

Plan Board approves town house development

Members of Acton Planning Board unanimously endorsed a resolution in principle for a proposed town house development on the Campbell farm, Main St. S. contingent on rezoning. The project—103 town houses—would also include five six-plexes for a total of 133 housing units.

Maximum price of the town houses would be \$19,000 while the six-plexes will be low rental units.

An enthused Mayor Les Dudy told Planning Board that in his estimation the project would be an ideal development. "It is the first indication we have had that someone could build homes within the price range of our people."

Realtor Alec Johnson appeared before the Board Thursday evening with A. C. Berry and T. Schmitz, directors of Alteo Construction Ltd., who will develop the Campbell farm, which is situated below the municipal work yard on Main St. S. The property would have to be rezoned from R2

to the proposed new R4 zone to allow construction of the development.

Mayor Dudy said the lack of rental accommodation in Acton as well as houses in the price range people could afford reflected when industries looked at a town for possible location.

If there is no accommodation available in a community, you can be sure they won't spend much time investigating the other advantages, the mayor commented. He felt the lack of medium priced housing in Acton has already been a factor in losing possible industry for the town.

"If we don't get started soon on this project even the town houses will be beyond the price Acton people can pay," he said. The builders agreed, forecasting an increase in housing prices in the near future.

Mr. Johnson also spoke of the need for accommodation in Acton. The two new apartment buildings on Churchill Rd. S. are all full he said despite dire predictions from

some pessimists that vacancies would outnumber leases.

A new apartment building with 36 suites in the same location presently under construction, already has 22 suites rented, he said. Restrictions on the upper floors being rented to families with children have slowed down rentals he said but he expects vacancies won't last until the building is completed.

The Campbell development would have one access road off 25 Highway and another to town-owned land on Cobblehill Rd. and Mill St.

Mayor Dudy told the Free Press later that the project was partly the result of determination on the part of council to get something done. "There is no way we can get industry if there is no housing. It is the old chicken and egg business."

He cited instances from personal knowledge where families must live in inadequate housing where cramped

quarters and lack of amenities destroyed the sense of well being. He felt the new units should be available to Acton people first before they are on the market for others but admitted he knew of no way in which this could be done at this point.

The developers anticipated there would be 90 per cent mortgages available for the town houses which would mean the required down payment for the maximum amount would be \$1,900. They would like to get started on the development as soon as possible. They expected to spread the program of building over three years.

Planning Board chairman Sid Saitz said he was sure the board was on the right track with R4 zoning and it would have the support of the members. Secretary Grant Usher confirmed that only one application to the Ontario Municipal Board would be needed to rezone and make needed amendments to the zoning by-law.

Mr. Johnson also asked why Planning

Board had not considered the Nellis and Johnson properties in annexation proposals in order to control the land around Fairy Lake.

"Esqueing could build a factory there and ruin the lake area," he told the board. Mr. Saitz said that because there were no concrete proposals for development in the area annexation would be extremely difficult. The mayor also stressed the high cost of trunk sewers for that area. He foresaw growth extending to the east.

The Board also approved the attendance of member Vic Bristow at a regional development meeting in Toronto August 31. Zone two of the Toronto centred region, which includes Acton, will be the subject for considerable discussion at the meeting, Mr. Dudy acknowledged.

The board also approved amendment No. 5 to the Official Plan of the Becker's Milk property on Queen St. to be rezoned as neighborhood commercial.



STATION HOTEL COACH Mel Sheppard accepted the Rae West Memorial trophy from Pete Humeniuk, sponsor of last year's champs Pete's Barber Shop, as ace hurler Chick Milne looks on. Station won the trophy by finishing first in the industrial league.—(Staff Photo)

Gas feeder line breaks Tuesday

A gas feeder line was accidentally broken by construction workers using a backhoe, on Mill Street in front of Lovell's Meat Market, yesterday morning.

A service crew was summoned from Georgetown to plug the leak immediately, however.

Although a potential danger existed, there was no other damage, with the exception of an odor created by the break.

