

PL/25/1225 - Hills Meadow, George Street

CADRA appreciates the popularity of the annual Winter Wonderland event in Hills Meadow but is concerned about the potential damage to the grass strip, shrubs and trees along the footpath near View Island, and how flooding may affect the area during the event.

The footpath is a key popular route for Lower Caversham and to View Island. The strip provides a natural environment in an urban area, supporting wildlife and helping to hide views of the rough ground and car park.

Last year, whilst the event area didn't encroach on the strip, there was some evidence of damage from heavy construction vehicles on it, presumably caused during setup and clean up. Previously, log barriers were there which helped protect this strip from damage during events. We believe reintroducing a simple barrier would effectively safeguard the area and ask that the area be closely monitored, to keep heavy equipment away, ensuring the strip remains unharmed.

Our concern about flooding is that this can happen quickly, providing little time to move equipment, whose presence may increase the overall flood damage in the area.

We also want to ensure that the arrangements for monitoring noise levels and managing traffic are adequate, so that the public's enjoyment of the popular footpath is not negatively impacted during the period of the event.

We ask the Planning Application Committee to consider all CADRA's concerns.