

PLANNING SUMMER SCHOOL – CANTERBURY 2006

Lead Officer: Tony Pomfret – Development Services Manager

To confirm attendance by two elected Members at this year's Planning Summer School to be held 1 – 5 September 2006 in Canterbury

Recommendation: That two Members be nominated to attend this year's summer school.

Resource Implications: Within existing budget for Member conferences.

1.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 Under the auspices of the Royal Town Planning Institute the Planning Summer School represents the principal national town planning conference for both elected Members and officers.
- 1.2 For many years the Council has been represented at the Elected Members' School by two delegates and nominations are now sought for attendance at this year's School to be held at the University of Kent in Canterbury.
- 1.3 A copy of the programme together with study tour details is attached. Most of the issues are very topical in the context of Copeland.
- 1.4 In time honoured tradition, the delegates will subsequently present a report to the Panel.

Contact Officer: Tony Pomfret, Development Services Manager

Appendix: Elected Members' Summer School details

Elected Members' School

1 - 5 September 2006

Friday 1 September

14:00 Registration

15:30 Briefing Sessions

Introduction to Planning
Planning Officers Society

The Role of the National Planning Forum

17:00

Introduction to First Time Attendees at
Planning Summer School

20:00 Opening Address

21:00 Wine Reception

Hosted by The Town & Country Planning Association

Saturday 2 September

09:30 Main Papers:

Regeneration - Delivery
Jackie Sadek, Park Royal Partnership

What Business Requires From Planning
Liz Peace, The British Property Federation

11:30 Choice of Workshops:

Culture Change
Richard Goodwin, ODPM

Do's & Don'ts of Making a Planning Decision
Eminent Barrister

Retailing

Huw Williams, Cushman & Wakefield Healey & Baker

Community Projects
Jonathan Bradley, The Consultation Institute & Holyrood
Consultations

14:15 Choice of Workshops
(repeated)

16:00 Main Paper

Design Issues
Leading Urban Designer

20:00 Choice of Evening
Papers including:

Archaeology
Paul Bennett, Canterbury Archaeological Trust

Sunday 3 September

09:30 Main Papers Include:

Involving Members in the Pre-Application Process
Cllr Patrick Haveron, Waverley Borough Council

Planning Law - Props and Pitfalls
Peter Wilbraham, Wilbraham & Co Solicitors

13:30 Choice of Study Tours

East Kent Coalfield
The Isle of Sheppey
Ramsgate
Canterbury

20:00 Evening Paper

A Conservation Theme

Monday 4 September

09:30 Morning Debate

Affordable Housing
Chaired by Gideon Amos, TCPA
Speakers will include:

Cllr Claude Bodentham, South Shropshire District Council
Maira Constable, Rural Housing Trust
Nick Hooper, Bristol City Council

11:30 Choice of Workshops
including:

View From the Planning Inspectorate
Senior Planning Inspector

Enforcement
Experienced Practitioner
Skills For Elected Members
Lynda Addison, Addison & Associates

14:15 Choice of Workshops
(repeated)

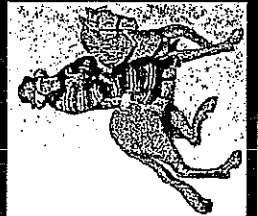
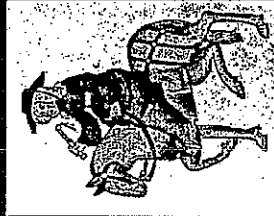
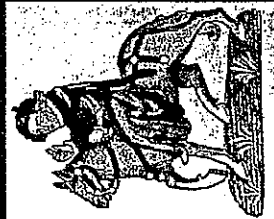
16:00 Closing Address
Nick Raynsford MP

20:00 Civic Reception hosted by Canterbury City Council

Tuesday 5 September

End of Elected Members' School - Delegates must vacate their rooms by 10:00

Study Tours



Study Tours

Places on all tours are limited and tickets should be booked in advance on the booking form.

East Kent Coalfield

(Elected Members' School and Planners' School 2)

In the early part of the last century East Kent was set to become a large coal mining area with associated steel works and new settlements. Although the coal was generally high quality, changes in the general market and geological difficulties meant that only a fraction of the plans were realised. Closure of the East Kent Coalfield in the 1980s brought with it social and economic issues not typically associated with the South East region. The tour will look at contrasting approaches to regeneration at the three principal pits and their communities at Snowdown, Tilmanstone and Betteshanger. The focus of the tour will be on the former Betteshanger pit near Deal where the Regional Development Agency is well advanced with its regeneration scheme. This scheme involves a mix of business development at the pithead area and nature conservation, educational and recreational uses, including a cycle track of international standard, at the spoil tip area.

Please note: this tour is wheelchair accessible.

The Isle of Sheppey

(Elected Members' School and Planners' School 2)

Although Sheppey has 30,000 residents and is Britain's fifth largest port, it currently has no fixed link to the mainland; it is connected by a lifting bridge which carries both road and rail links to the Isle. This is set to change in 2006 with the opening of a new £100m. high-level bridge. The new bridge will be a catalyst for change

Please note: this tour is wheelchair accessible.

bringing fresh opportunities to this relatively remote part of the Thames Gateway. The tour will visit the Queenborough and Rushenden regeneration project, which has been shaped by community involvement using the planning for real process and the creation of a 16 sq. ft. model by local school children. From here the tour will visit the Port of Sheerness and historic dockyard to see how a modern-day port can operate while respecting its historical legacy, and finish with a coach tour of the Isle to explore its tourism potential.

