

AREA TRANSFERRED

From Beaconsfield CP To Taplow CP

IN ALL CASES RED LINE DEFINES NEW BOUNDARY

Scale 1:2500 Issued by the Department of the Environment
Base map reproduced from the Ordnance Survey map

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Hitcham and Taplow Preservation Society

Objectives of the Society

The Society was formed in 1959; one of its most important objects is:-

".....securing the protection from disfigurement or injury of the countryside and rural surroundings and amenities of the Parishes of Hitcham and Taplow....."

The Society therefore scrutinises many Planning Applications and Appeals and makes constructive comments when appropriate; it also gives evidence at Local Planning Enquiries.

Officers and Executive Committee Members

President	Dr John Kennedy
Vice Presidents	Mrs Eileen Law, Mrs Anne Milne, Mrs Sheila Horton, Mr Louis Freedman CBE and Mrs Helen Lee
Chairman	Mr Bill Ball
Vice-Chairman	Vacant
Treasurer	Mr Hugh Nixon
Secretary	Mr Bob Hanbury
Committee Members	Miss Maureen Dennis, Mr Michael Goss, Mrs Eva Lipman, Mr Humphrey Lloyd, Mr Andy McKenzie, Mr Dick Nutt, Mr Barrie Peroni, Miss Gwen Pollock and Mr David Stanning.

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The front cover shows the official map of the Taplow Parish Boundary Changes; see Article on page 6.

Editorial

This is the third Editorial that I have written in my self-assumed role of "Not the Editor".

There has only been one letter recently (see Correspondence Section) so I don't know what the rest of you think of the ideas that have been expressed in the Editorials and in the Newsletters themselves; if you don't like it, you had better say so! If you do, it would be nice to hear from you.

You can ring up if you don't want to write, but if you do write, please say if you do NOT want your letter to be published in the Newsletter.

Of course if you would like to have an article published, I should be very interested to hear from you - again do telephone, especially if you would like to discuss it first.

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I have been trying to find time to understand a new computer program called a "Desk Top Publisher" which will enable me to set out the Newsletter much more professionally so that it looks more like it was printed, rather than produced on a glorified typewriter as at present.

Unfortunately the Flood Relief Channel Public Enquiry has taken up the time so you will have to put up with the old style for a bit yet.

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Previously you have only had two Newsletters per year - in February and June - the theory being that there is a further opportunity to communicate with you, the Members, in October when the Agenda for the AGM is distributed.

The Committee has agreed that, for this year, we should have a third Newsletter in October but, again the Public Enquiry has taken up the time, so you have got it in November/December instead. This has not put an extra load on the hardworking distributors as we had to issue the enclosed letter about the Society's day to give evidence at the Enquiry.

Tel:661588
30th November 1992

Dick Nutt
(Not the Editor)

Unless otherwise stated, the views expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Society or it's Executive Committee.

The Newsletter is published by the Hitcham and Taplow Preservation Society. It is edited and printed for photo-copying by Dick Nutt, Lea Rig, Hitcham Road, Burnham, SL1 7DX; tel: 661588.

Short History and Characteristics of Taplow

Newer Members may be interested in these details which have been extracted from the Conservation Area documents by Dick Nutt

Short History

The derivation of the name is unsure; it could be from Tap = top and hloew = a mound - "the mound on the top of the hill" but there is also a reference in the Domesday Book to "Taepa and his mound". By the late 12th century it was referred to as "Thapelau".

This mound, an Anglo Saxon grave, lies just south of Taplow Court, in the Old Churchyard. This is of great national importance. It was excavated in 1883 and the fine relics are now housed in the British Museum. Saxon and Roman pottery fragments have also been found near this churchyard. Pevsner says that, in a field south of the mound, two slight lines of entrenchment mark the site of an iron age settlement. Also there is a legend that St Berinus, later Bishop of Dorchester, baptised Saxon converts at Bapsey Pond to the south of the mound.

