



## **CADRA Monthly Roundup: December 2019**

Our last committee meeting of 2019 was a chance to reflect on a year of achievements: the installation of the William Marshal panel; the restoration of the Caversham village sign; our planning comments clearly being valued and often quoted; CADRA being shortlisted for the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, with a decision later next year; and two well attended open meetings. It's been a busy and successful year, made possible by your support and continued membership.

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.

### **The William Marshal Panel**

A successful launch event was held on 26 November, with a celebration cake and bubbles to thank the many people who helped. The panel looks great, but if you haven't had a chance to see it yet, you can view it on the [CADRA website](#).

### **Planning**

New plans have been submitted to renovate the important listed buildings at **2-4 Church Street** (The Spice Oven), with a full restoration of the historic buildings at the front, supported by the creation of apartments to the rear. A previous application was rejected because of issues with the development at the rear. CADRA was influential in achieving sympathetic proposals for the frontage buildings, which the new application replicates, and we shall be commenting on the detail of this new application but generally support and welcome it. Details at [191530](#)

We opposed the application for a second hotel adjoining the **Crowne Plaza**, just over the river, because of its severe impact on views, especially from our Conservation Area. We are pleased to report that the application was refused on 11 December.

Details have been submitted for the redevelopment of the **Drews** site in Caversham Road and CADRA will be commenting. They can be found on: [Drews 191792](#)

### **EA Flood prevention scheme**

CADRA is meeting the Environment Agency in January, before the next public engagement event. We want to understand the EA's reasoning and justification, and to get the clearest possible view of the scheme's impact before taking a view on the proposals.

The meeting on Flood Risk Awareness & Climate Change Adaptation, which was to have been held on 19 November, has been rescheduled for 18 December. For details follow this link [Reading Climate Action Network](#)

### **Community Safety**

Though burglaries are reducing across Reading, they are unfortunately increasing in Caversham. The Police are particularly stressing the need to keep upper floor windows secure as well as ground floor. They also suggest you consider a 'smart' doorbell, such as [Ring](#), which has a video camera that can link to your mobile phone.

**And Finally**, we would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and good things ahead in 2020.