

Newsletter No. 52 – May 2020

Cerne Abbas Residents' Association (CARA Ltd.)

Welcome to the six-monthly CARA News Letter.

1. CARA Council Members - 2020

The current elected CARA Council members are listed below. You may contact them with any issues of concern:

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Chris Lamb | Chairman | No 11 |
| Dean Lawler | Treasurer, Dep Chair | No 10 |
| Amanda Leeding | Member | No 54 |
| David Kendrick | Member | No 17 |
| Elizabeth (Betty) Porter | Member | No. 41 |
| Jacqui Higgins | Member | No 7 |
| John Vivian | Dep. Chair | No. 1 |
| John Wardle | Member | No. 2 |
| Ian Melhuish | Co-opted | No 35 |

Chairmanship according to availability has been shared between Chris Lamb, John Vivian and Dean Lawler. CARA Council meet two monthly, next on the 11th July 2020.

2. Maintenance

A review this spring concluded that the road is still fit for purpose and will be reviewed again next spring. Trellises on the perimeter fence as well as posts have been repaired. The Iron railings on The Avenue have been repaired following damage when a tree branch fell.

3. General Information

The AGM was due to take place on the 11th of July. It is now postponed and we aim to have something in October dependent on Government guidance re Covid.

Remember to check for pedestrians as your vehicle exits the premises at the entrance. As the lockdown eases it is becoming more important to ensure that visitor parking bays remain clear for visitors. Residents can only use visitor bays if they have given their drive way over to a visitor or a contractor.

Please ask your contractors to follow our speed limits and park properly. Their vehicles should be in a visitor's parking bay or the turning circle, not on the access road or pavement.

Ensure you and your children are considerate of others and the gardens when enjoying the estate, particularly as ball or Frisbee activity can cause damage. Some concern is raised about nuisance and ball games in the North West corner of Phase 2. CARA Council will be contacting residents for further information about this before reaching a decision. We welcome your input and all points of view. In the meantime please follow the recommendation regarding nuisance, if children are involved please approach their parents: *If you believe that you are being inconvenienced by the actions of another owner or tenant you should first raise the issue with the person concerned. Most issues are resolved by reasonable discussion and goodwill. If repeated attempts to resolve the issue fail you can inform any member of your CARA committee, with the relevant details and dates, so further action can be considered and taken where necessary.*

4. The gardens.

The composting bins are along the Tower Road West boundary near the gate. Anything added to the bins must be broken apart into small pieces. We add the contents of the bins as

a top dressing to the gardens. So think before adding to the bin, the waste has to rot down, **no root balls or whole tea bags please.**

The volunteer residents of the gardening club meet the second Sunday of each month at 2pm in Phase 1 gardens. Please join them to volunteer your labour, ideas and contribute cash for plants. Make contact with Daren Pask the club leader, No 18.

5. Management Agent's Inspections (six monthly), next 9th June

The spring and autumn inspections follow the requirements of the covenants, rules and regulations governing the estate as well as considering the general condition of property and work carried out by contractors. Findings reported on a scale of 1 to 10 with 7 and above requiring action by either CARA Council or individual house owners. The inspections give you an indication as to what to look out for and help CARA Council focus on aspects of Common Property needing attention. Previously we reported to individual house owners if their score is 7 or above. This will change to a full copy of the report to all owners following the next review.

Hanging baskets by front doors, pot plants on front steps and shrubs and bushes growing up patio fencing are acceptable. House numbers should be easily seen and numbers and door furniture should be the same or similar to the original. Patios extend to the drop down to the common grassed areas and pots, planters and other garden items (including Buddhas and birdbaths) on the ledge outside fences or on the patio steps are all acceptable.

6. Safety and Security

CARA is a member of the local Neighborhood Watch scheme, Ray Wylde (No. 21) is CARA's contact with the scheme. The Dorset Police Newsletter is received and distributed by email by Ray who uses his discretion as to which of the frequent newsletters may be of interest to our residents.

Please remember to lock your car when it is left outside (not just in Cerne Abbas but anywhere in our neighbourhood). We still have occasions when unlocked cars have items stolen, this petty theft it is an ongoing risk. Similarly items on your patio may go missing. Previously Ray mentioned that he chains his garden furniture together, other people have installed sensor lighting or cameras.

7. The Final Word...

As noted at the last AGM we should all continue to strive for a Cerne Abbas which is vibrant, prestigious, and an inclusive place to live; with attractive public spaces across the estate, open spaces suitable for all, and desirable well maintained buildings equal in value to others in the area. Our aim is to ensure that houses and the estate infrastructure are maintained to preserve functionality as well as aesthetics.

CARA Council