



Round Up September 2024

We look forward to seeing you at the next [CADRA Open Meeting](#) on **Wednesday 13 November**, when we welcome speakers from both South Central Ambulance Service and Thames Valley Air Ambulance service to talk about the challenges facing the front line services.

Sarah Stuffins' recent talk on **BBC Monitoring's Place in Caversham** proved very popular. Sarah joined the CADRA team after a successful career with BBC Monitoring.

Her talk formed part of Heritage Open Days 2024 and was the event selected for a visit by the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire. It was kindly hosted by St Barnabas Church, as part of the church's centenary celebrations. These included a flower festival and community fair, where CADRA had a stall.

On both occasions we were delighted to have the chance to talk to local people and welcome new members. Our numbers increase steadily. Thank you all for sharing these updates and for encouraging others to join.

Planning

Following the introduction of RBC's new Planning Register, we have made alterations to the CADRA planning list, making it easier to find new applications and changes. We are looking at other ways to make the list easier to navigate on a mobile phone or tablet.

Applications in Caversham Centre this month include a revised application at **10B Bridge Street** (Left of Caversham Cobbler) [PL/24/1098](#), for a new shop front and five room HMO with studio flat. A previous application was withdrawn after comments from the Planning Officer. **18 Bridge Street** (Closed baguette shop) includes change of use for a dental clinic and two flats on the upper floors - [PL/24/1151](#). There is also a retrospective application - [PL/24/1174](#) - for the new lockers at the front of Tesco Express on Church Street.

On **The Warren**, proposals for extensions and house alterations to The Shanty (no. 145) [240824](#), and at the The Warren's entrance for some tree work at **1 St Peters Hill**.

The proposed two-storey roof (third and fourth floor) extension to **Great Brighams Mead** on Vastern Road, to accommodate 100 apart-hotel rooms was rejected by the Planning Applications Committee (PAC).

A full report from RBC Natural Environment raises concerns over the limited tree planting in the application for an 11/12 storey development at **Napier Court, Napier Road** - [PL/24/0846](#).

Emmer Green

Good progress has been made in the planning for the remedial works and cleaning of the **Emmer Green village sign**. The work should be done in late October, subject to agreement with Reading Borough Council who will provide screening to the sign while the work is done, to ensure public safety. We are grateful to Keep Emmer Green for contributing towards the cost of the works.

The application for nine houses at the **Brindles** in Emmer Green, accessed through Lyefield Court, was considered by the September PAC. Following representations from residents at Lyefield Court, the Conifers and support from CADRA, the application was unanimously rejected.

In **South Oxfordshire** (SODC), further information has become available regarding the proposed construction and operation of an additional **water reservoir at Foxhill Lane**, Emmer Green - [P23/S3410/FUL](#). CADRA has raised its concerns with SODC about proposed traffic routes for construction traffic and urged liaison between authorities.

Reinstating the signs and lines on **Kidmore End Road** following the agreement to cancel the **TTRO** is long overdue. We have again pressed Vistry for an update.

Reading Festival

How did the festival impact you? CADRA will join the review meeting in early October and would welcome your feedback – positive or negative.

Spill Bar

A licensing application was made for an **artisan wines and beer bar**, where the House of Cards was. Maximum seating capacity is for 120 inside and 100 outside the premises, open every day to 11pm. CADRA submitted comments on the need to maintain living conditions locally and we are informed that strict conditions will apply.

Henley Road Allotments

The Council Policy Committee considered and approved a recommendation to pursue **further burial provision** on the reserve cemetery land at Henley Road – currently allotments – and to undertake consultation. [Report to Policy Committee](#)

Keeping Safe

The **Community Safety Survey** has been extended to 29 September at [Share your views on crime and safety in Reading](#).

The excellent booklet '**Stay True to You**' for parents and carers and those who support young people is on our [CADRA webpage](#).

We have seen a lot of **warnings about scams** including:

- Fake texts about a Penalty Charge Notice for a parking offence
- Several on-street parking machines in the town centre have been found with false QR codes attached
- Action Fraud report a total loss of £17.7 million in 2023 to pension fraudsters
- Rental Scams on social media sites
- Scams targeting students starting out - [Student Safety | Action Fraud](#)

Bus Changes from 2 September

The new **pink 25a** now provides two buses an hour between Central Reading, Emmer Green and Sonning Common during the day Monday to Saturday. An additional early morning journey and a new hourly evening service to Peppard Common is also introduced. On Sundays, pink 25 frequency has been doubled to hourly throughout the day. These enhancements to pink 25 have been coordinated by Oxfordshire County Council with funding from new developments and HM Government.

A new school **route 80** runs from Caversham Park, Emmer Green and central Caversham to the schools in the Royal Berkshire Hospital area to supplement the normal network and popular school **route 81**. The normal range of fares are available for this service, allowing the use of the rest of the network at other times.

Residents of Binfield Heath and Dunsden Green can travel on **Aqua 28** to Central Reading or Henley-On-Thames following the introduction of a new timetable for this service.

See details of routes and timetables at [Reading Buses](#).

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](#).