

FORMER EYE HOSPITAL

Despite our objections, planning permission has been given to build flats on the site of the former Eye Hospital at Noah's Ark Road.

HOARDINGS AT YORK STREET ROUNDABOUT

Despite our considerable success in encouraging the Council to refuse planning permission, and the Council's decision being upheld at an appeal, the hoardings are still there! All those hoardings are illegal — but it seems that at present the Council is powerless to do anything about it!

BURLINGTON HOUSE

Thankfully, the planning application to convert 'Dover's Eyesore' into housing has been refused. An appeal is pending and the Dover Society will be there to continue to oppose the application and to press for the demolition of the building to make way for an appropriate re-development as part of the 'Dover St. James Masterplan.

ECONOMIC STRATEGY

We have recently commented in detail on the draft of an annual document prepared by the Council. It reports some encouraging new initiatives that are being

taken, but generally lacks a vision for the future of the town.

TOWN GRANTS SCHEME

Dover has a fine stock of historic buildings, especially those of the 19th century, many of which display particularly imaginative and high quality detailing — an asset that is not always fully appreciated. Unfortunately, many of these unusually good examples of the period are sadly neglected. Previous grant schemes have gone some way to help 'stop the rot' and funding from the Town Grants Scheme, albeit modest, was crucial in this process.

Now it is distressing to learn, just at the time when the valuable urban regeneration work of IMPACT is drawing to a close, the Town Grants Scheme is not to be continued, thus losing for Dover the money from the agreed three-way partnership funding from English Heritage and the K.C.C. Does this mean that Dover will be left with little or no conservation resources?

In General

The Committee will remain watchful of all planning matters and will continue to keep the pressure up to make Dover a better place to live, work and play in.

Contributed by **MIKE McFARNELL**

PLANS FOR CONNAUGHT PARK

Information from the Dover Society's questionnaires has been collated. At a meeting at Dover Girls' Grammar School in February it was thought that probably the best chance of obtaining any money for Connaught Park was through the channel of Sport in Education. As new guidelines from the Sports Lottery Fund on this are being issued in April, further discussion was postponed until they appear. A further meeting will be held in June. Any progress will be reported in the next *Newsletter*.

DOVER PAGEANT 1997

Noreen Thomas has written the script for the 1997 Pageant, which for this special occasion will be at Crabble Athletic Ground which in that year celebrates its centenary. It was opened on 7th June 1897.

The 1997 Pageant will be on 4, 5, 6 and 7 June and the theme will be TRANSPORT.