MAILBOX

Please write to Mailbox, Lincolnshire Free Press, The Crescent, Spalding PE11 1AB - giving your name, address and telephone number so we can check the letter's authenticity.

This is no place for an abattoir

WE have been sent a copy of the following letter sent to Soiuth Holland Council on H Hargrave and Co plans for an abattoir and meat plants in Horseshoe Road, Spalding:

A GROUP of concerned individuals and business people would like to bring to your attention their objection to the above proposal decided in a meeting at Contano Aluminium Ltd on May 30, 1991.

Planning: Quite clearly contrary to the Spalding and Pinchbeck plan.

Policy ID1, the principal location for a new industrial development will be at Wardentree Lane.

Policy ID3, the alteration and extension of existing industrial premises shall not adversely affect surrounding areas.

Lincolnshire structure plan 97: development of industry in the open countryside.

Further this proposal would effectively curtail planned residential development along Horseshoe Road.

Highways: The proposed arrangements for heavy transport are unclear and ignore the increased employee generated traffic.

We would also like to bring to councillors' notice that present operations, despite assurances to the contrary operate to no apparent plan. Heavy vehicles presently arrive at the site from both directions (Pode Hole and Hawthorn Bank) including over the weight limited Horseshoe Bridge.

South Drove from Pode Hole to Horseshoe Bridge is already dangerous to use through serious breakdown of the road and verges, this despite one attempt by the highway department to do temporary repairs.

There is an unsafe working practice of heavy vehicles planned to reverse on the public highway to the present loading dock.

It should be remembered that there are no footpaths or street lights on the proposed routes and with the width of the carriageway generally less than the width of two of the proposed vehicles presents considerable danger to school children who would cycle to school along these roads.

The considerable damage to the verges is evidence of this danger. The sums of money required to upgrade the roads would be considerable, and must make an alternative economically attractive.

The impact of additional noise caused by refrigerated lorries running 24 hours would be intolerable to local residents, in addition to this the noise generated by the heavy vehicles using unsuitable roads would affect a much larger area.

The trauma and suffering which will be caused by distressed pigs travelling and being unloaded will be dramatic.

The proposed carnage will increase this effect significantly.

It should be noted that the prevailing wind (south westerly) will cause a nuisance to the present development on Horseshoe Road and seriously affect any future development because obnoxious smells and noise are inevitable.

The present standard of housekeeping on the site and the increase in volume will generate an increase in flies and seagulls.

The visual impact of a building of this magnitude will quite clearly reduce the quality of life that could reasonably be expected in this area.

The volume of effluent from the proposed site is not specific; can a realistic judgement be made on this basis as to whether the existing sewerage system has an adequate hydraulic capacity to cope without expensive modification? Present usage has contaminated a nearby open dyke.

Conclusion: The application does not adequately address the considerable change of use proposed (light industrial to abattoir).

The detriment to the quality of life to persons already living and working in the area will be considerable compared to what they have previously enjoyed and could reasonably expect, and there will be a subsequent loss of value to property.

We feel that this is the wrong location for this activity and a more obvious site would be the Wardentree Industrial Park with its adequate facilities.

We hope that you will consider our objections favourably and agree that this is an unsuitable site for this type of operation and that some other site be considered where the impact on people and the environment would be less detrimental.

P C RAWDING

Threeways,
South Drove, Spalding.

You've been warned!

NO apologies for yet another letter against the proposed abbatoir development on Horseshoe Road.

Spalding residents please read on:

I have just attended a meeting of local residents at Contano's premises on Horseshoe Road and I didn't realise how close Spalding residents (especially those on Bourne Road, Hawthorn Bank, Horseshoe Road and Spalding Common) are to letting happen one of the biggest mistakes Spalding planners will make in a long time!

The development of the abattoir site, proposed by Hargraves will be an enormous one, far bigger than any current meat processing plant, including the monstrosity on the Springfields corner (pong 'n' all).

The building will be obtrusive to people locally and will be visible from Spalding Common to Deeping St Nicholas.

Bad enough will be the sight of the building but far worse than that will be the smell people "downwind" will get, for 200 out of 365 days in the year.

The prevailing wind direction from Hargraves is towards Spalding town centre and beyond, catching numerous households and businesses on the way. Be warned!! Your quality of life will be affected.

My personal gripe is against the number and size of articulated lorries at present entering and leaving the site and that will be using the site in future (one every 20 minutes).

These lorries when loaded with carcases weigh up to 48 tonnes. At 5.15 am when lorries start leaving the site and travel over Horseshoe Bridge (which incidentally has a 12 tonne limit) our house shakes, failing not only to wake the family: the dogs are none to pleased either and one of them is deaf!