The Anglo Saxon Chronicle records that a contingent of British tribesmen left Taplow to join Caractacus at the Battle of Chertsey in opposing the Roman invaders' march on London. It is known that, in 1871, the manor was bestowed on a Saxon nobleman named Astig.

After the Norman Conquest, William I gave the manor of Taplow to his brother, the Bishop of Bayeux, who, in turn, left it to the monks of Norton Abbey. It was held by them until the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII. It then remained a crown property until sold to the Hampden family in the reign of James I. Their heirs sold the Cliveden part of the estate to the Duke of Buckingham. In about 1700 Lord Orkney bought the Taplow estate; later it passed to the Grenfell family.

The old house of the manor is reputed to be Taplow Court where a house is said to have stood for 1,000 years. The present house was improved in the early 18th century and, in about 1855, extensively restored and extended after a plan by Sir Charles Barry.

The site of the early church of St Nicolas was close to the southern side of Taplow Court where the churchyard still exists. It was demolished in 1828 and a new brick church in a gothic style was built in the present position. This was pulled down in 1912 and the church was rebuilt in its present form in the style of the 14th century.

The Characteristics

The character of Taplow is influenced by the radical change in scale of its properties. There are the few 19th century houses in landscaped grounds up Berry Hill, the large properties in gardens in Rectory Road, smaller houses of late 19th century grouped near the church and, finally the cottage scale at the north end of the high Street. Consistently, throughout the village, there is a back-cloth of trees

The western part of Rectory Road, with its enclosures, privacy and high red brick walls, hedges and trees eventually opens out, through a screen of trees, into a small green. The Cedar Chase development by Span fits into this character well; specimen trees are retained, the site is well planted and the architecture is such that the enclosure and privacy of the area is reinforced.

The Green and the High Street have a different character. The Green is embanked on its two road frontages and the simple 17th - 19th century terraced cottages facing its southern end are only partially visible from the top of the Green. Near the 20th century gothic church is an attractive cluster of late 19th century red brick houses with gables, bargeboards and tiled roofs. Northwards are older timber framed cottages

The entrance to the village from the north, along Hill Farm Road, is attractive. From a distance the little copper covered spire of the church is visible behind the terrace of three timber framed cottages. The road is lined with a high elm hedge and a group of trees marks the turn into the High Street. From the south the entrance along Boundary Road too is lined partly by a high elm hedge and bounded to the west by a long brick wall and tree belt. Turning into Rectory Road there is a good view of the church spire and the curving lane.



View South down Hill Farm Road

Arriving along Cliveden Road, the view opens out to encompass the cricket ground and its background of trees. The first sight of the village is the wall and lodge of Taplow Court, then the dramatic glimpse of the house itself. The view southwards is closed by an attractive, long, low building at the tight road junction of Rectory Road and Berry Hill. Then there is a sudden view of Windsor Castle.

Approaching the village up Berry Hill, the road passes mature trees and high walls of large properties. The trees of Taplow House form a particularly dense screen through which the House (Statutory List Grade 2) is invisible. Nearby is a group of attractive 'gothick' cottages and lodges. The once fine 'Barryesque' house "Springfield", of mid-19th century, now stands a ruin amongst its specimen trees. This area is now more attractive for its gardens and mature trees but it is felt that the character is intrinsic to Taplow and it is therefore included in the Conservation Area.

Conservation Area No V50 TAPLOW

*These details were extracted from
Official Documents by Dick Nutt*

The Area

It is now just over 17 years since part of the village of Taplow was designated a Conservation Area.

A conservation area is defined in The Town and Country Planning Act 1971 as "an area of special architectural or historic interest whose character or appearance it is desirable to preserve or enhance....". This should not be taken as a purely negative process; given skill and understanding new development can usually be made to blend happily with the old.

The Conservation Area for Taplow consists, as would be expected, mostly of the older parts of the village, **excluding** the new developments of Stockwells, Saxon Gardens, Wellbank and Buffins but **including** Cedar Chase and the area round Springfield - not then redeveloped. The actual area is shown on the map opposite which is reproduced, at reduced size, from the official one.

