

First Presentation Of New King Township Official Plan Heard Sympathetically By 200

The first public presentation of the new King Township Official Plan was received fairly sympathetically by an audience of close to 200 at the King City Secondary School April 23.

There was some criticism, but not very much indication of outright opposition.

On the other hand, the Official Plan had the hearty endorsement of the King Hills Ratepayers Association. This group had 34 members out to support the proposed new five-year statement of development guidelines.

There was also endorsement of the plan by a number of individual ratepayers. Meetings have been advertised throughout the township. The series winds up again in the southeast with a meeting May 20 at 8 pm in Oak Ridges Public School.

Attending the meeting were the following members of the King Township Planning Board: Deputy-reeve Kenneth MacTaggart, Board Chairman Robert Silcox, Board Vice-Chairman Vernon Plant, Harold Taylor, and Secretary-Treasurer Donald McCallum. Reeve Gordon Cook and Alfred LeMasurier are the other two members of the planning board. They were absent because of previous engagements.

William Ferguson, community planning consultant with the firm of Municipal Planning Consultants Limited in Toronto, outlined and explained the Official Plan to the audience. Then all the officials made themselves

available to answer questions and listen to the opinions of the audience. Requests for changes were recorded and will be considered by the planning board. Then the board will decide if it can recommend the Official Plan to the township council and the Ontario Municipal Board.

The same procedure will be followed at all the public meetings in the township. Accompanying Planner Ferguson was his assistant William Dolan, and a stenographer, Mrs. Barbara Huber. Deputy-reeve MacTaggart opened the meeting and introduced Planning Board Chairman Silcox. He introduced the other board members.

Mr. Silcox told the meeting the Official Plan was developed over 1 1/2 years. He said the plan had the unanimous endorsement of the planning board. He described the planning procedure being followed.

The previous 1955 Official Plan for township development was intended to be used for 15 years, and 1970 was to be its last year, he said.

At first the board intended most of the provision for population growth to be at the existing villages. But it was decided to also provide for growth of the hamlets, he said.

Mr. Silcox added that King Township will most probably become part of a larger planning region within five years. The new plan would be used until then.

Planning Consultant Fer-

guson said the physical aspects of the township were most important. The township had three main regions and existing land uses were studied by actually driving each and every road in the township.

The social aspects of the township were looked at. The natural increase, migration and distribution of population was studied. There was an attempt to estimate the future population.

The planners started out to prepare a 15 to 20 year plan. But in May last year the Ontario Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs ordered that only interim plans for five years would be allowed. The interim plans were to be only to cover the five years of expected local growth until regional planning control is established throughout the province.

Mr. Ferguson said there were three major provincial government policy statements that governed the nature of the new Official Plan. These were on sewers, the interim and short term nature of the plan, and an estate development.

A letter from the Ontario Water Resources Commission required that no sewage treatment plants could be allowed in King Township. The chief reason for this was that two huge reservoirs are to be developed on the Humber River in Vaughan Township. Any sewage treatment plants would present a pollution hazard for the river above these reservoirs, since there was yet such a thing as a foolproof treatment plant,

he said. The provincial authorities required that areas for residential estate development must be designated. A minimum two acre lot was to be the requirement for estate homes. Future growth for the next five years was to be confined mainly to estate areas, hamlets and urban village areas.

The municipal debt was examined and it was found there was room for it to increase 16 times within the Ontario Municipal Board's limits. There was lots of room for expenditures on capital improvements in King.

To determine the size of homes needed under the plan, a study was made. This showed that today a new estate home must have a floor space somewhere between 1,700 and 1,920 square feet, depending on the location.

So the minimum estate home requirements of a two-acre lot and a 1,800 square foot floor space home were established.

The new proposed Official Plan designates 2,200 acres for estate development, enough in this category for 5,000 more people in five years.

No lots were to front on township roads and subdivision entrances must be from paved roads. Estates must be in wooded rolling land with a good view, near streams. The soil must be suitable for septic tanks and wells.

The minimum for hamlet lots was 20,000 square feet without piped water, and

14,000 square feet with piped water. There were 1,700 open acres included in the hamlets under the proposed Official Plan, he said. This would provide room for 5,000 to 5,500 more people.

In hamlets the minimum floor space for a home would be 1,300 square feet.

In urban centres or villages there were another 1,700 open acres for homes. Here the minimum floor space required for homes would be 1,400 square feet.

In rural areas, non-farm homes would be permitted on all existing lots of register, and also on new lots within areas where there were groups of non-farm homes. In this category the living area within the dwelling must be a minimum 1,500 square feet. New lots must be a minimum of 1.5 acres.

