

Round Up November 2023

Your committee met this week and would like to update you on a range of issues. As always, do share it with anyone who would find it useful. If you missed the Autumn Newsletter you will find it <u>Here.</u>

Transport Strategy

The <u>Consultation</u> for the <u>Draft Transport Strategy 2040</u> closes on **11 December**. This is important for North Reading, and we were delighted to see over 100 people at our open meeting on 6 November. As the strategy document is both long and complex, we have produced a <u>Commentary</u> with links to different sections. This will serve to shape the CADRA response to the consultation. We hope it will also assist individuals to frame their own comments and we welcome your thoughts. The consultation is an online survey, but you can email your response to <u>transport@reading.gov.uk</u> and you may like to copy us in.

Planning

A final decision on the large site from <u>TGI Fridays to The Range</u> is due from the Secretary of State by the end of November. The appeal against refusal of the <u>5G mast on Caversham Park Road</u>, was robustly dismissed by the <u>Inspector</u>. The appeal hearing concerning enforcement action against Caversham Lakes is scheduled for 5 December.

An application to demolish the Victorian house at <u>92 Albert Road</u>, to build two detached houses and a pair of semis, has produced a mixed response. There is a separate application to approve the hoarding already in place. The application to build a house on a leisure plot on the riverbank at The Warren caused considerable concern and has been withdrawn. An exhibition was held on proposals for Napier Court (<u>EIA Request</u>) with 570 apartments across two buildings. A planning application is expected to follow.

The application for the <u>Spice Oven</u> and for the large scheme in <u>Caversham Park</u> have still to be decided.

Applications to discharge the many detailed conditions for **Reading Golf Club** continue. Following a well-attended residents' meeting about the development, CADRA confirmed the details of the <u>Main Responses to Questions</u>. These were circulated to members in Emmer Green, along with several updates.

CADRA Looks Ahead

Every organisation needs to look ahead and adapt to changing times. We want CADRA to remain a vibrant and relevant organisation for years to come, so early next year we will start planning. We want to involve members and therefore would very much like to hear from anyone who believes they could participate in this or contribute ideas. Please share this with anyone you think may be interested and ask them to contact us on <u>info@cadra.org.uk</u>.

Thefts and Scams

In the run up to Christmas we all need to be particularly wary of scams, some of which can be difficult to spot. There is a recent warning of scammers trying to infiltrate community groups on WhatsApp. CADRA does not use WhatsApp but please look out for this in other groups. You will find useful links at <u>Safer Caversham</u>.

There has been another spate of thefts from vehicles. The police have advice on Keeping Vehicles Safe.

Christmas Festivities

Friday 8 December at 5pm is when the always popular Caversham late-night shopping event starts. The Friends of Caversham Court Gardens traditional Christmas Carol Concert will be held in the floodlit gardens on Monday 18 December (gates open 6.15pm: singing starts at 7.30pm). The Tea Kiosk will be open for mince pies and mulled wine. If wet, the concert will be in St Peter's Church. The concert is free to all, but donations are welcome.

And Finally

Between these monthly updates we share local information 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 monthly updates 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.