Objectives of a Conservation policy. These aim to:-

- (a) avoid the destruction of the character of the Area by neglect or indifference and by despoilation by unsympathetic development.
- (b) protect the inward and outward views to and from the Area - *there is another map in the Document clarifying this.*
- (c) ensure that new development is sympathetic to the Area and blends with it.
- (d) encourage removal of eyesores within the Area - *listed separately in the Document.*

Planning Controls

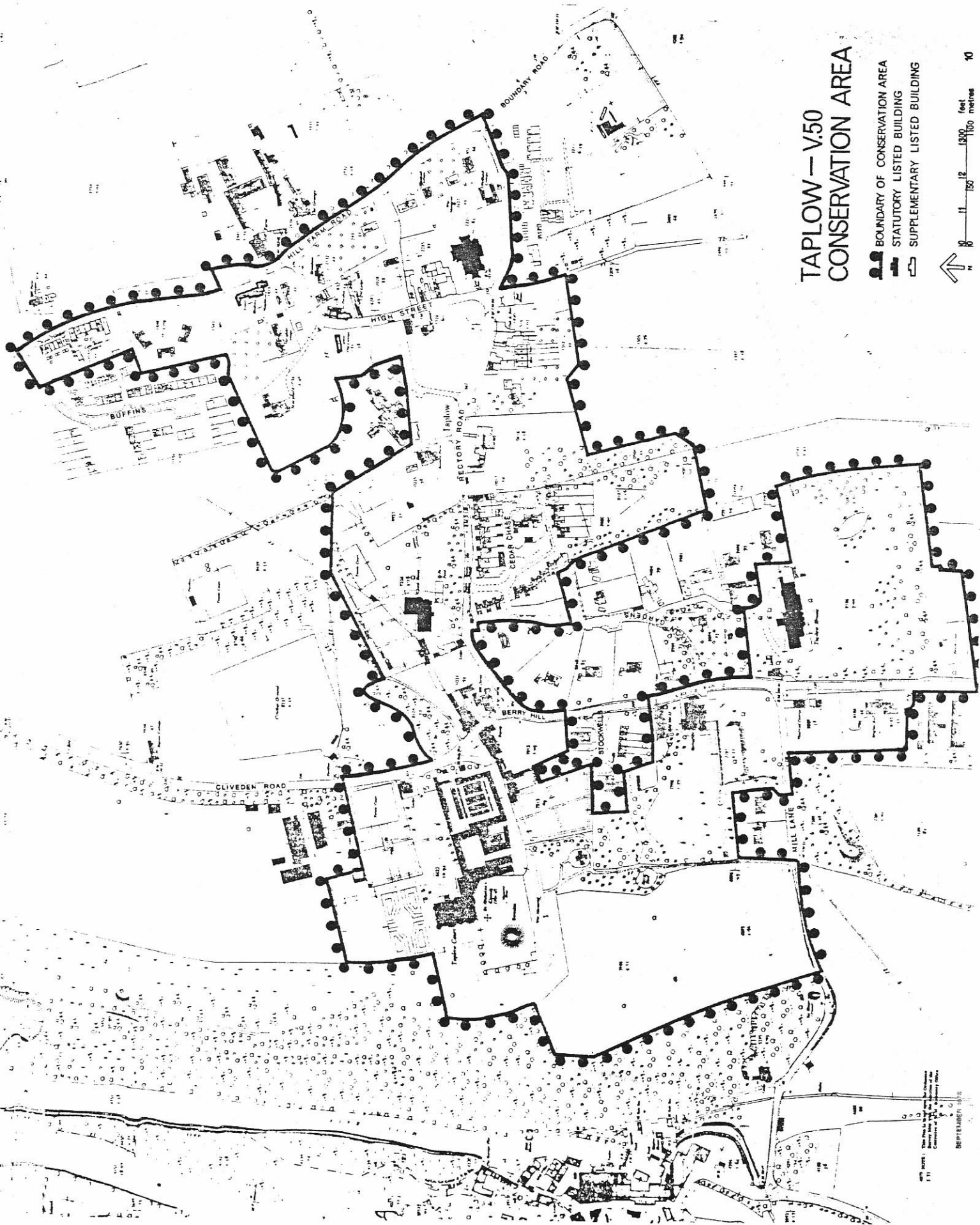
Clearly there is not much point in declaring a conservation area unless special arrangements are made to control its future development. These controls apply, not only to buildings (or part of a building) actually in the Area, but also to surrounding area and to views and approaches to the Conservation Area.