The total residential development allowed under the plan in urban centres or villages would provide room for more than 20,000 people. This was far more than was expected in the five years of the plan, Mr. Ferguson said.

The only industries to be allowed in King Township would be those of a dry nature, contributing nothing in the way of fluid waste pollution.

The only garbage disposal or waste disposal sites to be allowed will be those owned by the Municipality of the Township of King. The distribution of increased population would be as follows: Schomberg 3,000; Nobleton 6,000; King City 7,000; Oak Ridges 4,000.

Board Chairman Silcox added a further explanation to the reasons for setting minimum floor requirements for new homes. Taxes were the most notable reason, he said. Every new home must return at least \$500 in taxes, or add to the tax load carried by owners of property already existing.

As questions started, Warren Campbell of Richmond Hill wanted to be sure it would still be possible to build on 10 acre lots in a rural area. He was assured he could build on existing lots of any size, but was told new lots in rural areas must be at least 15 acres.

Fred Green of Kings Cross Estates had some criticism. "I feel you're just maintaining the status quo," he said. He wanted to know what good there was in a plan that didn't reflect the terrific development pressures to be expected from Metro Toronto. He felt designation of areas for estates would drive up land prices.

"It's obvious you've been tied down by the province. Why can't we formulate a plan now that will influence the region in the future? How can we approve it, when it's only a temporary measure?" he asked.

Mr. Green felt the cost of land was outstripping people's salaries and that two acre lots wouldn't be economic in a few years.

Mr. Silcox answered that the planners did try to look into the future, and did feel the proposed plan would in-

fluence the plans for the future region. Mr. Ferguson added that many questions like those asked by Mr. Green would be cleared up May 5 when Premier John Roberts unveils the overall plans for the whole Metro centred region from Lake Ontario to Barrie.

Oak Ridges Realtor Jack Blyth wanted to know why the existing area zoned for development at Oak Ridges was being cut down. He asked for extension of the Oak Ridges development area. He did not want areas along an existing water line left out. "You can't double the Oak Ridges population in the area now allowed on the maps," he said.

A lady from Kings Cross Estates, who is also a professional town planner, said she found two major weaknesses in the proposed new Official Plan. She said she was appalled and concerned that the plan was for only five years. There would have to be a new revision almost immediately, which would mean going through all the costs again. She said work on the plan should have stopped when the province ordered it cut back to five years. She was critical of the great amount of detail in the land use provisions and felt floor space and types of unit had no place in an Official Plan.

Former King City Village Trustee Donald Findlay, was critical of what he called the "brainwashing" aspects involved. He wanted to know what was the basis in law for

the five year limitation, the two acre lots, and the ban on sewage treatment plants. He wanted to know how letters from civil servants could constitute legal regulations and how it came about that conservation authorities achieved powers over municipal water systems.

Joe Gelleny of Kings Cross Estates said some of the maps were not absolutely up to date. He wanted to know why growth of Kings Cross Estates was to be limited when this was not the case in other such areas. "Why is there no allowance for five years' growth for us," he asked.

Mr. Silcox said the agricultural map indicated land at Kings Cross Estates could be imperfect for septic tanks. But he said Mr. Gelleny's request would be considered and wanted it submitted in writing in detail.

Mr. Gelleny said he didn't agree there were any septic tank problems at Kings Cross, because all the land was tested and found all right.

Mr. Silcox agreed this could be the case. Just such instances were the reason for the public hearing, he said.

Ted Rowe of Oak Ridges said the plan didn't seem to be in the best interests of the young. There was only enough open land allowed at the urban areas to permit infilling. Land prices would tend to go beyond reach and there was no room for freedom to go to other land. Most of the urban areas had twice as much water re-

source as was needed under the plan, he said. Dr. Strathairn Wilson of Kingsworth Road, RR 1, King City, said he was concerned about polluted waters being found around urban areas. Many times water was found to be unfit for swimming or for animals to drink. "Even if it's only for five years, at least it's a plan," he said.

Douglas Irwin of Nobleton said the township had only recently got rid of "spaghetti strip" 10 acre lot development. Now it was proposed to allow the same kind of undesirable thing on 15 acre lots, he said.

A representative of the H. Davidson Estate said his lands should be included in the proposed urban area outlined for King City. Harvey White, a resident three miles north of King City, said there should be provision for an adequate shopping plaza in King City.

Tom Poole of Fog Road, was spokesman for the King Hills Ratepayers Association. "Thank you for a plan well presented. Let's get on with it with Godspeed," he said.

Hugh Walker of Kingcross Drive urged the planning board and township officials to hurry up and get the plan adopted so residents could have some peace.

