



## **CADRA Round Up - September 2021**

### **CADRA Open Meeting 10 November**

The next CADRA open meeting has just been confirmed for **Wednesday 10 November at 7.30pm** on Zoom. Titled **Climate for Electric Cars**, it will address the transition to electric cars for drivers and for the energy industry. Phil Coker, Reading University, worked as an operational engineer before moving to consultancy and research. Anthony Simpson works in Renewable Energy and Sustainability, including the grid integration of electric vehicles with a company listed in the Sunday Times greenest companies. Together, they will attempt to demystify the issues ahead for the transition.

### **Planning**

Planning issues in Caversham have been quieter this month. The application for 60 retirement units, adjacent to the new nursing home on Henley Road has just been withdrawn.

The three major planning applications north of the station are still unresolved. The application on the SSE site was refused and the appeal will be held late October. Issues include the route through to the station, the height and shadowing on the river, living conditions adjacent to major electrical equipment and the loss of a locally listed gatehouse. The other two applications are still under consideration and CADRA remains concerned about the relationship between the three schemes.

In South Oxfordshire, development of a new joint Local Plan for both SODC and the Vale of the White Horse is now underway, including a call for new housing sites.

A decision on the Caversham Lakes application is expected. In addition to the concerns for the nature reserve, residents in Caversham and South Oxfordshire are being disturbed by late night music events, which are outside the opening hours applied for.

Recent national changes included new Permitted Development Rights (PDRs) to create residential units without planning permission. Studies have shown that many of the conversions are poor quality. In common with many other authorities, RBC is seeking to introduce restrictions under Article 4 to be effective in 12 months' time. This would restrict some PDRs in specified areas, including the town centre and local centres requiring a full planning application. [RBC to block some PDRs](#)

### **Safer Caversham**

The next "Have Your Say" meeting with local police will be on **15 October, 3pm to 4pm**, outside St Anne's Primary School, Washington Road. Local resident and Chair of the North Reading Safer Neighbourhood Forum Nick Haskins has produced a useful summary of safety issues over the past twelve months. [Issues and Chair's Report.](#)

Preparations for Community Speedwatch are nearing completion and there is now a Reportable App to make it easier to [Report Problems with Antisocial Behaviour.](#)

### **Reading Festival**

Local groups are gathering feedback on Reading Festival. Not much sound reached Caversham and with Covid procedures for re-entering the site there were fewer visitors to Caversham. Security on the

river was difficult at times and there is growing public concern about the volume of camping equipment abandoned.

**National Old People's Day**

Friday 1 October is [Old People's Day](#), with a number of [events](#) in the Broad Street Mall, between 10am and 3pm.