

CAVERSHAM AND DISTRICT RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 17th April 2018

Present: Helen Lambert (Chair), Stewart Bolton (Treasurer), Committee and Members.

Opening and Welcome: Helen Lambert welcomed all those present to the AGM, and introduced Committee members and Committee support.

1. Minutes of the 2017 AGM were approved.

2. Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

3. Chair's Annual report.

Helen Lambert, Chair of CADRA, reported that it had been yet another busy year for CADRA and a copper beech tree had been planted by the Caversham War Memorial to mark our 50th anniversary year. With a special extended anniversary edition of the Newsletter, about 100 people had come together to celebrate CADRA's achievements over the past 50 years and to drink a toast to the future.

Helen highlighted the following:

i. Planning.

CADRA continues to monitor planning applications. The first phase of the St Martin's development was completed with the planting of new trees and CADRA was invited to discuss initial plans for the new cinema above Superdrug. We have received confirmation of a replacement hedge in front the Albert Road Extra Care housing and we have followed plans to restore the front of the Spice Oven, the Coopers BMW site, 203 Henley Road and Caversham Park, which is now under offer. Thanks to Malcolm Pemble for researching and compiling the monthly summary of applications.

In South Oxfordshire, CADRA has commented on the Local Plan and also on plans for a nursing home at Greendene Farm, Chazey Heath. The appeal by Gladman against refusal of outline application for 245 house on the border of Emmer Green takes place at the beginning of May and Paul Matthews represents CADRA in the combined team of Parish Councils and residents' associations preparing for the appeal.

ii. Local Heritage.

The Conservation Area Advisory Committee has gone from strength to strength and was able to secure considerable improvements on heritage issues in the Reading Local Plan, including protection for a number of 'Heritage Views', some of which are around Caversham. Work with the Council aims to safeguard some of the period lamp stands, including those on Caversham Bridge, as LED lighting is installed. The consultation on the St Peter's Conservation Area showed overwhelming support and was submitted to the Council in December. The Planning Officers supported the proposals, which will be considered at the July meeting of the Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport Committee. Thanks to John Nicholls, Liz Killick, Vickie Abel and particularly Kim Pearce, as well as other volunteers for their hard work on these extensive pieces of work.

iii. Transport.

Paul Matthews has now had to stand down from the committee due to other commitments but we are grateful for the substantial contribution he continues to make, particularly on the traffic implications of the Gladman scheme. Caversham bus routes changed in February and CADRA has made representations about the unsatisfactory state of the 22 service.

iv. Caversham Centre.

CADRA has given financial help to GLOBE in testing air quality across Caversham centre. Caversham Library looks likely to lose another full day after further consultation.

v. Safer Caversham.

The Neighbourhood Action Group has been renamed the Caversham Safer Neighbourhood Forum. The local Police base in Church House has closed and a new base opened in the Weller Centre. We are grateful to Alan Wright who attends the meetings for CADRA.

vi. The Heights Primary School and Mapledurham Pavilion.

The decision on a permanent site for the new school remains divisive for Caversham. CADRA remains neutral on individual sites but has sent comments on transport concerns. The planning application for the school buildings was approved by the Planning Committee subject to further agreements.

vii. Caversham Bridge Newspaper.

Members of the Committee write the column 'From the Lookout Post' which appears from time to time,

viii. CADRA Website and Facebook Page.

The CADRA website has been comprehensively revamped and reviewed. Thanks to Lloyd Pople for his technical lead, Malcolm Pemble for a substantial update and Liz Killick for updating the Planning page. The Home page has a link to our Facebook page, which anyone can access. With over 250 'likes' this makes contact with well over 1000 people per month.

ix. Membership.

Organisations like CADRA need a substantial membership to remain strong, and the Chair outlined the various ways in which subscriptions can be paid. We are grateful to Jacque Tomson for looking after membership arrangements as well as sending and receiving emails on behalf of CADRA.. Email is the main method of communication with members.

Helen then thanked members of the committee and committee support for all their work throughout the year and said that CADRA was always keen to hear from anyone who could offer support in any way so that Caversham can always be *a Great Place to Live!*

4. Treasurer's Report.

Stewart Bolton, Treasurer, presented the annual accounts and the meeting voted to adopt them. Stewart thanked Ray Goodman for his outstanding service to CADRA in auditing the accounts over the years.

5. Election to the Committee.

Liz Killick, Kim Pearce and Lloyd Pople retired from the Committee but indicated they were willing to serve on the Committee again. They were elected en block to the Committee together with Alan Wright. The AGM ratified the reappointment of Helen Lambert as Chair of CADRA.

6. Any Other Business

The Chair then declared that the Annual General Meeting was formally concluded.

Immediately after the AGM, a presentation was given by Sue Holden, Chief Officer, the Conservation Board of The Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

A collection, amounting to £130.45 was taken in aid of The Chiltern Conservation Board.