



Round Up - November 2022

Following our committee meeting and the open meeting this week, here is an update on local issues. As always, please share it with anyone who may find it useful, and if you are looking for background there are our [Previous Reports](#) and much more on our [Website](#).

Planning

Caversham **Waitrose** is making changes. In addition to [221289](#) for new signs around the shop and the car park, application [221300](#) applies for changes to the façade, loading area, car park, pedestrian walkways and trolley parking. Changes inside the store will not require planning approval.

The **Reading Golf Club** approval for outline planning consent last year excluded the detailed design of the houses as 'reserved matters' but included 49 conditions. Application [220930](#) now seeks approval for the reserved matters.

Application [220738](#) had applied to discharge three conditions: the Council has approved the discharge for the Archaeological Investigation but not for the Habitat Enhancement or Environmental Management plans. Having made further detailed studies, Vistry has now applied to vary 19 of the conditions in a new application [221312](#), which the Council has opened up for public consultation (deadline to submit comments: 19 November).

CADRA met the Vistry team recently and raised issues on detailed design, safety issues on Kidmore End Road and more effective local communication. [Vistry Newsletters](#), only one so far, are posted on the CADRA website.

An [Article 4 Directions Notice](#) will come into force from 15 November 2022, removing permitted development rights in the town centre and local centres. This is a welcome move which should allow better planning decisions in Caversham Centre and the Emmer Green shopping area.

Traffic Safety

Two local petitions were presented to the **Traffic Management Committee** on 10 November.

Concerns have been raised for some years about the problems for pedestrians crossing the junction by the **Last Crumb**. A local resident conducted a survey, with support from MP Matt Rodda, reaching 1400 responses.

Accidents by the access road to **Caversham Lakes**, off the Henley Road, have long been a concern and this continues to be an issue, despite refusal of planning permission for leisure facilities there. A [Petition](#) was launched by another local resident and has attracted over 500 signatures in the first four weeks.

CADRA is continuing to provide advice and support to both individuals. You can read the [Committee Reports Online](#) and [View the whole Meeting](#).

Subject to approval in a Council committee this week, enforcement of illegal blocking of [Yellow Box Junctions](#) is expected to be introduced in Reading from April. This would initially cover 15 junctions including Church Street/Church Road/Bridge Street. During the first six months, motorists blocking the yellow box junctions will receive a warning notice for the first offence, but a penalty charge for further offences.

CADRA Open Meeting

The meeting on Wednesday was well attended with a very useful presentation on avoiding scams. If you were not able to attend, we will shortly be adding this to the [existing information on our website](#).

Membership among residents in **Emmer Green** is growing steadily and it was a pleasure to meet new members at the meeting.

Reading Festival Review

We were pleased to join the recent review meeting to share progress and concerns. Policing of drug sales and undesirable river traffic was much improved this year. Gradual progress is being made on control of litter and reducing the volume of material left onsite at the end of the festival. But more needs to be done. We recorded our thanks to WADRA for their excellent work in gathering and sorting items left behind, to Caversham GLOBE for volunteer litter picking and to North Reading Safer Neighbourhood Forum.

Defibrillator in St Martins Precinct

Thanks to a kind donation, a new defibrillator has been installed in the St Martins Precinct.

Parliamentary Boundaries

The Boundary Commission for England is consulting until 5 December 2022 on revised proposals for new constituencies. These changes would see Caversham and Emmer Green within a new Reading Borough constituency including most, but not all, of the Borough boundary. You can find a map showing the existing and proposed boundaries at [Find Your Constituency](#).

Christmas Late Night Shopping

This event in Caversham, on **Friday 2 December**, is always popular with special entertainment and refreshments, market stalls in the square and different events in local shops. If you would like to 'give something back', there will be the 'Reverse Santa' in Fourbears bookshop (also returning on Sunday afternoon) and a central food bank collection point for both people and pets. Look out for details nearer the time on [Choose Caversham](#). You will find details about Christmas in Reading at [Visit Christmas](#)

Can you help?

We email this regular update to CADRA members every month and invite everyone to share it. If you find it helpful, please consider giving your support by [Joining as a Member](#), for just £3 a year per household. Membership numbers are important to our work providing a strong voice for Caversham.