



THE YARE VALLEY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 8, AUGUST 1990

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THE NEWS PAGE

PLANNING APPEAL

An application to demolish an existing house and erect 12 flats and maisonettes on land at 6 Gurney Lane has been turned down. The developer is appealing against this decision, and an informal hearing will take place on September 18th. **Any one who wishes to oppose this appeal should write, quoting ref. no. APP/L2630/A/90/154515, to:**

The Department of the Environment, Room 10/11, Tollgate House, Houlton Street, Bristol, BS2 9DJ.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS: NEW BUILDINGS ON THE UEA CAMPUS

The first formal planning applications connected with the University's major development plan have now been lodged with Norwich City Council for consideration in September. **Some of these proposals would adversely affect the valley.**

Members are urged to write with their comments and objections immediately to the City Planning Officer, City Hall, Bethel Street, Norwich, NR2 1NH, quoting the reference numbers below.

Application 900649

This is for 3- and 4-storey residential blocks north and west of 'The Prospect' (the mound near Bluebell Road/North Park Avenue pedestrian entrance to the Campus). **Of particular concern is the proposed 4-storey building on the present floodlit hard surface sports arena.**

This occupies a prominent position in open space on land within the sloping valley side. A site to the north, adjacent to the University Drive exit road, would be preferable.

Application 900650

is for research and academic buildings, within an existing built-up area of the Campus. There is no need for objection

from the landscape point of view, but members may have their own personal views about the fate of the research rabbit colony. This is the building which would destroy the rabbits and a long-term research project.

Application 900651

is for 4- and 5-storey residential blocks north and north-west of the Sainsbury Centre.

We feel that the Sainsbury Centre should mark the western limit of building on the campus.

One of the proposed new blocks extends some 50 yards further west (ie nearer the river). It is a 5-storey block and would be inappropriate in a particularly attractive area of open meadowland.

Plans and an architect's model of the above are on display on the first floor of the City Hall. See them if you can, and please write to the City Planning Officer.

GUIDED VISIT TO THE UEA GROUNDS

We may have our differences with UEA over building plans, but the University deserves credit for managing its open spaces sensitively. Of special note are its tree planting policy, the conservation of flora in the meadowland, the landscaping of the Broad and the preservation of wildlife habitats.

One of our members, John Hovey, is Grounds Superintendant at UEA. He will lead a guided visit to the Campus on September 23rd.

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* Meet at 2.30pm. Sunday September 23rd, 1990, at the Gallery
* end of the Sainsbury Centre.
*
* There will be a slide show and refreshments at about 4.30.
*
* Cost £1.00. Children under 12 free.
* (money will be collected on the day)
*
* Please let us know in advance if you plan to come - contact.....
* John Thurman (telephone 55329) or Anne Girling (telephone 507024.)
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* * * * *

Editor Janet Johnson, 21 Chalfont Walk, Norwich NR4 7NH
End of Yare Valley Society Newsletter Issue No. 8

PUBLIC INQUIRY

into

Proposed research and development complex south of the Watton road in the Yare Valley at Colney.
(Opposite the BUPA hospital)

The appeal by UEA, against refusal of planning permission by SNDC, will be heard in the form of a Public Inquiry on September 4th-7th, first at the Edwards Room, then at the Council Chamber, County Hall, Norwich.

The YVS has objected strongly to this proposed development.
We encourage you to do likewise by writing a letter as soon as possible and well before 21st August to:

The Secretary of State, Department of the Environment,
Room 1203B, Tollgate House, Houlton Street,
Bristol. BS2 9DT;
using the above heading and quoting this DOE reference:
APP/L2630/A/90/157885.

Here are some issues you might like to raise:

1. The importance of the Yare valley south of Norwich as a widely popular and easily accessible area of open countryside. The proposed development, with its wide frontage on to the valley, would seriously curtail the views from the Yare Valley Walk and Earlham Park Conservation Area (which is directly opposite it).
2. The value of the Yare valley as a recreational area and lung of countryside becomes even more important with increasing development between it and the new southern bypass.
3. Statutory plans recognise this area as of high landscape value and their policies seek to safeguard it. The current proposed revision of the Norfolk Structure Plan states that there should be an "over-riding presumption against inappropriate development" in the valley of the Yare.
4. Other land that could be developed for research and development purposes is available west of Colney Lane, away from the environmentally sensitive part of the valley. Such land would, like the proposed site, be easily accessible to other parts of Norwich and near UEA: factors that are clearly important to the proposal. Development of such sites would equally provide for the jobs and international research that Norwich needs.

End

... AND ANOTHER POSTSCRIPT.....

THE UEA RABBIT COLONY (See main Newsletter, page 1/2)

It has been pointed out to us that Applications no. 900650 and 900651 for building at UEA, would both destroy the rabbit research colony.

Those members who, as individuals, wish to comment on this issue should mention both numbers when writing to City Hall.

Anyone who wants to know more about this important research can contact Dr. Diana Bell c/o School of Biological Sciences, UEA.