Horseshoe Road is a rural road with grass verges, fully developed chestnut trees (of which children take delight in collecting conkers in the autumn) and open views of fields everywhere.

It is a regular walkway for hikers, jogger, sponsored dog walks and a road on which parents take their children for bike rides.

Let's keep what pleasant locations we have for these activities. Spalding councillors and planners please take note.

The Hargrave business is I'm sure an asset to the community in the form of jobs and trade, but please let's have it in the proper place. Don't make a mistake you and Spalding's residents will later regret.

TONY BALL

Bridge Farm Nurseries,
Horseshoe Road, Spalding.

WHY SHOULD WE PAY THAT?

HAVING just received my poll tax demand for 1991-92 I see down the column it reads Plus other adjustments £4.94. The notes on the other side are not very clear.

I rang the South Holland District Council department concerned and asked the woman to explain the £4.94 to me. I was told that a large portion of this was to cover unpaid poll tax from last year.

I explained that all in our household had paid in full last year.

This does not matter, I was told. Lost revenue has to be got from somewhere and those who paid last year in full must pay £4.94 extra for those who paid little or nothing at all.

Please put this in your letters column to make everybody aware of what they are paying the £4.94 for.

The council's motto should be: "Be honest, pay YOUR poll tax - and more for those who get away with it."

ANTHONY COOTE
103 Little London,
Long Sutton.

● See Council reply on Page One.

THE GREATER DOG MENACE..

AT LAST the Government has been forced into taking action on dogs that attack. However, for some strange reason the greatest menace of all remains dog excreta.

Research shows that between 300 and 400 children go blind every year due to the toxicara worm contained in the dog excreta.

This is an opportune time to write and ask your MP what he proposes to do about this and what has he to she done since you elected him.

In the meantime encourage the worming of both cats and dogs as a matter of urgency.

This is a matter of intelligence that will reduce a most profound health problem.

ROY BARNES
Staff Side Representative
Nurses South Lincolnshire.
7 Broadway Close, Bourne.

AID THANKS

MAY I thank the people of Market Deeping and Deeping St James for their very generous support for Christian Aid Week. A total of £2,474.66 was raised as follows:

House to house collections in Market Deeping £912.64; Deeping St James £1084.82; Priory Church lunch £133; Catholic church bring and buy £80, St Guthlac's church coffee morning £94.20; various donations £170.

We all know how much this money is needed both for disaster relief and long term aid projects. However, it was given against a background of deepening recession here, and is all the more appreciated in the circumstances.

I therefore say a heartfelt thank you to all who collected for, donated to or helped with the week in any way.

DOROTHY HARRISS
CAW Organiser
8 Dovecote Road
Market Deeping

GULF TREASURE

I HAVE recently received, from Mr John Williams my son Shaun's Gulf tankard.

Although Shaun has not yet seen the tankard (he is back at his unit in Germany), I know he will be extremely proud of it when he does.

Therefore, on behalf of Shaun, a thank-you to John Williams and all those who assisted in the Gulf Appeal Fund. But, more importantly a special thank-you to all who contributed so positively to provide the Spalding servicemen and servicewomen with a memento that I'm sure they will treasure for life.

MRS J J HASLAM
6 Kirby Court,
Spalding.

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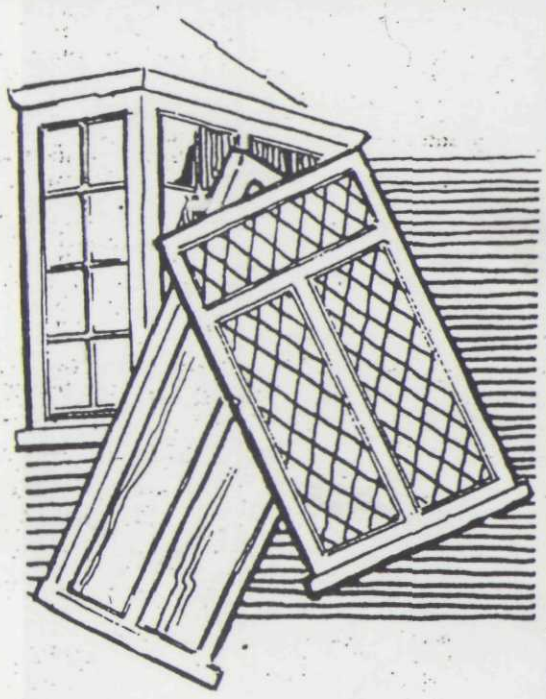

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