Demolition. Anyone wishing to demolish a building, or any part of it, in the area must first apply for listed buildings consent. Demolition will not normally be permitted unless it is made clear that "the building cannot, at reasonable expense, be retained for some suitable use".




Development Control. The main points are that new building must be in sympathy with the character of the Area, 'infilling' and 'backland' development not normally being permitted. The Planning Authorities will require detailed plans showing the new building in relation to its surroundings both on plan and in elevation. Incidentally Taplow is designated as an Area of Special Control of Advertisements.

Trees. It is clear that control of trees is an important facet; the law requires that notice be given to the District Council **6 weeks** before work is commenced. This not only applies to cutting down trees, but to "topping, lopping, uprooting, damaging or destroying a tree in the conservation area".

NOTE: Anyone considering any work in the Conservation Area should take specific advice and not place any reliance on this short article which is for general interest only.



TAPLOW — V.50 CONSERVATION AREA

-  BOUNDARY OF CONSERVATION AREA
-  STATUTORY LISTED BUILDING
-  SUPPLEMENTARY LISTED BUILDING



0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90 95 100
feet
metres

© 1975 H.M.S.O. The New Town and Village of Taplow
Conservation Area
DEPT. OF THE ENVIRONMENT
SEPTEMBER 1975

Taplow Parish Boundary Changes

*The information below was gleaned from
the minutes of the Resources Committee*

Did you know that a small piece of the parish of Beaconsfield was handed over to Taplow on 1 April 92?

The area is at the north end of our parish around the Royal Standard pub where Wooburn Common Road meets Broad Lane. The properties listed below are, therefore, now within the parish of Taplow:-

Wooburn Common Road

The Royal Standard
2 Royal Standard Cottages
Compass Cottage
The Compasses
The Cottage
The Mink Farm

Broad Lane

Rose Cottage
2 Rose Cottage.

The area is shown on the map on the cover.

ooooOOoooo

The Green Box

How YOU can recycle home waste

Members will remember articles in recent issues of the Newsletter telling you where to take your home waste for re-cycling.

For those of you who would like to contribute to the environment but find that taking the waste to the various differing locations is too much trouble or simply too difficult, there is now an alternative.

The Green Box Recycle Company in Maidenhead will do it for you!

What happens is that you are given a Green Box. During the week you put specified items in the Box instead of in the dustbin. On your allotted day you put the box outside by 8am and it will be emptied into The Green Box's special truck. You bring then your Box inside and start again.

The items that can be recycled are glass bottles and jars, tins and cans, clothes and rags, newspapers and magazines and silver foil; these items are kept separate in the special truck.

This will cost you £1 per week for 52 weeks a year plus a returnable deposit of £5 for the Box. The weekly fee covers the whole cost of the organisation, so the money received from the sale of the recycled items goes to local charities including our favourite - Thames Valley Hospice. So your money indirectly helps the charities apart from improving the Environment, all at little or no expenditure of effort or fuel!.

Details from Maidenhead 73217.

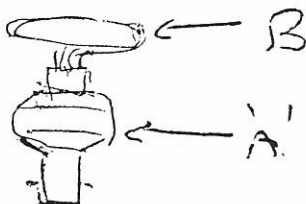
Correspondence

From Bill Ball

20 Sep 92

Low Energy Bulbs

I was interested in your article on this in the last Newsletter (No 62) and thought you would like to know that Thorn make a Low Energy, 11 watt lamp consisting of an electronic ballast unit ('A' in the sketch) with a bayonet cap (BC) which will fit a standard lampholder and a folded fluorescent tube ('B' in the sketch) in the "2D" configuration which plugs into 'A'.



