



Round Up - April 2022

This update follows our recent [Spring Newsletter](#). On its front page you will find details of the first 'in person' event for over two years. It will take place at **7.30pm Monday 16 May** in the large and airy New Testament Church of God – the old Glendale Cinema, next to Caversham Library. Following a brief AGM (see the agenda on the back page of the newsletter) we look forward to hearing about local policing from Inspector Sarah Sanderson and PC Vince Moore. You may like to park behind Waitrose, which is not monitored in the evening, or behind Iceland with a strict 3-hour limit. Everyone is welcome and please do pass on details.

Planning

The end of March brought news on two major schemes. The Secretary of State will not 'call in' the **Reading Golf Club application** ([211843](#)) and the formal approval has been issued. As far as we know, the appeal on the refused application ([210018](#)) will proceed in June. The planning application for **Caversham Park** ([220409](#)) is now online. It includes: conversion of the main building for 64 assisted living units; a new 64-bed care home; retirement dwellings on the car park and by the previous satellite dishes; 28 affordable and 5 family homes near the site entrance; and refurbishment and extension of the pavilion to provide changing facilities and a café/studio supporting facilities for croquet, bowling and tennis. While the formal closing date is the end of April, comments will continue to be accepted. Given the number and complexity of the planning documents, we have posted a few documents at [Caversham Park & House](#).

There have been major decisions for the area north of the station. The [SSE](#) site by the river, refused by the Council, was approved at appeal. Next to the station, the [Old Mail Sorting Office](#) land was approved at planning committee on 30 March. This is for 620 residential units with a mix of other uses. The highest building at 24 storeys is next to the northern entrance to the station. Levels step down to 8 storeys on Caversham Road. The design and landscape details will require a separate application. Between the two, stretching from TGI Fridays to The Range, is the application by [Aviva](#), which will be heard at appeal in late April. We remain concerned about the critical relationships between the three sites and have submitted comments accordingly.

Emmer Green

Following the sad decision to disband the Emmer Green Residents Association, we are now working with previous members of the EGRA committee, to ensure local input from Emmer Green and continued support for the many practical activities there. It is still early days, so we are keen to hear from Emmer Green residents as we shape new arrangements. We extend a very warm welcome to new members from Emmer Green.

The Triangle

Bids to buy or lease the Council's land between Barclays and the Riverside Dental Centre with an option for a digital advertising display have been received and considered. We are pressing for an update on the next steps.

Traffic Offences

The Government are giving councils the option to enforce some **moving traffic offences**, including entering box junctions and making banned turns. Reading plans to use these new powers to improve safety and tackle congestion. A consultation with more details is open to 20 May. [Moving Traffic Offences Consultation - Reading Borough Council - Citizen Space](#)

The CADRA Tree

As part of CADRA's 50th anniversary celebrations in 2017, we assisted the mayor to plant a new Copper Beech near to the Caversham War Memorial. Sadly, this has failed to thrive and we are grateful to the Council for their help in replacing it. Please do take a look when you are passing.