

Subdivision concerns raised

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

Concerns about increased noise, traffic and potential odour problems from a proposed subdivision were raised by neighbours at a public briefing session on Thursday night.

The 40-acre site on Wallace Street, north of McDonald Boulevard, is currently zoned for industrial use and is owned by F.C. Dawkins Ltd. and Frank Heller and Company Ltd.

The proposal calls for the land to be re-zoned for 191 units, including single family homes, link homes and townhouses.

The developer's consultant, Gordon Driedger of Winter Asso-

ciates, staged the meeting in order to give surrounding residents a chance to raise questions and concerns before the proposal is introduced at a Town public meeting.

Driedger told the neighbours that water and sewer services are the major issues that must be resolved with the Province.

He also said although a significant number of houses will generate a significant level of traffic, engineering studies show "there will be more cars, but you won't notice them."

Driedger also told the crowd that having cars use an upgraded and widened Wallace Street would be better than trucks.

"The current (industrial) zon-

ing allows us to do things that I don't think are appropriate. There is a tie to the residential development of Danville Place and it would be better for this abutting land to be residential, not industrial," Driedger said.

Neighbours were told that a minor problem with noise from the existing Blackhawk Leather plant would have to be "mitigated," possibly with stringent set-backs, fencing and berms.

Neighbour John Borg questioned Driedger about odours coming from the Blackhawk plant and suggested that putting more people in the area would just make it worse.

"What comes out of there can be sickly. Imagine the complaints with that many more people," Borg said.

Driedger said that the odours from Blackhawk are a "potential concern" and that the cause of the odours would be investigated by the Ministry of Environment which had been invited to tour the Blackhawk plant.

The proposal will be formally presented at a public meeting at the Civic Centre on Monday, May 31.



BARGAIN BABIES: Adrienne Van Egmond, 8, found some bargains on stuffed toys and dolls at a garage sale on Saturday. The Hancock family sold their treasures to garage sale-goers who braved the cold to take part in this springtime ritual. (Mike Albano photo)

Thank You, Acton!

The Subway Food for Food '93 food drive was very successful and we would like to thank you for your support.



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Elliott calls for strong response

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
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Citing what he says are some "fairly dangerous incursions into public property rights," Acton Councillor Norm Elliott called for a Council response to the Sewell Commission's draft report on planning and development reform in Ontario.

At Council last Tuesday night, Elliott said Town planning staff's response was "not strong enough," in some areas.

After being told that staff's response had already been sent to the Commission, Elliott asked to defer the issue until Councillors can study it and report back.

"This reform is supposed to streamline the planning process in Ontario, but in some cases it is recommending implementation of an infrastructure that will make planning that much more difficult and that much more expensive, and in some cases, discourage planning altogether," Elliott said.

Elliott and two other Councillors will meet with Town planning staff to work on a Council response to the Commission draft plan.

Elevator controls

Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette wants the Town to institute a maintenance requirement in minimum property standard by-laws governing residential elevators.

The move would allow the Town to force building owners to repair broken elevators, or have the Town make repairs and bill the owner.

Bonnette raised the issue in response to an elevator breakdown two weeks ago at 40 Maria Street, that left some elderly residents stranded in their apartments for six days.

The elevator in the five-storey building was out of order from April 8 through 15 because of brake problems, and it took the building owner a week to make repairs.

"Luckily there were volunteers who collected people's garbage and the IGA delivered food to anybody that couldn't get up or down the stairs," Bonnette said.

Staff will report on the suggestion.

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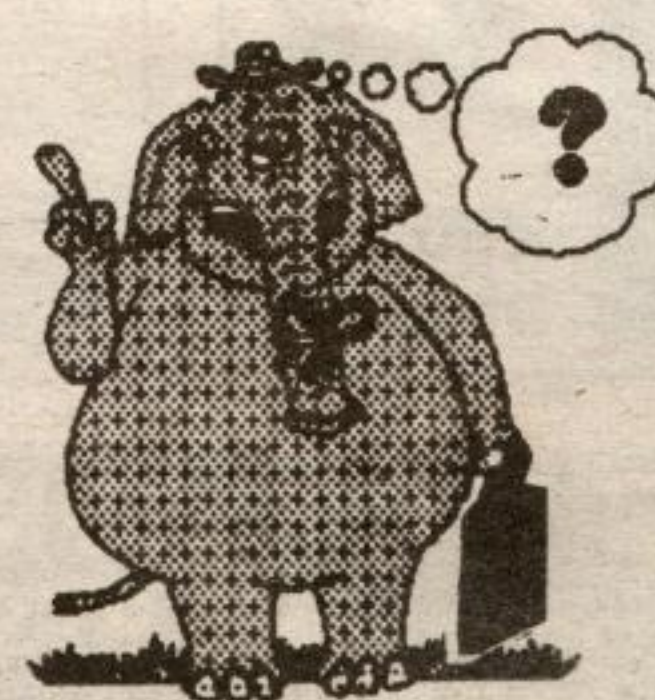
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