

Official Plan draft unveiled for Erin township

It was standing room only Monday night in the auditorium of the Hillsburgh community centre as the draft official plan of the Guelph and Suburban Area was officially released to the public. The meeting was the first in a series of five designed to acquaint the public with details of the plan.

Next meeting is to be held in Rockwood centennial school on Monday, January 22, for residents of Eramosa. The contents also affect residents of

Guelph and Puslinch townships, and village of Erin and city of Guelph.

Monday's meeting was chaired by J. J. Kelly, Q.C., of Kitchener, an expert in the planning world. He was assisted by planning consultant Howard Smith who was engaged by the Guelph and Suburban planning board to assist with the report.

Goals and objectives of the plan were outlined to the large crowd by the chairman citing the need for the rural municipalities to

develop in a manner consistent with their needs to protect good agricultural land, the landscape, minimize pollution of water, land and atmosphere. It was hoped to have the plan official by the end of 1973.

Other goals are to provide for a limited number of rural estate type homes in locations which will not conflict with the plan, to provide for urban growth which will not disrupt the rural nature of the municipality and to confine it to the existing hamlets and

villages; to minimize needs and costs of expensive services, provide for controlled utilization of natural resources and to ensure continuance of adequate means for movement of people and goods in the planning area.

Protect land
Mr. Smith outlined the differences between an official plan which is a statement of policy the township can use for guidelines in any decisions, and the zoning by-laws which are set up to regulate the plan. He emphasized the

importance of protecting agricultural land in a world where half the people go hungry and of limiting urban growth to present urban centres. Development in existing hamlets, for instance, would be limited to infilling and rounding out the present area.

Construction of new housing units in the village of Erin would be limited to 20 per year. The plan anticipates the population of the village will not exceed 2,300 persons by 1990.

Growth in Rockwood would be

limited to 1,700 people by 1990 if sewage and water services are installed as contemplated. Until such services are installed, growth in Rockwood would be limited to filling out the present area and providing for adequate services.

In rural areas the minimum lot size is not less than one-half acre in the case of needs of rural people and not less than two acres for the creation of lots for new urban housing. The creation of lots in rural areas for new

urban dwellings will be limited to approximately 50 per year which is further broken down in the plan to 20 per year in Erin township, six per year in Eramosa township and 35-40 per year in Puslinch township.

Preferential consideration will be given to farmers selling their farms or those who are dispossessed by projects such as the Guelph and Everton dams.

No more pits
No new extractive industries will be permitted, no further mobile home parks or junk yards and special policies discourage further cottage development around Puslinch lake.

After some wrangling the rate-payers wrung a 10 day extension for written objections to the plan which was first limited to a two week period ending Jan. 31.

Can be overruled
Yes, the province could overrule the plan but the chairman stressed it was drawn up under the Planning Act. He assured the estimated 400 ratepayers no objections in writing would be unanswered.

Asked the definition of a rural estate type home, Kelly said it would be on a lot of not less than two acres with a minimum of 1200 square feet.

The Acton Free Press

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GASOLINE
43⁹

OUR GAS IS DOWN!
47⁹

GAS
46

GASOLINE
48⁹

THIS SALE
42⁹

GAS FOR LESS
42⁹

GASOLINE
47⁹

Gas War!

DESPITE THE SUDDEN awareness of a shortage of energy in the U.S. and predictions of higher prices for natural gas, oil and gasoline, the price of gasoline in Acton has taken a toboggan slide the past few weeks. Prices range from a low of 42.9c per gallon to the 54.9c which existed before the price war. Motorists who watch their pennies could spend more of them looking for the basement prices but service stations in town and district have blossomed forth with a forest of signs to advise all who pass of the lower prices.

GASOLINE
47⁹

CN station to go for GO

Acton CNR station will be sold and moved to a different location. A small glass enclosed structure will be erected there as a waiting room for eventual GO train passengers and will probably be used first as a pickup station for the GO bus service from Guelph to Georgetown.

Must dismantle
Mayor Doby explained a representative of the CNR had said the station will be available to the town — or anyone else — when it's advertised. Its condition is such that it couldn't be moved without dismantling. The heating would no longer be operative.

In the new GO station there will likely be electronically controlled lighting and heating which would come on automatically an hour or so before train time.

Press for four day week

Halt County teachers will press for a four day week in Halt County Schools with the fifth day being used for professional development and other non-classroom duties of the teacher.

Teachers at the OSSTF resolutions meeting last week said it wouldn't reduce the work load for teachers or necessarily reduce the number of hours for instruction, but would squeeze them into fewer days.

The resolution will be presented to the provincial branch of the Federation for endorsement. The Federation passed 10 resolutions for the provincial body, one of which asks for a statement with reference to the teacher-pupil ratio based on the classroom teacher alone and excluding principals, vice principals and guidance teachers along with other school personnel.

Help Windsor
The meeting decided to send \$300 to teachers in Windsor who have resigned after a contract dispute with the board there.

The executive of the Halton OSSTF will be asked by the Federation to call for voluntary donations of \$50 from Halton teachers to support their Windsor counterparts.

Youth suffers broken leg in snowmobile collision

Fifteen year old Tom Milne, 56 Church St. W. is in Guelph General Hospital with a broken leg following a collision between two snowmobiles on Fairy Lake Monday afternoon.

