possible... (iii) Corwen gardens- compost heap and planter .There has been an unexpected problem- the wall suffered from proximity of bins- so more thought needed .When ground a bit less water-logged we will fix a session to spruce up beds</p>
3	<p>AOB (i) Blundells Copse- the paths and drainage have generally stood up well to the exceptionally challenging weather, however one new spring seems to have emerged . Some excellent hedge laying in the at top path near the playing field has been done by CROW/EConet volunteers (arranged through Dave Booth) as part of the improvement plan. (ii) Newsletter distribution etc many thanks to all distributors- comments on problems /issues welcome- please send in before we forget...</p>
4	<p>Next meeting Wed 19 Feb: Draught Buster Tony Cowling will help us learn about cheap practical ways to keep cosy , and save £££ .</p>