

Weekender

VOL. 2 NO. 49

A Metroland Community Newspaper

Saturday, December 6, 1986

52 pages

25 cents

Asphalt plant opposed



Stouffville artisans

Wednesday's a special day for the members of the Silver Jubilee Club in Stouffville. That's when artistic-minded members get together to do some painting in preparation for their annual art show and sale

every May. But this year, they decided to experiment and hold one in December. Here, Stouffville's Alma Johnson (left) shows one of her works to fellow resident Effie Foskett. — Sjoerd Witteveen

For years, residents of Gormley, with homes fronting on a section of Woodbine Avenue, have been staring into the remains of decimated cars on the site of a scrap metal yard.

They've been patient. However, that patience reached the point of exasperation when they learned Miller Paving Ltd., has hopes of establishing an asphalt paving plant immediately south of the scrapyards property on the east side of Woodbine.

They let their indignation be known at a meeting of Town Planning Advisory Committee Tuesday.

While discussion wasn't meant to deal with the pros and cons of the proposed operation, citizens insisted on having their say.

Chief concerns related to environment, traffic and devaluation of property values.

"Would you as councillors want this sort of thing in your backyards?" asked resident David Goad. He described the application as "part of a horrid scheme to make Woodbine Avenue a haven for big business."

In his report, Town Planner Michael Saunders said: "The location of this type of use always causes problems. However, the subject site appears to be a least offensive type of location, since a similar heavy industrial use, (Don Mills Steel & Metal Ltd.), exists adjacent to it." He supported amendments to the Official Plan and Zoning By-law.

No objections were received from either the Regional Health Unit or the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Company spokesman Les MacArthur said the plant's effect on the environment would be 'negligible'. He said strict Environment Ministry standards would have to be followed.

"The plant will be for the mixing of asphalt only," MacArthur continued, "no refining will be done."

The firm's representative said the plant would be set back 3,000 feet from the road. Much of the operation would be screened by a berm, he explained.

Residents, however, weren't satisfied.

When Mayor Fran Sainsbury said the discussion had far surpassed the pre-set ten-minute time limit, Councillor Jim Sanders expressed his disdain at the way the meeting had been handled.

Councillor Wilf Morley agreed.

"We seem to have gotten off on a tangent involving site specifics, (the asphalt plant), as opposed to land-use, (amending the zoning by-law).

He admitted all concerns had obviously not been heard.

The committee agreed to continue the hearing Dec. 16.

Vandorf to grow

The hamlet of Vandorf, a community divided by Woodbine Avenue and located part way between the Bloomington Road and Aurora Sideroad, has growing pains.

Michael Saunders, Whitchurch-Stouffville's Director of Planning, wants to ease the agony by extending the boundaries and allowing more growth.

This advice was contained in a memo placed before the Town's Planning Advisory Committee, Dec. 2.

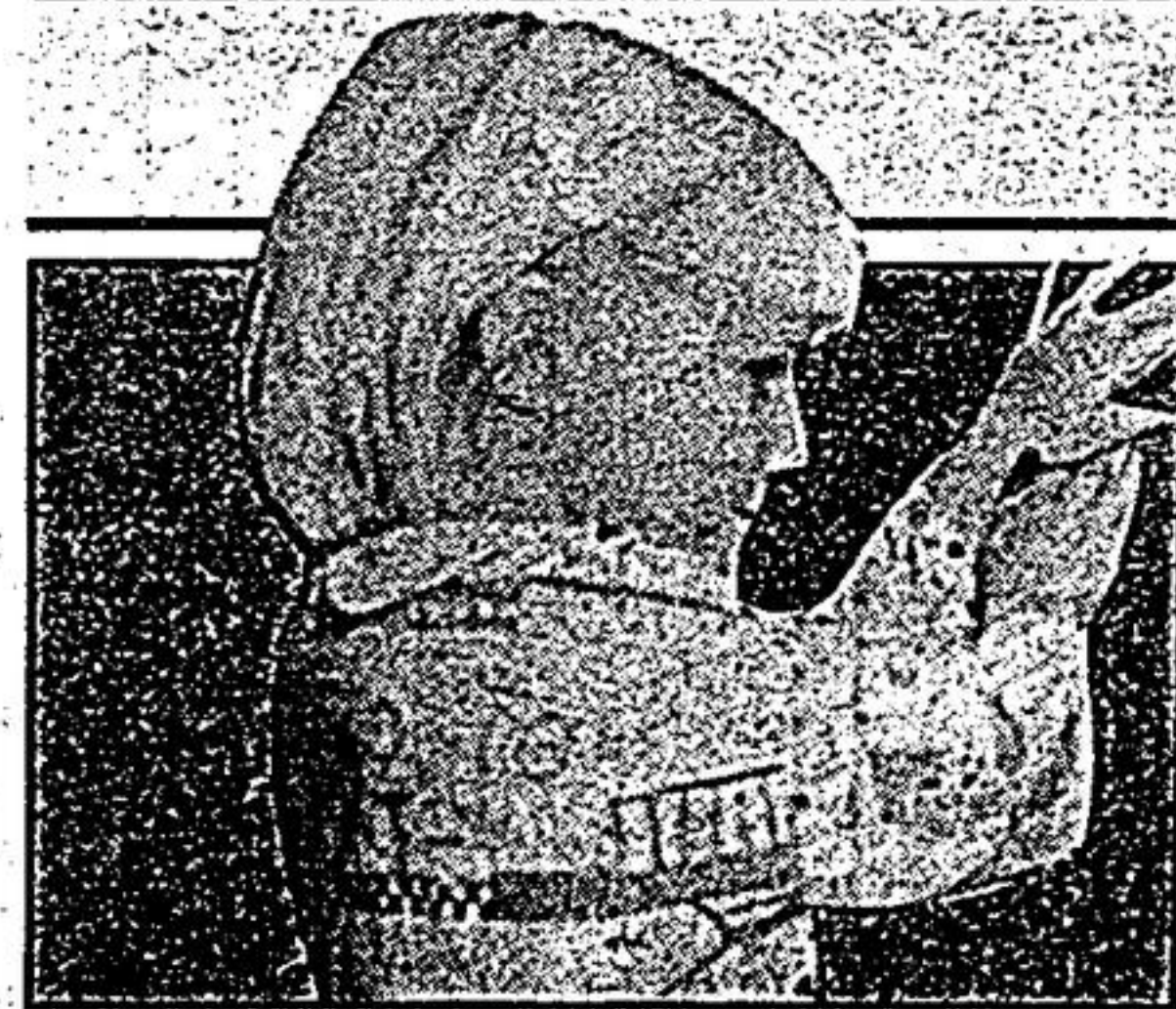
At present, the population ceiling stands at 750. This includes Wesley Corners, a community to the north.

Citing the fact the 750 population mark has almost been reached by existing committed development, Mr. Saunders has recommended the figure be altered to one thousand.

The planning director also suggests the Vandorf boundaries be extended to the Aurora Sideroad on the north; Hwy. 404 on the west; the Vandorf Sideroad on the south and the C.N. rail line on the east.

New development, he said, will consist mainly of one-acre community residential lots. The boundary change will also allow some rural residential lot severances, he explained.

WHAT'S INSIDE



Kimberly Twaddle

No war toys for her Christmas/25

Directory

- Comment P.4
- Editor's mail P.5
- Entertainment P.22
- Children's page P.28
- Sports P.29 to 31
- Church Page P.32 to 33
- Real Estate P.34 to 43
- Classified P.44 to 51

Bill Brown

He's moving up/10