The lamp part is, I am told, available as a replacement at about £3.00p (unlike the Osram and Philips units where you have to replace the whole unit) and the complete assembly is £12.00p.

These units are difficult to find but can be obtained from a hardware store in Cookham near the station:-

Brite Ideas
11-13 The Parade
Station Hill
COOKHAM
SL6 9BR.

Tel: (0628) 851440.

I hope this information is of use to you.

Yours etc

Bill Ball.

This is an interesting development; it will, of course, make the figures I quoted in the article referred to even more economical, reducing the Low Energy cost of 8,000 hours of light to £10.75, compared to £40.71 for ordinary bulbs.

Mazda (part of the same group) make a similar unit and quote the life of the electronic ballast as 32,000 hours or 4 times the life of the low energy tube itself.

One further point; none of the low energy bulbs is suitable for use with either dimmer switches or with those adaptors which automatically switch the bulb on at dusk and off in the morning. (This only applies to electronic adaptors - the mechanical ones work OK with low energy bulbs but not with dimmer switches; mine cost £10).

Editor

Planning Newspieces

The Minutes of the various Committees of the District Council have been studied and extracts (shown within quotation marks) or precis are given below. Dates in brackets indicate when the Committee met.

Planning and Transportation Committee (3 June 1992)

Publicity for Planning Applications

Since the enabling legislation, making this compulsory, had been before parliament but had been lost due to the General Election, the Committee had considered a draft circular. It had now resolved to notify neighbours, by individual letter, of applications referring to nearby sites (there are a complex set of rules defining a neighbour in relation to the proposed site). The scheme was due to start on 1 July 92.

Greenhouse site between White Gables and Redwood, Berry Hill, Taplow.

The Committee resolved to issue an Enforcement Notice in respect of the unauthorised temporary use of the site for boat construction; legal proceedings to be instituted if necessary.

Resources Committee (29 September 1992)

J Sainsbury Supermarket, Lake End Road, Burnham

The Committee agreed to a request from the Planning and Transportation Committee for an additional expenditure of £2,500 for consultants to be appointed to assess the retail impact of this Planning Application.

Planning and Transportation Committee (29 July 1992)

Enlargement of M25 between Junction 12 (with M3) and Junction 15 (with M4)

The Committee considered the proposals of the Department of Transport (DTp) to:-

- (1) Provide three-lane 'link' roads on BOTH sides of the M25.
- (2) Widen the M25 from dual 3- to dual 4-lanes, where not already done.
(Making, with the motorway, 14 lanes! Ed.)
- (3) & (4).....

The Committee resolved that the DTp be informed that the Council objects "in the strongest possible terms" to these proposals.

Planning and Transportation Committee (26 August 1992)

Dial-A-Ride Scheme

This scheme had been approved by the Committee on 29 July, but the "Committee was most disappointed to learn that the only contractor to submit a tender had since withdrawn." The officers were to try to discover the reasons for this lack of interest by the operators.

Eton Rowing Trench

"The Public Inquiry into the appeal against refusal of planning permission" would be held in the Langley Community Hall commencing on 12 May 93.

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Planning Applications

*Planning decisions given by the SBDC
Planning & Transportation Committee*

Land adjoining White Place, River Road, Taplow (S/91/0576/00). Appeal
Erection of a detached bungalow. Dismissed

Old Station Yard, off Station Road, Taplow (S/91/0893/FF). Deferred & Conditional
Retention of Building for Motor Vehicle Repairs. Delegated Temporary Permission

Taplow Lodge, Cliveden Road, Taplow (S/92/0026/FF). Deferred
Demolish existing and erect 20 dwellings. for Negotiation

St Nicolas School, Rectory Road, Taplow. (S/92/0488/FF). Deferred & Conditional
Portable building for use as temporary classroom. Delegated Temporary Permission

Miscellany

Annual General Meeting

This was held on Friday 16th October in what was once called the Reading Room.