Charge laid

Police were called to investigate an alleged noisy party Saturday evening and it led to a charge for one party-goer.

He slammed the door of the police cruiser shut as he went past. The car window broke. He has been charged.

Plan big Labor day

Officials of the Chamber of Commerce and Acton's three service clubs—the Lions, Rotary and Y's Men—are preparing for the mammoth Labor Day weekend celebrations in Acton.

Plans are being made to hold a dance at the arena on the Saturday night in conjunction with a dance marathon. The popular Acton dance band, The Shaynes, have been booked. Also being planned are helicopter rides on the Sunday

Approve O.H.C. housing on Cobblehill

The Ontario Municipal Board notified town officials Thursday that the long-standing proposed senior citizens' and geared-to-income housing development may proceed on the Cobblehill Road site. There was no other comment from the O.M.B.

Council must, however, pass a special by-law to allow erection of suites which does not require a hearing or notification of nearby residents. The by-law is simply a formality to allow construction to proceed.

Headway Corporation of Toronto will build the senior citizens' apartment with 12 units and the 18 semi-detached geared-to-income houses on a cul-de-sac on Cobblehill Road between Victoria Ave. and the existing houses on Cook St.

Residents of the area objected to the Cobblehill site for the O.H.C. housing project, protesting that it was not suitable for senior citizens. The objections were heard at an O.M.B. hearing in the council chambers June 29 where the town also stated its case. The decision was deferred.

Thursday deputy-clerk Grant Usher was notified that the town had won its case and construction could proceed as soon as the necessary by-law was passed.

Headway Corporation told the Free Press they would like to proceed with construction as soon as approvals arrived. Both federal and provincial government approvals were received several months ago.

Delegation upset by dragway noise

"What constitutes disturbing the peace in this township?" David Craig of the Fourth Line asked Esqueing reeve George Currie, at Monday night's council meeting.

Admitting it was the first time he had been asked the question during his 40 years' service on council, the reeve replied "I'm afraid I can't answer that."

However, in answer to a request later in the meeting from another resident of the Fourth Line, John Zions, Reeve Currie promised to contact the township solicitor to investigate the possibility of a by-law, concerning disturbing the peace.

Mr. Craig and Mr. Zions were two of a deputation of seven Fourth Line residents, who appeared at the meeting to complain about noise being produced by cars at the Golden Horseshoe Dragway, between the Fifth and Sixth Lines.

Mr. Craig reminded council his children were unable to sleep on account of the noise and claimed cars were racing on the strip after the 11.30 Saturday night, set down in the township by-law.

Although he assured council he had nothing against drag racing, Brian Smith said noise emanating from the dragway prevented him from sleeping until after racing was over at nights.

Appearing at the meeting to answer questions posed council, dragway owner Carl Bristow said cars have never raced up until midnight and emphasized racing had closed at 11.30 Saturday night, leaving a lot of unhappy racers unable to compete for trophies.

In answer to a question from councillor Wilfrid Leslie, Mr. Bristow said high-powered cars would not be racing at the strip every night. Cars racing this past weekend were brought in for a special holiday event, he explained.

Mr. Bristow also said runs for noisier cars are scheduled earlier in the day, than for others.

New forms for drugs

Police in Acton have discovered another form of L.S.D. which they suspect is being sold in town — rice paper impregnated with L.S.D.

The dissolvable rice paper was part of a cache of drugs they discovered early in July which was turned over to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Acton O.P.P. has photographs of the new drug wrinkle.

Area mishap sends three to hospital

Three Acton youths were admitted to Georgetown District Hospital following a mishap involving a car and a tree, between the Fifth and Sixth Lines of Esqueing at the Erin-Esqueing town line, Saturday morning.

Reeve Currie asked if noise from the dragway's loudspeaker could be toned down and Mr. Bristow assured him it could.

Mr. Bristow told council lights on only two of the dragway's many standards remained on until 2.45 a.m. one morning, because workmen were making necessary repairs. He said he didn't think lights from two standards would disturb anyone.

A complaint about dust on the Fifth Line had also been rectified last week, by the application of a double dose of calcium, Mr. Bristow added.

