



CADRA Monthly Roundup

September 2018

CADRA has nearly five hundred members – a healthy figure. But there will be many more who care about our area, so please think of two or three other people who might be interested and forward your monthly bulletin to them each month.

CADRA's **Autumn Meeting** is on Tuesday 6th November, 7.45 pm at Thameside School, Harley Road, RG4 4DB. The river is an important part of Caversham life, so the meeting will include a talk on 'The Changing Thames' from Terry Marsh, Honorary Fellow of the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Wallingford. It is open to members and non-members, so please bring a guest.

Planning issues continue to be dominated by big housing proposals adjoining Caversham, on the border with South Oxfordshire. While South Oxfordshire now asserts that it can meet needs for the next five years, the key issue is whether it has enough housing sites in its Local Plan to meet needs up to 2033, given the uncertainty of the site at Chalgrove. Uncertainty over housing supply leaves it more vulnerable to speculative development and this needs to be resolved through an agreed Local Plan.

As part of this process, the District Council is conducting an analysis of sites put forward for development. These include sites at Emmer Green, Playhatch and Reading Golf Club. CADRA is very concerned about the principle of development on the Reading border in view of the impact on traffic through Caversham and the pressure on local services. We will continue joint working with Parish Councils on how best to maintain a green gap between Reading and the South Oxfordshire villages.

At **Tokers Green** a refused permission for 14 new homes has gone to appeal.

CADRA will reiterate its concern both to the Planning Inspectorate and to RBC.

The resumed **Gladman appeal** against refusal of 245 homes on the boundary at Dunsden has now finished. CADRA was there on all three days, when many of the arguments revolved around this housing land issue. A decision is expected in October and we will keep you posted.

Last month we briefed you on the review of **St Peter's Conservation Area**, in which CADRA took the lead. The key proposal was to extend it to include the Bridge St/Church St junction, Bridge St and Caversham Bridge itself. RBC had by then adopted the proposals for consultation. The consultation period has just closed, and we hope for a decision to adopt our proposals by the end of the year.

The new '**North Reading Safer Neighbourhoods Team**' will coordinate between the Police, Council and community groups, and CADRA is part of it. We feel it will be a useful innovation. A community safety survey has been completed to assess concerns by ward, and in North Reading the prime concerns were speeding, groups loitering (possibly drugs-linked) and burglaries. These issues will be the early focus of the new Forum, and we will keep you informed.

Reading Festival generally appears to have gone off well this year and no major concerns have reached us.

Caversham and District Residents Association

www.cadra.org.uk

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