Executive Committee. Due to resignations of some of our officers, new people were elected to the Executive Committee which now looks like this:-

Chairman:	Mr Bill Ball	Committee Members:	Miss Maureen Dennis,
Vice-Chairman:	Vacant		Mr Michael Goss, Mrs Eva Lipman, Mr Humphrey
Treasurer:	Mr Hugh Nixon		Lloyd, Mr Andy McKenzie, Mr Dick Nutt, Mr Barrie
Secretary:	Mr Bob Hanbury		Peroni, Miss Gwen Pollock and Mr David Stanning.

The Flood Enquiry. Mr Nutt made a statement about the Society's efforts to collect evidence to show that the National Rivers Authority were not accurate with their statements and that there was not sufficient need to justify the enormous cost - reckoned to be going to exceed £100 million!

The Reading Room Mural. As anyone who has been in the Reading Room will already know, this is being painted by Sheila Horton. After the AGM and refreshments, she kindly gave an expressive talk, striding up and down in the Reading Room and pointing out particular points about her work on the wall. When she has finished, there will be few people who are not represented on these walls.

Maidenhead, Windsor and Eton Flood Alleviation Enquiry

This enquiry is running for 7 weeks, finishing on Thursday 17th December.

The National Rivers Authority have mounted a massive effort to obtain planning permission for this enormous project. The Channel is as wide as a motorway and runs for about 7 miles, the first bit through Taplow's Green Belt and needing bridges to go under A4 and M4 - both roads being diverted round the works.

The NRA are supported by Berks CC and RBWM with Slough Borough (all with minor reservations) and opposed by Bucks CC, SBDC with Datchet, Dorney and Taplow Parish Councils and the Society, among others.

On your behalf, members of the Society have attended on a number of days at the Enquiry in Shire Hall, Reading. Many individual members will be giving evidence, as well as the Society whose activities on 8th December are explained in the note about the Enquiry, enclosed with this Newsletter.

A History with a Future

*Bracknell Forest Borough Council have
told us how they use their heavy horses*

The Council has bought two shire horses to carry out some of the work that previously had been done by tractors; this work consists mainly of a short haul or stop-start type such as the collection of prunings, weeds and general rubbish. Also during the summer the hanging baskets and bedding plants in Bracknell need much watering.

The horses are both dark bay geldings and are 17.0 and 17.3 hands high (1.70 & 1.73 metres); they are both between 5 & 6 years old and are called Bracken and Bramble.

The papers being written for the Council's Committees were based on the Shire Horse Society's report "A History with a Future" - an economist's report on the financial viability of working horses. This was supported by much questioning of experienced people.

To justify the use of horses an assumption was made that one of the tractors would soon need replacement at a price of about £17,000; this tractor would have had a working life of about seven years. The two shires cost a great deal less than that and they have a longer life.

The horses are housed in loose boxes constructed in a large store shed at the Council Depot. Their hours of work are from 7.30am to 4.30pm (with breaks for meals) for five days a week. At the weekends the horses have been attending fetes which improve the Council's image. As the horses need looking after for seven days a week there is little expense in this activity. This weekend attention is one of the disadvantages of keeping horses - unlike a tractor you can't just switch them off on Friday evening and switch them on again on Monday morning. At Bracknell, the weekends are used as an opportunity to involve volunteers from the Council's staff to get their hands on and assist with the care of the horses. It is certainly an experience of "returning to Nature".

(The Society would like to thank Raymond Whitehead, the Assistant Borough Environmental Services Officer (Landscaping) of Bracknell Forest Borough Council for taking the trouble to reply at length to our request for information on this interesting project.)

A Footnote

After the severe gales that swept the country a few years ago, heavy horses were used extensively to clear timber from woods where either there was insufficient space between the trees to use tractors and/or they would have caused further damage by tearing up and then compacting the top-soil.

The horses were so successful in this role that it was decided to use them much more to haul timber and an organisation specialising in this was formed - the British Logging Association.