Please note: this tour is wheelchair accessible.

Ramsgate

(Elected Members' School)

Ramsgate suffered greatly from changes in the holiday market but is now undergoing a transformation. This tour illustrates the problems and some solutions. It will take in the Port to explain its history and current operations and then make its way via the cliff tops and Jacob's Ladder to the award winning Marina within England's only Royal Harbour. Ramsgate has many squares, crescents and gardens and the tour will see examples of regeneration and restoration works including the restored Albion Gardens next to which is a waterfall and a fascinating example of Pulhamite Rocks. Overall the tour will provide an appreciation of Ramsgate's rich history, its heritage and future opportunities.

Please note: Some parts of the tour are not wheelchair accessible due to steep steps but alternative routes to these are available.

Canterbury

(Elected Members' School and Planners' School 1)

A walking tour of the city to explore how major development can be accommodated successfully in a vibrant historic centre and to look at smaller scale conservation works, infill and redevelopments. The tour will start at a residential development which puts the principles of high density, low on-site parking and high quality design into action. It will then move through the city to look at examples of re-use and conservation of historic buildings, post war commercial developments and the current redevelopment of a former tannery. The tour will conclude at the Whitefriars redevelopment. This is a recently completed mixed use development which demonstrates how the demand for large-scale shopping, parking, housing and public facilities can be integrated within a historic core while dealing with archaeological interests that resulted in one of the country's largest ever digs in an urban area.

Please note: this tour is wheelchair accessible.

Dover - Military Defences & Nature Conservation

(Planners' Schools 1)

Dover is located where the Kent Downs reach the English Channel and where the Channel is at its narrowest point to France. This has resulted in the town and its surroundings playing host to rare wildlife associated with downlands, while developing as the natural crossing point to Continental Europe, and consequently becoming a frontline in time of war. This tour explores the earth protected Napoleonic era Western Heights fortifications designed to be hidden within the downland landscape although providing impressive views over the town and countryside and even to France (on a clear

day!). Today, the Fort combines issues of caring for an ancient monument with the management of visitors and rare wildlife. The tour will then move on to the mar-made Samphire Hoe. The Hoe is the newest part of England - reclaimed from the sea at the foot of the White Cliffs from Channel Tunnel spoil at the point where the Tunnel meets the English coastline. The Hoe lies next to a Site of Special Scientific Interest and is designed and managed to foster wildlife. It is, in effect, an outdoor laboratory for nature conservation. All weather clothing and good footwear recommended.

Please note: The Western Heights part of the tour is not wheelchair accessible.

Margate

(Planners' Schools 1)

Britain's first seaside resort and the home of sea-bathing used to attract thousands of visitors but the collapse of the tourist trade has created a pressing need for regeneration. The tour will view the seafront and Dreamland Amusement Park (which contains the scenic railway - Britain's only listed amusement park ride), regeneration areas including a neighbourhood renewal area at Cliftonville, and the visitor centre for the proposed Turner Contemporary Art Gallery. The painter J. M. Turner lived in Margate and painted many local subjects. The proposed Gallery is a controversial iconic structure and is aimed at encouraging a different type of visitor to the town. Finally, the purpose built new town centre at Westwood Cross will be visited to see how it has transformed shopping in the area. It was planned specifically to attract shops to the area which found the existing towns insufficiently attractive and viable for investment.

Please note: this tour is wheelchair accessible.

Thames Gateway - the Medway Experience

(Planners' School 1)

The tour takes a look at Medway's approach to balancing housing development with improved economic prospects and, in particular, how cluster developments and higher education are being used as a vital part of a wider regeneration process. The tour will visit the Medway Innovation Centre within the BAe Systems complex to illustrate the potential for spin-off businesses from leading companies. The Rochester Riverside redevelopment area provides an opportunity to see advanced engineering work on a major Thames Gateway site that has had to contend with flood risk, ground contamination and restricted access issues. At the former naval barracks at Chatham - now home to three universities - the tour will visit the new Learning Resources Centre to hear about the active collaboration between the education institutions, the direct regeneration benefits of university development, and the realization of economic opportunities.

Please note: this tour is wheelchair accessible.

Ashford

(Planners' Schools 2)

Ashford is one of the South East's growth areas and is facing up to the challenge of planning for 31,000 new homes and 28,000 jobs by 2031. The tour will focus on masterplanning and implementation and will explore issues of community engagement, infrastructure provision, delivery, town centre regeneration and design codes. It will be hosted by Ashford Borough Council and Ashford's Future - the delivery partnership for growth. Starting with a presentation at Ashford's Future office, which provides panoramic views of

the town, the tour will take in a guided walk of key central development sites and the International Passenger Station. It will conclude with a coach visit to more peripheral areas both under construction and proposed for major development in the Greater Ashford Development Framework.

Please note: this tour is wheelchair accessible.

Folkestone

(Planners' Schools 2)

A public/private sector collaboration is set to comprehensively tackle the declining fortunes of this coastal town and may provide a model for others. The momentum for positive change has been building over the last few years spearheaded by public sector regeneration programmes and now carried through a clear public/private sector vision, masterplanning and commitment of partners. A presentation at the Civic Centre will be followed by a walking tour to view the Bridehall Shopping Centre (set to open in 2007), the "Streets and Squares Initiative", and the Creative Quarter which is being established in the historic Old Town. It will also visit the seafront to look at the restored and upgraded Coastal Park and the coastal defence scheme which has enabled the creation of new public areas and beaches.

Please note: this tour is wheelchair accessible.