Police said a 1970 Sno-Cruiser driven by John Upton, 109 Crescent St. was attempting to make a right turn, when it collided with a Moto-ski driven by Milne. Upton escaped the collision with just a sore back.

Dr. W. Vukovich was called to the scene of the collision and Milne was transferred by ambulance to Guelph General.

The Milne vehicle received an estimated \$1,100 damage. Damage to the Upton vehicle was estimated at \$70.

The collision occurred on the north end of the lake near Smallwood Acres at approximately 2:30 p.m. A police report on the mishap was not completed at press time and it is not known if charges will be laid.

Con. Bourne, North Halton OPP is investigating.

Outline change in Bell service

Telephone directories for municipalities within the free calling area of another are available free of charge to Bell Canada consumers upon request, public affairs manager W. C. Barnes assured Esqueuing Council Monday night.

Barnes appeared at the meeting to outline the company's two applications for rate increases, which are now before the Canadian Transport Commission, but found most councillors more interested in having the telephone directory system improved.

Deputy-revee Len Cox, who lives within the company's Georgetown exchange suggested the pages of free calling area numbers be included in the Georgetown book.

"We haven't got a book with Acton numbers in it, even though we have free calling service to that town," Cox explained.

Barnes said Bell Canada will soon be making an announcement on improvement of its directory system.

B.U. varsity coaches eye Pete Marzo

Pete Marzo has returned to Boston University to resume studies and play with the B.U. freshman hockey team, following a three-week holiday at home.

Coaches of the Terrier varsity squad, which won the NCAA championship last season have been keeping a close eye on the Acton native, since he scored seven goals in the freshman team's first four games with the varsity squad.

In a one game trial with the varsity squad, Pete assisted on two goals. There is every possibility he may be called upon to bolster the team for the upcoming Beanpot Tournament, which annually draws sellout crowds to the Boston Garden to watch the Hub city's top college teams in action.

Pete is enrolled in a four year physical education course at the university, which has a student population of over 30,000.

Record year for building

Over three and a half million dollars worth of new construction began in Acton in 1972.

Building permits were issued during the year in the all-time record high amount of \$3,676,242.

Highest single category was for multiple dwellings which accounted for \$2,166,000 of the total. There were 77 permits for town houses for \$988,000. Other new multiple dwellings were the adjoining apartment buildings on Church St. and Maria St. at \$465,000 each and the apartment building on Ransom St. beside the cemetery at \$248,000.

60 homes
Single family dwellings produced the second highest total in the list. There were 60 permits for a total of \$1,180,992.

There were four industrial permits. The Acri factory permit at \$26,000, addition to Disston at \$114,000, addition at Beardmore \$72,000 and J. Gibson's workshop \$10,000, totalled \$222,000. The Acri and Gibson shops are in the industrial park.

There were two commercial permits—addition at Gulf Oil storage depot \$9,000 and addition for the Glenlea medical clinic \$42,000 — totalling \$51,000.

13 new pools
New swimming pools outvalued the commercial growth in the town. A lucky thirteen pools were added to the Acton landscape during '72, totalling \$56,250 in permits.

Mrs. Lorna Clarke of the town office staff compiled the figures from the records for the Free Press.

Bonspiel finals here

Semi-finals and finals of the sixth annual Halton-Peel Bonspiel for the Kennedy Ford trophy will be held at the Acton Curling Club this Saturday, January 20.

Rinks from nine clubs, Acton, North Halton, Milton, Hillsburgh, Oakville, Bolton, Brampton, Orangeville and Mississauga began play last Saturday.

More than \$1,000 in prize money is up for grabs in the event. Halton-Peel winner advances to the Bonspiel of Champions involving champions of the Niagara Frontier and Hamilton and District regions.

Lake open water concerns Elliott

Councillor Elliott inquired if anything had been done to fence open water at the lake, since he agreed with the concern indicated in a Letter to the Editor in the Free Press.

Councillor Chapman, council representative on the parks and recreation committee, said the board had looked at the problem. He felt the open water was due to mild weather, not being deliberately kept open for the birds. He said the area was large.

Mr. Elliott returned to the matter later in the meeting, still seeking an answer.

Brick wall of fame lasting memorial

Lasting memorial
The object of having a Buy-A-Brick kick off to our fund raising campaign is to enable Acton residents and friends to become an integral part of the finished centennial project.

Your name and the names of your family and friends will become a lasting memorial and a credit to the community.

Don't wait until the building is finished, or see what others will do. Invest at least \$3 in yourself

3 1/2 million

and the commemorative building for our town.

Cut out the 'Buy-A-Brick' coupon published in this paper. Fill it in and mail in your donations to Box 100, Acton. Writing to friends or relatives? Why not send them a copy and invite them to participate.

Already we have received letters from Western Canada, and Europe. Help us to spread the word. To those readers out of town we would surely like to hear from you.

348 DAYS LEFT UNTIL ACTON'S CENTENNIAL

ACTON'S CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN got a big boost for the Wall of Fame Tuesday when Mike and Bernice Kinal of Home Hardware, Mill St. presented centennial commissioners Harold Townsley and Paul Nielsen with a cheque for \$100 in aid of the Buy-A-Brick campaign. The Kinals have just moved to Acton but they feel everyone in Acton and district should be behind the centennial campaign.

—J. Jennings Photo

