



## **CADRA Monthly Roundup: September 2020**

Your committee continues to meet via the web and this update summarises what is going on. Please share it with anyone you feel might be interested.

### **Gosbrook Road One-way System**

This was installed as a temporary measure as part of government schemes to assist cycling and pedestrians arising from the Covid outbreak. It caused numerous problems and was removed after widespread protests. CADRA urges that any similar future initiatives should follow our [Sharing Our Streets Proposals](#).

### **Planning Issues**

#### **The South Oxfordshire Local Plan**

Following the recent Public Inquiry, the Inspector has set out his [Preliminary Conclusions](#), in a letter to SODC.

He endorses the Plan's revised housing figures as 'sound', confirming major housing estates at Chalgrove and around Oxford, and requires a more sensitive approach to new housing densities in villages. We are still digesting the implications, but overall, this may be helpful to issues on the Reading border. SODC is now required to set out modifications to the draft plan and consult on those changes.

#### **Reading Golf Club**

CADRA is objecting to this [application](#) on the grounds that the additional numbers of houses proposed, beyond those indicated in the Local Plan, will add to the cumulative impact on traffic and services, and devalue the landscape, which will be detrimental to Caversham and Emmer Green. If, nevertheless, the Council is minded to approve the application, CADRA urges that the proposed layout should adopt current best practice by creating shared surfaces for pedestrian, cycle and bus-friendly access. Should proposed new facilities on parts of the course in South Oxfordshire influence approval, we urge the Council to secure a binding agreement.

#### **Balmore Drive**

As reported in the August Round-up, we objected to a proposed new house here: a striking new design, but inappropriate in the virtually intact inter-war character of this attractive road. The application was recommended for refusal but was withdrawn before a decision.

## **Lights on the Bridges**

The lights on Reading and Caversham bridges are to be refurbished and converted to LEDs. We have been working closely with Councillors to ensure that their essential appearance on these bridges, which are so crucial to Caversham's character, is conserved.

## **Royal Berkshire Hospital**

The RBH is considering its long-term building needs and options, and has opened a [Consultation](#).

## **Local Films of Interest**

As part of the Heritage Open Days programme ([Whats on in Reading](#)), two well-produced films of local interest are available on YouTube, one about [Caversham Court Gardens](#) and the other on [Caversham Road History and Architecture](#).