



CADRA Monthly Roundup: September 2019

As usual, please help by thinking of two or three other people who care about our area and forward this monthly roundup to them.

Transport Strategy 2036

A reminder that the Council's transport consultation closes on 20 September: <https://www.pclconsult.co.uk/transport2036>. If you prefer, you can email the Council with your views at: transport@reading.gov.uk

Cleaner Air and Safer Transport Forum

We recently emailed members about the [Council's New Cleaner Air and Safer Transport Forum](#), to support its pledge to work jointly towards a carbon neutral Reading by 2030 and were pleased to hear back from several members. CADRA is represented on the forum and attended the initial meeting this week, together with other local groups, Councillors and Council Senior Officers.

Reading Gaol Hug

The Friends of Reading Gaol are seeking enough people to circle the outer wall and "hug" the gaol to demonstrate support for an arts and museum centre. This will take place at 2:30pm on Sunday 13th October. To allow planning for numbers, please register at:- [Reading Gaol Hug-in](#)

Planning

An application (Ref. [191088](#)) has been made to build a 132-room hotel on the Crowne Plaza's existing car park in Richfield Avenue. We have objected to this application with particular reference to the visual impact, including the views to and from the St Peters Conservation Area.

Licensing

We regularly review license applications including those for outdoor events in Caversham parks. The most recent application is for the Oktoberfest event, which has moved from Station Hill to Hills Meadow, by Reading Bridge. It takes place over three days, 10-12 October 2019.

William Marshal Panel

We are pleased to report that planning permission has been granted for the illustrated information panel, along with details of the supporting frame, to be attached to the lower viewing point of Caversham Bridge, looking towards Reading Bridge. The order for the panel has now been placed and installation will be complete during the anniversary year, marking 800 years since William Marshal's death in Caversham. There has been some increase in costs, for the specialist frame required and we would welcome further donations. [Donation Form](#)

Reading Electoral Wards Boundary Review

The Local Government Boundary Commission is conducting a review of Reading's council ward boundaries. With population around the town centre set to increase, it is proposed to increase the number of Councillors from 46 to 48 and to redraw ward boundaries. The consultation seeks views on how boundaries should be redrawn. It is open to all and closes on the 2 November 2019. The Commission will issue their draft recommendations, for a further consultation early 2020 and make a final recommendation June 2020.

The stated preference of the Council is for 16 wards of comparable size, with 3 Councillors per ward. This would clearly change ward boundaries north of the river and we encourage you respond to the consultation at: [LGBC Review Consultation](#)

CADRA Autumn Open Meeting

The next open meeting will be at **7.45pm, Tuesday 12 November 2019 at Thameside School**. We are pleased to welcome two local speakers. Richard Bennett, Chair of Reading Civic Society who has made a detailed study of all the major planning schemes approved or proposed around Reading. Mark Worringham,

who heads the Council's Planning Policy Team is ideally placed to talk about the creation of the new Reading Local Plan and the changes it will bring.

Reading Festival

Every year, CADRA and other local groups meet with the Reading Festival organisers to review issues arising. We would welcome your comments - positive or negative - about this year's festival.