



**Berkhamsted  
Citizens  
Association**

# NEWSLETTER

January 1988

Best wishes to all our members in 1988.

Please make your New Year resolution to renew your BCA membership and to introduce a new member.

## 1988 Membership Subscriptions

The time has arrived to renew your subscription. The annual payment still remains at a minimum of £1 for an individual and £1.50 for a family subscription. Of course you are welcome to give more than the minimum. However, please note two important changes:- one relates to a five-year payment option and the other to the methods of payment.

### 1. Subscription options

	<u>minimum per</u>	
	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Family</u>
Annual payment	£1.00	£1.50
or		
Five year payment	£5.00	£7.50

### 2. Methods of payment

Direct to Membership Secretary or to your Newsletter Distributor.

PLEASE SEE SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL FORM ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER.

Thank you for you co-operation.

## The Bourne Centre Proposals

The November Newsletter included details of a Special General Meeting intended for November 25th but the relevant paragraphs were overprinted with a "Postponed" notice. One of the two topics planned for the meeting was a presentation by the developer and his architect of the Bourne Centre Proposals. The reason for our change of date was a postponement of Dacorum Borough Council's formal consideration of the planning application at a Planning Committee meeting. In these circumstances the developer and the architect were not prepared to hold the meeting on November 25th but agreed to a meeting on December 9th, after the Planning Committee had met. (As you may have read, the decision on the application was deferred so that further traffic matters might be considered.)

It was difficult to give adequate notice to our membership of the late change but rather than risk a delay until well into the new year, it was decided that we would make use of the helpful co-operation of the local press. This gave only short notice of the meeting but did result in a very good attendance. It was a lively meeting that demonstrated the strong feeling of some individuals who had made up their minds and were more than keen to express them! Others clearly thought the meeting had the power to take a decision on whether the scheme should go ahead or not!!

Our purpose in arranging the meeting was to enable people to gain a knowledge of the proposals not only by the presentation but by subsequent questions. In our October Newsletter we encouraged the membership to look at the plans and to pass their opinions either to a member of the committee or directly to Dacorum B.C. It is worth noting that very little expression against the proposal was passed to committee members, and we probably will never be able to gauge the overall opinions of either our members or the town population.

The letter sent by the Town Amenities Committee of the BCA to Dacorum on November 9th highlighted:-

1. The benefits that the Economic Analysis Report predicts for Berkhamsted as a result of clawback on the considerable 'outflow' trade that at present is a loss to the town, particularly on comparison goods.
2. The sensitive architectural treatment of the elevations and the ingenious incorporation of the Mclloys listed barn as a focal entry point to the arcade.
3. The severe problems of traffic that are inherited, and which will be aggravated during construction and until the bypass is in operation.
4. The means by which the traffic problems and inconvenience could be minimised during construction should the scheme proceed.

At the meeting on 14th January the decision was deferred for a second time because Dacorum's Development Control Committee had not received the report from the County Council's Highways Department on the traffic implications of the scheme.

#### Action Against Crime in Dacorum

Age Concern is promoting a fund-raising campaign to install safety door devices in all elderly people's dwellings. (Dacorum Borough Council has decided to fit all their own 2,400 dwellings with these devices.)

The cost of a door chain and spyhole is approximately £6.00. If you are happy to consider this request, then any cheques should be made payable to 'Action Against Crime' and sent to Age Concern, 48 High Street, Hemel Hempstead, HP1 3AF.

Anyone who would like these items fitted should obtain a form from the Civic Centre, Berkhamsted.

#### Dates for your Diary

NO FEBRUARY MEETING

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WEDNESDAY MARCH 23rd. 8.00 p.m. SESSIONS HALL

A.G.M. and ENVIRONMENT AWARD

Guest Speaker: Mr. Ivor Ward, Governor of The Mount  
Youth Custody Centre, Bovingdon.

#### Dacorum Citizens Advice Bureau

The Management and Committee of the Bureau have been concerned for some time at the inadequacies and general unsuitability of the facilities provided in the Gable House, Prince Edward Street, Berkhamsted. The Bureau occupies one downstairs room and has the use of a shared waiting room, the remainder of the building being occupied by other voluntary agencies.

In the discussions with those involved with the proposed Bourne Centre Development, the Association has suggested that it may be possible to incorporate suitable premises in that development. The Bureau are at present seeking the support of the Dacorum Borough Council for such a proposal.