



The Cooling Plant

It's as bad as we feared! Detailed plans have now been submitted to the local Council for the Channel Tunnel Cooling Plant to be built on the newly constructed platform below Shakespeare Cliff. The buildings, of which there are a number, will be vast (the largest is 101.75m x 34m x 8.5m and its impact can be imagined. We have raised our voice above the mutterings and wait to hear Eurotunnel's response.

The Russell Street Car Park

WE learn with regret that the multi-storey car park planned for Russell Street will not be completed in time for the eagerly-awaited opening of the White Cliffs Experience. We hope that the delay will allow time to ensure that a well-designed, attractive car park will result.

In addition to studying the local plan (see below) we have also commented on the Economic Development Strategy. Stressing the need for an Economic Development Officer, to concentrate interest in investment in the district, we have welcomed the initiative in targeting potential relocators. As has been said publicly, we welcome the proposals of TAG/McClaren and see this as an example of confidence in the area.

If you want development to mean 'positive improvement' then write a letter! Whether it is to the Council, the local press or to the Society, your views matter.

70 *The Local Plan:*

DOVER and WESTERN PARISHES

A policy document is only as effective as the will to implement it. This Local Plan is the last before the opening of the Channel Tunnel and the implementation of the Single European Market. Employers' reactions to these major events are vitally important to ensure that the District is ready to meet the forthcoming changes and challenges.

We are about to submit our response and comments on the DRAFT WRITTEN STATEMENT and will be stressing the need for decisions to be stringently enforced to be effective. The Society, in November 1988, submitted a detailed document outlining its views on many relevant topics and is delighted that some of these suggestions have already been implemented, but, obviously, much still needs to be done.

The District Council has included a number of very exciting and praiseworthy proposals in the document and we are happy to support these. For example, plans to recognise a 'VISITOR ZONE' within the town centre will mean a co-ordinated and concentrated upgrading of this area — something that will be both attractive to visitors and beneficial to townspeople. The importance of good architectural design is stressed in relation to commercial, industrial and residential buildings. There is no demand for fresh land (or greenfield sites) to be released for residential purposes. The provision of quality shopping and the need to ensure that the primary shopping frontages remain dedicated for that purpose is essential. (We note with interest that plans have been submitted for the use of part of the ground floor of the 'Metropole' building in Cannon Street as retail units by its new owners, coupled with the conversion into flats of the upper floors). Open spaces are to be safeguarded. We note the improvement works in progress in Pencester Gardens. Environmental issues such as sewage disposal will be addressed.

Space does not permit a detailed discussion of all the issues but we continue to take a close interest in developments.

ADRIAN GALLEY

Chairman, Planning Committee

DOVER HISTORY SOCIETY _____

Membership £5. Visitors welcome at £1 per meeting. New programme begins in April. Outings in the summer.

Secretary:

Mrs P. Barratt, 2 Courtland Drive, Kearsney Avenue, Dover CT163BX Tel: 824764

Mr Harold Sneller can also be contacted:

107 Crabble Hill, Dover CT17 0SA Tel: 822807

All meetings at 7.30 at St. Mary's Parish Centre.

1991

5th February CRYSTAL PALACES

Mr B. R. Fagg, M.R.S.H.

5th March ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE CHANNEL TUNNEL

Mr R. P. Cross, B.A.

9th April SEVENTEENTH CENTURY DOVER

Mr Ivan Green, B.A.