THE YARE VALLEY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 16, DECEMBER 1991



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The Guided Walk at Easton

Our woodland and farm walk at Easton took place on a brilliant Autumn day in October 6th but unfortunately was not well attended. Do any members have ideas for future outdoor activities which would receive greater support? If so, please contact Claire Harris, tel 250387 or Fam Ford, tel 56021.

Tour of Remains under new Magistrates' Court

The other social event was a highly successful visit to the Norman house under the magistrates court at Whitefriars, with a visit to the courts themselves.

The tour was hosted by Frank Tucker who explained the process whereby he was able to schedule time for an excavation of the old house while negotiating planning permissions and drawing up plans for the courts.

We were able to see many of the features which had been built in to the courts, including the Arminghall Arch which had, at one time, been in danger of being shipped to the States!

It was interesting to hear him explain the features that had to be built in to a building which was seen as a hostile place to many people who use it, while making it a secure and functional place for those who work in it. We are most grateful to him and the members of the court staff who gave up their time to show us round.

Planning Concerns

Colney Gravel Works

There is a proposal to extend the scope and duration of gravel extraction and processing at Colney, adjacent to the river near Colney Hall. We have opposed this on the grounds that it would delay the reinstatement of the area to a natural condition, as a public amenity and because it would generate more traffic.

Colney Hall Leisure Development

There is an existing planning consent for hotel and leisure amenities at Colney Hall. The new owners of the hall are shortly to submit more

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Colney Hall Leisure Development continued...

detailed plans, to include a golf course, and we are keeping a close watch on developments, by discussion between members of the committee and the owners.

Ipswich Road, Southern Bypass Intersection

Almost every week there are press reports of new schemes in this area: Superstores, leisure centres, housing ... even a railway station!

A superstore at the Harford Dairies site has been approved, and a much larger application adjacent to this, including a railway station, has just been submitted. We are examining the implications of this and will keep you informed.

Eaton Golf Course

Despite press reports and comments in leaflets from local political parties, there is at this time of writing no formal planning application for housing on any part of the Golf Course. City Hall has promised to consult us as soon as any application is received.

Site of AGR Windows Ltd, Newmarket Road, Cringleford

There is a great deal of public protest about the condition and proposed development of this industrial site, which lies not only well within the Yare Valley but also in a Conservation Area.

On 7th January 1992 there will be a public inquiry at South Norfolk House, Long Stratton, to hear appeals against refusal of temporary planning permission for 5 portakabins (already on the site for the last two years) and against enforcement notices for their removal.

The site is seriously out of character with the surrounding residential area, is deleterious to it, and creates an unacceptable type and volume of traffic and parking.

If you wish to make a written representation about this development that will be taken into account at the inquiry, please write as soon as possible, no later than the middle of Decemeber to: The Department of the Environment, Room 11/01(6), Tollgate House, Bristol, BS2 9DJ, quoting the following references:

Local Planning Authority Reference: 07/90/1559/F and CDE.180/89 DOE Reference: APP/L2630/A/90/177028, APP/C/91/L2630/600660-1: Appeal by AGR Windows Ltd.

The number of individual letters received by the DOE always makes an important impact at an enquiry. You may of course, also attend it.

Winter Walk with the Parkland Rangers

Sunday January 1 $\mathbf{1}$ th 1992 on Bluebell Marshes. Meet Cringleford Old Bridge Car Park at 1.30pm. Clear away the Christmas cobwebs with a walk along the Yare Valley meadows and woodlands. Boots or wellies advised.