



Round Up August 2023

Your committee met this week and there is plenty of news to share with you and anyone you would like to forward it to.

Planning

Work continues to satisfy the detailed conditions for construction on **Reading Golf Course**. This includes Ecology aspects, Habitat Enhancement, timing and location of the required off-site biodiversity net gain, and hard and soft landscaping on the site. Arrangements for construction traffic are progressing slowly. Once the new bell mouth entrance on Kidmore End Road is complete, it will be possible for construction traffic to exit left out of the site, thus avoiding two-way construction traffic on this narrow road. We are working closely with Ward Councillors to seek further clarity.

We would welcome your comments on the new plans for **Caversham Park** ([220409](#)).

We have submitted comments on changes to two petrol stations: Henley Road ([230230](#)) and George Street ([230603](#)) which includes provision of electric charging but removal of trees.

New applications include: a retrospective applications for the **Chillis** shopfront ([230933](#)) and its signs ([230932](#)) newly opened on Church Street; an application for **Great Brighams Mead** on Vastern Road ([230745](#)) to add a third and fourth floor with an 100 room apart-hotel; an application from the **Heights Primary School** ([231023](#)) to increase to 420 pupils.

Appeals still in progress include: The Moorings Mill Green; Caversham Lakes; the Piggery Gravel Hill.

Incident on Hemdean Road

We share the shock and sadness over another stabbing incident between young people. The police are seeking any further information by calling 101 or their web [Appeal for Witnesses](#), quoting 43230353882.

[No5 Young People](#), a local charity, provides early intervention mental health support for young people aged 11-25 and is an important part of the community's response to knife crime. If you would like to contribute to their resources for counselling, there is a [Current Appeal](#) and donations are always welcome.

Changes to Bus Routes

The Reading Buses website gives notice of [Changes](#) to the 23/24 and 25 from 4 September:

- The 23 will no longer run via Kidmore End Road and Courtenay Drive, instead Berry 23 will serve Peppard Road stopping at Kiln Road. There are also minor changes to some departure times.
- The 24 will no longer run via Kidmore End Road and Courtenay Drive, instead running direct from Black Horse to Barnard Close. There are also minor changes to some departure times.
- The 25 will now run via Kidmore End Road and Courtenay Drive in both directions; stopping at Chalgrove Way, Crawshay Drive and Courtenay Drive top. Due to this change, pink 25 will no longer stop at Kiln Road.

There are concerns these changes will make it much harder to reach schools and doctors' surgeries by bus, and add to the problems with construction traffic on Kidmore End Road. We would welcome your comments before we write to Reading Buses.

There are also changes to other routes and “minor tweaks” to the 22. The new timetable will be “available soon”.

Thames Valley Police

Neighbourhood Watch has issued their [Latest Newsletter](#) and the next [Thames Valley Police Open Day](#) takes place 2 September.

St Peters Church Reordering

As part of the work towards renewing and refreshing the inside of the church, a new [Leaflet](#) explains the changes being considered. More community facilities in Caversham would be welcome. To help build up the case and find organisations who will want to make use of this renewed Grade 2* listed building, there is a short questionnaire and responses would be welcome. Links to both the leaflet and questionnaire can be found in the link above.

Consultations

Following the consultation about relocation of Reading Library on to the site of the Civic Centre, plans have been on display and a planning application is expected soon. The Council is seeking comments on the draft [Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy](#) up to 18 September.

Heritage Open Days

There is an exciting local programme of [Events](#) from 8-17 September. Those needing booking are filling up fast and some already have a waiting list. There is a [National Programme](#) which allows a postcode search.

Sponsor a tree for your street?

This [Initiative](#) comes in response to frequent requests from people wanting trees planted near where they live. The one-off fee to sponsor a tree is £395, or £295 if the residents commit to watering the tree.

1. Visit [Sponsor a Street Tree](#) to request a location for a new tree, answer a few simple questions, and submit your sponsorship details.
2. The Council will survey the location to check for suitability.
3. If acceptable, an 'instant-impact' tree (normally 5-7 years old and 3-4 metres high) will be planted, during the November to April planting season.

Dinosaur Trail

If you are in Reading town centre you can follow the [Trail of Dinosaurs](#), up to 20 August.

And finally

Don't forget that the most recent news is on the CADRA Facebook Page. It is available to everyone without joining Facebook, by going to our website Home Page and just scrolling down. The links are also at the end of this email. We make these summaries freely available. If you find them useful and value what CADRA does please encourage others to join, and of course keep your membership going - It's just £3 a year for the household.