"I'm sick and tired of arousing citizens to resist something like an airport, a spot zoning, or an unsuitable rezoning," he said. "I like the protection we're getting with this plan. I can't keep going to bat, I need some time to work," he said.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hare of New Hamburg, Mr. and Mrs. Eldred Johnston of Streetsville were recent visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Jennings. Mr. Hans Bosscher has returned to his home in Holland, after spending five weeks with his son, Mr. Hans Bosscher and family. Mrs. Clayton Beynon was among the 250 members of the Ontario Hooking Craft Guild who attended the annual meeting, show and luncheon held at the Constellation Hotel, Toronto, on April 25.

KING CITY, OAK RIDGES LAKE WILCOX

"The Liberal" is always pleased to publish items of interest regarding people and events in the Oak Ridges - Lake Wilcox and King City districts. Our news correspondent in Oak Ridges - Lake Wilcox is Mrs. Elisabeth Orton, Yonge Street, 773-4635, in King City Mary Dawson, 884-1105.

Oak Ridges - Lake Wilcox News

Neighborhood Notes

The community hopes that Mrs. Carol Daines, the former news representative for "The Liberal" in this area will recover quickly from a heart attack she suffered last week.

A happy birthday is wished for Clarke Johnson who was 16 May 5 and for Karen Smith who will celebrate May 10.

Now that construction is underway on the Yonge Street widening and straightening, have you taken a close look at the red stakes? I get the distinct impression that I led a very crooked life in my comings and goings from Oak Ridges, north and south, during past years. In fact I feel we have all zigged a willing guess to when we should have a great deal of machinery going on now, we should be on the straight and wide path soon.

The annual Open House will be held at the Ontario Hospital, Aurora, on the afternoon and evening of May 9 and the afternoon of May 10. The public is cordially invited to attend. New Recreation Committee

The Oak Ridges Recreational Committee was officially formed at a general meeting April 30. Aims and objectives of the new organization are to unify existing groups and assist any other groups which may be formed in the future.

There are several groups already working in the recreation field in the community — hockey, baseball, senior citizens, etc.,

all of whom hold fund raising activities and recreational events which sometimes conflict. The new recreation committee will be a liaison for them.

Officers of the committee are Past Chairman Ken Blyth, Chairman Shirley Smith, Secretary Joan Blyth, Treasurer Gary Telix, Finance Chairman Dave Stewart, Publicity Chairman Joan Wallace, Membership Chairman Peggy Clarke.

A member of the committee will be appointed to the King and Whitechurch Townships Recreation Commissions. King Township has already indicated a willingness to supply both moral and financial support.

The whole idea resulted from a discussion at a coffee break held by some interested mothers, who wondered what their children would do this summer. After about 30 mothers were contacted it was decided to approach the York County Board of Education to secure the use of the school during July and August. Tentative permission has been indicated to use the Oak Ridges Public School grounds.

For indoor activities, negotiations are under way for St. Paul's United Church hall and/or the gymnasium at Our Lady of the Annunciation Separate School.

Parents will be contacted about supervised activities for the children during the summer. As a personal opinion we be-

lieve this is a most important first constructive step toward providing much needed recreational opportunities for our young people.

Senior Public School A capacity audience of parents attended a fashion show and gymnastics display on the evening of April 28 at King Senior Public School, King City.

The fashion show was probably a first in the area as it featured items of wearing apparel which had been made by the grade seven and eight pupils from material which they had first tie-dyed. I'm glad you asked, "What's tie-dyed?" This is a process involving a piece of white material, square or rectangular, tying it in various places and dipping it in various colors of dye. When dry the material has circular patterns in varying shades and sizes, depending on the tightness of the knots.

Some very original ideas were used by the students. The gymnastics were obviously the result of some very strenuous practice by the students and considerable endeavor by Mrs. Frances Neale and Henry Josephs of the teaching staff. Those taking part from Oak Ridges were: Barbara Hawken, Lorie Sayers, Gail Nolan, Brenda Nolan, Karen Peterson, Florence Orton, Jane Allwood, Dorothy Benson, Elda Thompson, Grace Dam, Elaine Skead, Eleanor Robinson, Kim Weston.

Janet Orser, Coral Payne, Colleen Cook, Susan Westall, Gail Stevens. On The Personal Side Well, people, it has been some time since yours truly put pen to paper for "The Liberal", but here I am again and happy to serve you by seeing that a report of the big things in your life gets into print.

PLEASE don't hesitate to call me on any item or even if you have a hint which might lead to a news item you and your neighbors and friends would like to read. I am automatically drawn to any group of two or more in conversation, a habit I picked up when I was writing this column before. So if you notice someone looking over your shoulder, speak up please, it makes my job easier.