Mr. Smith's wife Dorothy and Nina Palichuk also complained to council about the noise.

"The noise is not just loud, it's frightening," Mrs. Palichuk claimed. "You don't know when to expect it," she added.

Both invited councillors to visit their property and listen to the noise.

Reeve Currie concluded by telling the deputation council had asked Mr. Bristow to co-operate. Mr. Bristow promised to do everything he could to improve conditions.

Driver of the car was Douglas George Fitzner, 17, of 301 Main Street North. Passengers in the vehicle were Molly McIntyre 14, and George Edward Nurse 21, both of the same address. The mishap occurred about 8.50



Say, a-a-h-h, please! See inside for story

O.P.P. report

Busy week for police

The Acton detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police reports a fairly busy week in all aspects of police work during the week of July 26 to August 2.

General occurrences were two cases of malicious damage in which one charge was laid and two domestic complaints in which warnings were issued. A disturbance was investigated in which three youths were charged with causing a disturbance under the criminal code. Prov. Const. Kressler is still investigating a reported Break Enter and Theft at Acton Wood Products Ltd.

Traffic accidents were in the amount I like to report. None at all. This being the third accident free week for the town.

Five drivers were issued traffic citations for offences under the Highway Traffic Act while seven were given warnings.

Four youths were charged with the theft of an auto; which was later recovered burned. One of the youths will face several counts of Break and Enter which occurred in the town during the past year.

A former Acton man was returned from Toronto on a warrant charging him with Break and Enter, and several more charges are expected to be laid as a result of this investigation.

Provincial Court in Milton proceeded on Monday morning and nine people were convicted of various offences and paid \$300 in fines.

Even as I write this report the total of people killed on our roads during this civic holiday weekend goes up and up. There are thousands of motorists who drive for a lifetime without so much as a scratched fender. They are those who know that the moment you exceed the speed limit or ignore the danger and warning signs, you are overruling the judgement of the engineers who built the road, traffic experts who have tested it for safety and the police who have seen people die on it.

So remember when you drive, drive like your life depends on it, because it does.

—Constable Roy Wood.



IRENE AND ROMAN Melnyk of Rambert Crescent, Toronto, look for each other in a game of blind man's buff played by children from the Ukrainian camp on the Fourth Line at Acton park last week. Children from the camp carry on many activities in the town and district.—(Staff Photo)

Award Free Press two national prizes

Judges in the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association Better Newspaper competitions awarded two first prizes to the Acton Free Press, it was announced this week.

The Acton paper took first place for best all-round newspaper, winning the Gertrude A. Dunning memorial trophy, and also took first prize for the best front page in its own circulation class, and the David E. Scott award.

The 100 Mile House Free Press from British Columbia was runner-up in both classes with the Squamish Howe Sound Times of B.C. third for best all-round and the Beausejour Manitoba Beaver third in the front page competition.

Publisher David Dilla is in Winnipeg this week at the annual convention of the C.W.N.A. where he will accept the awards.

Also attending will be Milton Canadian Champion publisher Jim Dills who will accept three awards won by the Free Press's sister paper. The Champion placed second behind the Aurora Banner in the best all-round competition, tied for third with the Melville (Sask.) Advance in the best editorial page judging and took another

second for best front page behind the North Battleford (Sask.) News Optimist.

The Bramalea Guardian and the Fergus News Record were other newspapers from this district to win awards. The Bramalea paper, owned and published by the Toronto Telegram, took a first for its sports page while the Fergus News Record got an honorable mention in the best front page competition in Class 4.

The Mississauga News took first place for best all-round newspaper with circulation over 6,000 and the new Toronto Advertiser won a first for its editorial page in the same category.

The Free Press has been a consistent winner in the national better newspaper competitions but this is the first time the Acton paper has won the best all-round and front page awards in the present category.

Increasing circulation boosted the Free Press into the new category last year and it promptly won first for the best editorial page and third in the best all-round class.

The new awards will join two others the Free Press won in the Ontario competitions this year for general excellence and also for the best front page among all Ontario weeklies.