

Newsletter No. 40 – May 2014 **Cerne Abbas Residents' Association (CARA Ltd.)**

1. CARA Council Members - 2013/2014

The current CARA Council members as elected or re-elected at the AGM in July 2013, or subsequently volunteered and appointed as co-opted members, are listed below. Should you have any issues of concern, please feel free to direct them to any of those listed.

John Barnes	Chairman	No. 45
Alan Baldwin	Treasurer	No. 3
Steve Easton	Member	No. 29
John Vivian	Member	No. 1
John Wardle	Member	No. 2
Ray Wylde	Co-opted member	No. 21
Chris Lamb	Co-opted member	No. 11

The CARA Council has met five times since the 2013 AGM – in 2013 on 5th October and 30th November, and in 2014 on 8th February, 22nd March and 24th May. The next meeting will be held prior to the 2014 AGM.

2. Joyce Carnie

Joyce, who sadly passed away in early April after an illness lasting several months, will be remembered by many current and former residents for her unstinting efforts in establishing and improving the communal garden areas of Cerne Abbas – which are a testament to Joyce's horticultural skills and imagination. Joyce and her husband Tom have lived in Cerne Abbas since 1995. Many of the improvements to our gardens were made at Joyce's own expense and effort; she was always ready to offer advice and assistance to all who asked. On behalf of CARA, and at Tom's suggestion (and as previously suggested by Joyce), an Ornamental Hawthorne (*Crataegus crimson cloud*) shrub has been planted by Tom to replace the dying *Cytisus Battander* in the Phase 1 garden, opposite Tom's patio, in memory of Joyce. CARA has paid for the replacement.

3. 2014 AGM

The 2014 Annual General Meeting of CARA Limited will be held on Saturday 12th July at the Church Hall of All Saints in Western Road – as in 2013. The AGM proceedings will start at 10:30 a.m. with tea/coffee/biscuits served from 10:00 a.m. Our "Drinks in the Park" event will be held in the Phase 1 gardens after conclusion of the AGM; this event is for all residents of Cerne Abbas – owners and tenants. Drinks and refreshments will be provided for the "Drinks in the Park", but there will be table space (and ice) for those who wish to bring their own

4. Tree Safety Surveys

TreeCall Consulting's tree safety survey of 18th October 2013 re-inspected the four trees along The Avenue frontage previously identified as requiring further monitoring. All four trees (a Lawson Cypress and three Strawberry trees) were recommended for removal. Poole Council agreed the recommendation and stipulated that the Strawberry trees must be replaced with three Holly trees, in the same locations. The tree removal and replanting work was completed on 14th March 2014. The three large Holly trees have already contributed to improved screening along the frontage.

We have been fortunate that the record winter storms of 2013/2014 caused no further losses to our large trees around Cerne Abbas. All trees are surveyed regularly and appropriate action taken when required or recommended. Tree reports are posted on the CARA website www.carawebsite.co.uk when received.

5. Gardens Maintenance

Our gardening contractors are repositioning some of the shrubs and trees in The Avenue frontage near the entrance to improve their visual impact and survival prospects. The gardeners have also been progressing clearance work along our boundary fences fronting Tower Road West and Forest Road.

6. Safety and Security

We intend to fit low-level lighting along the access path to the code-locked side gate, to improve night-time visibility of this area.

CARA is a member of the local Neighborhood Watch scheme through our membership of the Branksome Park and Canford Cliffs Residents Association. Ray Wylde (No. 21) is CARA's contact with the Neighborhood Watch scheme; Ray is also a co-opted member of CARA Council.

7. Entrance and Signage

The old and corroded "Cerne Abbas" sign on the side gate has been replaced with a replica. Roy Hemming (No. 6) used his considerable skills to manufacture and fit the new sign at a fraction of the cost quoted by commercial contractors. In addition to fitting wire mesh to discourage seagull nesting, Roy has also been cleaning and preserving the stonework at our main Cerne Abbas entrance and the adjacent gatehouse. The treatment comprises a system of three proprietary products – also used by some owners to protect and preserve their Phase 1 parapet coping stones. Details of the treatment are available from Roy.

8. Covenants Reminder

Although we all (it is assumed) read the covenants when we purchased our Cerne Abbas properties, it is easy to forget details with the passage of time. The newest owner on our CARA Council (Chris Lamb) suggested, after discussion with some other recent owners, that we issue a brief summary reminder of the most important covenants affecting us as owners – and our tenants. The resultant covenants "guide" (which does not replace or alter any of the covenants) also summarises the CARA rules and regulations issued by CARA Council. The guide is being issued to all owners, along with this newsletter. We hope it will be useful to you.

9. Car Parking and Speeding

Finally, the usual reminder that CARA covenants, rules and regulations operate through the goodwill and participation of everyone – owners and tenants – resident in Cerne Abbas. Speeding and Inconsiderate parking impacts everyone and can cause not only inconvenience, but also real danger to residents and visitors – especially children. We therefore ask for your cooperation in applying these simple rules:

- Residents' cars should be parked in garages or on driveways. The other short term parking areas around the site are for the use of visitors.
- The maximum speed limit (not a speed target) around the site is 10 mph – or slower when limited visibility or the presence of cyclists and children applies.

Owners who are renting out their properties are asked to ensure that their tenants are fully aware of these, and other, covenant issues.

John Barnes
Chairman, CARA Ltd.