



## Round Up July 2024

Following the CADRA Committee meeting this week, we bring you an update on local issues.

The CADRA team will be at the Church Fete on Saturday afternoon this weekend from 1pm, in Caversham Court. Do call by and see us. We have a competition with generously donated prizes and a chance to try your hand at printing.

It will be a busy weekend with the [Marathon Canoeing National Championships](#) hosted by and at the [Reading Canoe Club](#), on 13-14 July 2024, and [Readipop](#) on Christchurch Meadows.

Plans for our Autumn open meeting in November will be confirmed shortly, with a panel of speakers covering air ambulance and paramedic services, and how to use the growing network of defibrillators.

## Planning

The Planning Applications Committee at the end of June considered a report on the proposed development at **Caversham Park** ([220409](#)) to provide retirement housing and care. They weighed the benefits, which includes the proposed public access to parts of the site, against the harm to its heritage as expressed by Historic England and others. The committee agreed to approve the scheme subject to the agreement of provisions.

The Committee also approved the work on the former **Barclays Bank** ([240068](#)) to provide two retail units with accommodation above. Construction methods will be complex at this busy junction and details will need to be agreed to discharge this condition.

Work on the former **SSE site** between Vastern Road and the river is progressing. An application has been submitted for hoarding signs on three sides of the site. Given the extent of the hoardings, CADRA has suggested that this presents an opportunity for something more creative than just standard advertising. You may like to add your own ideas by commenting on the application at: [240805](#).

The proposal for a seven room HMO at **10a Bridge Street** ([240417](#)) has been withdrawn.

The application for nine houses accessed past **Lyefield Court, Emmer Green** ([240403](#)) has raised many concerns. Transport Officers advise that the width of the road is insufficient to facilitate 2-way movement, and the Highway Authority is expected to object to an intensification of Lyefield Court.

There is a new application for two houses on the **junction of Queens Road with Mill Road** ([240528](#)) and also for a new storage building on **Paddock Road** ([240844](#)).

Plans are being drawn up for a new development at **Norman Place** next to Clearwater Court between Vastern Road and the Thames. We have been invited to meet the developers a second time to see the changes proposed.

### **Emmer Green**

We are drawing up plans to clean and repair the **Emmer Green Village Sign** erected in 2003. Two of the logos on the post need replacing and it needs protection to stop water penetrating the base of the post. Keep Emmer Green (KEG) has kindly offered to share costs.

We are waiting to hear when work will start to restore the signs and line markings on **Kidmore End Road**, now that the Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) has been cancelled.

### **Allocation of the CIL 15% Local Contribution**

A **Community Infrastructure Levy** to meet the demands on infrastructure is applied to planning applications and 15% of that is available for neighbourhood schemes. Following Ward Councillor nominations last autumn, the Policy Committee has now approved funding for the following local schemes:

- 20mph zone for the Amersham Road estate area
- Tree planting in Amersham Road and Westfield Recreation Ground
- Traffic and crossing measures in Caversham Heights
- Maintenance/refurbishment of Albert Road Park tennis courts

We are waiting for clarification from Lead Councillors on the opportunities for community groups to put forward nominations for future years, particularly in relation to the local contributions from large planning developments.

### **Climate Action**

CADRA has been asked to help in shaping Reading's Climate Emergency Strategy 2025–2030 and we would like to gather a small group of members to contribute to this.

If you would be interested to take part, please reply to this email and we will set up the most convenient gathering, either in person or online. [Have your say on Reading's response to the climate emergency](#)

### **Flooding January 2024**

The Policy Committee received [reports](#) on the flood events in January. We are grateful to the residents who provided further detail to ensure a full assessment of the key factors.

The need to keep clear the Christchurch Ditch (aka the Danal), which runs through Christchurch and Hills Meadows, has been a longstanding concern.

### **New Smoke Control Area**

If you have an open fire or wood burning stove, check out the [Regulations](#) which will apply here from 1 December.

### **A Date for your Diary**

The Caversham Traders Association are making plans for the annual Christmas evening event on Friday 6 December 2024.

### **And Finally**

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 to [Join or Renew](#).