



CADRA Monthly Roundup: November 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. And if you think this update is useful, please encourage other members to open and read it.

Autumn Open Meeting - Tuesday 12 November

Do you want to know more about the huge changes proposed in Reading? Our **Autumn Open Meeting** will bring you up to speed. Richard Bennett, who chairs Reading Civic Society, and Mark Worringham, Head of Planning Policy at the Council, will tell you what's happening and answer your questions. **Tuesday 12 November, 7.45 pm, Thameside Primary School, Harley Road.**

If you are looking for local cards to send at Christmas, we will have loose cards and envelopes for sale at knock down prices!

The William Marshal Panel is in place!

The information panel is now in place on Caversham Bridge and will be uncovered on Thursday by children from Marshal House at The Heights School. We are deeply indebted to all who have helped and donated. A small shortfall remains, so further donations would be welcomed.

Planning

Reading Local Plan has now been formally adopted. CADRA previously raised a few concerns but welcomed the revised policy on **Reading Golf Club**, which is now adopted. However, we understand that an exhibition of proposals by the potential developers, Redrow, may take place before Christmas and we will let you know if we hear more. While interested to see Redrow's ideas, CADRA is likely to oppose any development beyond that specified in the new Local Plan.

There is great uncertainty about the **South Oxfordshire Local Plan** because the newly elected Council wish to abandon it and start again, while the Government is indicating that it wishes to prevent them from doing so. The outcome is uncertain: this is a crucial issue on our northern edges, and we will keep you up to speed.

Conservation Issues

CADRA is increasingly involved in **conservation issues** throughout Reading by our contributions to Reading's Conservation Area Advisory Committee. We have used our previous experience in preparing the St Peter's Conservation Area appraisal to help with the re-appraisal of the Russell Street/Castle Hill Conservation Area, which goes to the Council's committee this month and recommends extending the Area along Oxford Road as far as the railway bridge.

Community Safety

Burglaries and knife crime are reducing across Reading, supported by a winter burglary campaign and the introduction of "stop and search". PCSOs are going into schools at Year 5, 6 & 7 levels to educate pupils about the dangers of knives. Sadly, there have been recent break-ins in Caversham, so do watch your security, particularly at the back of the house.

Public Space Protection Orders

These were introduced in April 2019 and cover the whole of Reading. The Police and RBC have limited resources to enforce them, so reports of incidents are important to identify hotspot areas.

Community Safety Survey

This recently launched [Community Safety Survey](#) closes on 15 November. The aim is to exceed the 1000 responses that were received in the survey two years ago.

Review of Ward Boundaries

Reading Borough Council has put forward to the Boundaries Commission a proposal, drawn up by a cross-party group, which would provide three revised wards north of the river, each with three councillors, and one ward which would span the River Thames - [Proposed Ward Boundaries Map](#). There will then be a consultation on the Commission's recommendations in February 2020. The changes would be effective from 2022.