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Dr. Noble told the jury he was concerned that in such a serious case the child had to go back home before he could get adequate treatment. The jury attached no blame but recommended "stronger supervision by proper authorities in cases of this nature."

Young Terrance had been released on probation by juvenile court authorities for other fires he had set, just the day before the fatal accident. He was to have begun psychiatric treatment on the following Monday.

Investigation had revealed that the young lad had been involved in at least four previous fires — at a television laboratory, at the boy's grandmother's home and at two cottage fires in March. He was caught at that time and brought before juvenile court, John Nidd of the York County Children's Aid Society told the inquest. "There was a good deal of suspicion of others," he said. It was revealed that a psychiatrist had recommended he

Children With Learning Disabilities

Mrs. Elisabeth Orton, "The Liberal's" correspondent in the Oak Ridges-Lake Wilcox area is concerned about children with learning disabilities in that community. Although Richmond Hill and Thornhill have an active and successful association for these children, she feels that there may be many children in the area who are not receiving maximum assistance.

The schools are doing a great deal for these youngsters when their difficulties have been ascertained, but it is imperative that parents understand the varied and numerous problems which these children encounter. Mrs. Orton stated, and it is only through an association that parents become aware of the situation as it applies to all these children.

The Ortons, who are themselves parents of a child with a learning disability feel there is a definite need to inform families of the many facets of the problem facing their children, but before anything constructive can be done towards the formation of an association, the support of other interested parents is necessary.

If you wish further information Mrs. Orton will be pleased to answer your questions just call her at 773-4635 any evening.

TEMPERANCEVILLE NEWS

CORRESPONDENT: MRS. W. G. JENNINGS — PHONE 773-5892

The junior choir took part in the regular service on April 19, singing three numbers, "Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory", "Go Tell It To The Mountain", and "All Night, All Day". Robert Bosscher sang a solo in Dutch "Wat de Toekomst Brengt Moge".

The flowers on the altar table at our church on April 26, were placed in loving memory of Mrs. Fred Boys, by her husband and family.

For the Mothers' Day, May 10 service, the choir will be making their final appearance for the season. The Sacrament of Baptism will be held at this time, and all members and friends are given a warm invitation to attend.

The Evening Unit of the UCW will meet at the home of Mrs. William Skerratt on May 12. The Afternoon Unit is invited to attend. Mrs. Walter Skerratt, Toronto, will be present to show slides of her recent holiday.

Members and friends of the UCW met at the home of Mrs. Wilfred James for a friendly time and to honor two of our former members who are leaving the community. Mrs. Lorne Cunningham and Mrs. Jack Macklin were the recipients of a lovely cup and saucer and the good wishes of the members in their new homes.

Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham have sold their home on the King Sideroad, and are leaving at the end of the month to spend the summer on the east coast with friends and relatives, and Mr. and Mrs. Macklin will be moving from Newmarket to make their home in Western Ontario about midsummer.

4H Homemaking Club

Members and leaders of the Temperanceville 4H Homemaking Club attended their Achievement Day on April 25. Two members received county honors for having completed six projects, namely, Brenda Wilkinson and Beverley Abbott. Five girls, Carolyn Lomas, Nancy Patrick, Beverley Abbott, Brenda Wilkinson and Catherine James received Achievement

Awards for completing two projects

The club prepared an exhibit on the "Third Meal", featuring fowl, with a picnic lunch of fried chicken, and Catherine James making the commentary.

Neighborhood Notes

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred James and family, had Sunday dinner with Mrs. Lance Beath, Toronto. Mrs. Fred Hare has spent the past week with her son-in-law

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Coroner Criticizes "Red Tape" In Death Of 9-Year-Old Arsonist

Coroner Dr. Stuart Noble last week severely criticized red tape and the "system" for failing to provide institutional care for nine-year-old Terrance Quilty, a known arsonist, who died in a fire at Jackson's Point March 21. "Someone was most negligent," stated the coroner at the close of the inquest into the boy's death. He burned to death on his ninth birthday when he was trapped in a fishing hut he set afire. His companion, Joseph Allison, 5, was badly burned before he was rescued by an older brother and is still in the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto.

Young Terrance had been released on probation by juvenile court authorities for other fires he had set, just the day before the fatal accident. He was to have begun psychiatric treatment on the following Monday. Investigation had revealed that the young lad had been involved in at least four previous fires — at a television laboratory, at the boy's grandmother's home and at two cottage fires in March. He was caught at that time and brought before juvenile court, John Nidd of the York County Children's Aid Society told the inquest. "There was a good deal of suspicion of others," he said. It was revealed that a psychiatrist had recommended he

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