



MELBOURNE CIVIC SOCIETY

Newsletter no 173

President: Lord Ralph Kerr DL

October 2016

Festival favourite

Melbourne was once again thronging with visitors on the Festival weekend of 17th and 18th September. Visitors from far and wide came to see paintings, ceramics, sculptures and jewellery in the intimate surroundings of homes and gardens in the town. A wide variety of food and entertainment was also on offer as well as immaculate classic cars.

The Civic Society presented an alternative attraction with their continuing display of copies taken from the photographic plates of Edward Martin who lived in Melbourne from 1891 to 1920. Put together by Ian and Barry, these old pictures attracted considerable interest and comment whether showing King's Newton of old, formal family portraits, bygone factories, the railway station or even "man in bowler hat with horse"!

Pam Adams



Linden Homes loses appeal

Linden Homes has lost its appeal following the rejection of its third application to build 60 houses on Jawbone Lane.

Your Society objected to all three Linden Homes applications and spoke against the latest application at the Planning Committee meeting, along with the Kings Newton Residents' Association and our District Councillors. This helped to persuade councillors to overturn the Planning Officer's recommendation for the application to be granted. We also gave evidence at the Public Inquiry and a lot of our members turned out for the site meeting with the Inspector on one of the wettest days of May.

Barry Thomas

Blackwell Lane plans rejected

South Derbyshire District Council has rejected Melbourne Estate's latest application to build 15 houses on Blackwell Lane next to Melbourne Hall.

The Society objected to this application as it was outside the settlement boundary and not in Part 1 of the Local Plan which has now been adopted or the draft Part 2 of the Local Plan which has still to be agreed. The South Derbyshire District Council now has a five year housing supply and shared our concerns about the setting of the development in the context of the Melbourne Conservation Area and two important Heritage Assets, Melbourne Hall and the Melbourne castle site.

Barry Thomas

PLANNING ISSUES

As can be seen from the list opposite it has been a busy period for planning applications. The Civic Society's planning sub-committee has not objected to most of the applications and we have supported several. Briefly I shall make comments on some of the applications that the sub-committee has objected to or had concerns about.

Wall's Garage - 26 Market Place

The sub-committee had previously objected to the new house on this site because we thought that the design was weak and that there was not enough car-parking at the back of the property. We did not object to the demolition of the garage and public toilets so long as the replacement toilet block was completed before the house was built. We also wanted a "like-for-like" provision in the toilet facilities. This application has been permitted with some conditions so we can now look forward to a new toilet block which mirrors the present provision!

16 Victoria Street

The sub-committee objected to this application because we felt that this garden site was too small for a detached house and that the design of the house was out of place with the surrounding properties and neighbours would be overlooked.

The Bay Tree Restaurant - 4 Potter Street

This application is to replace the existing sash windows with modern windows. We did not object to the application but commented that the replacement windows should follow the design of the existing windows more closely than was being proposed.

16 Nettleford Crescent

This is another application to put a detached house on a very small plot. We expressed concerns about the effects of the new house on the amenities of the neighbours and the street-scape. This application has been refused by the District Council for the same reasons.

Blatch's - 6 Market Place

The sub-committee supported this application to make changes to the old Co-op building as we felt the plans were sensitive to the design of the existing building.

Barry Thomas



Melbourne Arms

The applicant has submitted revised plans which the sub-committee felt were a slight improvement on the previous plans that we had objected to. However we still had concerns that too many houses were being built on the site and that the green space at the corner of Ashby Road and Robinson's Hill was too small in area and not adequately protected. We also felt that the scheme was an architectural "hotchpotch" and that the 18th century pub building was not being respected. Sadly at the time of writing the SDCC Planning Department is recommending that this application should be granted.

46 High Street

This is an application to restore the old butcher's shop that was well received by the sub-committee. We look forward to further work on the frontage.

Planning Applications

9/2016/0631	Pippin Heath KN Lane	Extensions and detached garden structure	No objection
9/2016/0641	4 Packhorse Road	Garage and Conservatory	No objection
9/2016/0625	4 Potter St (Bay Tree)	Replacement sash windows	Comments made
9/2016/0697	6 Market Place (Blatch's)	Change of Use (retail to office) and erection of single storey building at rear	Support
9/2016/0754	6 Market Place	Demolition of toilet block and kitchenette	Support
9/2016/0755	26 Market Place	Demolition of Wall's Garage building	Comments
9/2016/0303	Stanton Barns to B587	Retention agricultural track/new road access	No objection
9/2016/0760	5 Spinney Hill	Single and rear extension	No objection
9/2016/0776	16 Nettlefold Crescent	Erection of detached dwelling and double garage	Comments
9/2016/0791	Larch Barn Riding Bank	Certificate of lawfulness for barn conversion	Objection
9/2016/0796	8 The Mews Potter St	Felling one tree and pruning of another	No objection
9/2016/800	46 High Street	Remove concrete render and installation of conservation roof lights	Support
9/2016/813	151 and 157 Castle St	Replacement of doors by Severn Trent	No objection
9/2016/0788	Dower House, Church Square	Pruning of Trees	No objection
9/2016/0830	28 Church Street	Erection of 2 storey rear extension	No objection
9/2016/0832	50 Derby Road	Felling of sycamore/Amalfi White garden	No objection
9/2016/0855	Melbourne View Hotel	Erect building to be used as 5 bedrooms. Resubmission	No objection/ comments
9/2016/0847	2 Penn Lane	Extensions - rear and side	No objection
9/2016/0833	The Common	Change of use from agriculture to keeping horses	No objection/ comments
9/2016/0838	44 The Woodlands	Erection of single storey outbuilding at rear to be a garage	No objection/ comment
9/2016/0854	64 Penn Lane (School House)	Replacement 2 rear windows and renovation of 1st floor rear sash window	No objection
9/2016/0888	16 Victoria St	Erection of a two storey building behind	Objection
9/2016/0710	53 Penn Lane	Erection of home office pod in garden	No objection
9/2016/0380	Ashby Road, Melbourne Arms site	Resubmission	Objection
9/2016/0897	16 Smith Avenue	Erection single storey and rear extensions.	No objection
9/2016/0873	83 Packhorse Road	Front extension	No objection
9/2016/0878	7 Beech Avenue	Erection of rear extension	No objection
9/2016/0935	1 Ashby Road	Erection of one detached house	No objection/ comments
9/2016/0942	26 Trent Lane KN	Retention of replacement building	No objection
9/2016/0362	112 Derby Road	New plans for extension	No objection

PLANTING FOR BEES

Help make Melbourne more bee friendly

As a result of modern agricultural practice with its intensive use of pesticides and insecticides our countryside has become a very hostile place for many species of insects and wild flowers.

In consequence our gardens and urban open spaces are becoming ever more important as sanctuaries for our beleaguered wildlife. Even these areas are now under threat with increasing housing infilling and paving over of gardens. However there is positive action we can all take to ameliorate the situation. Here are a few suggestions:

- Try and ensure that the plants in your garden are not just attractive, but are also useful to wildlife. Most bedding plants are of no value to pollinating insects such as bees, whereas most traditional perennial border plants are.
- Avoid the use of insecticides such as "Provado", which indiscriminately kills beneficial insects as well as pests.
- Stock your garden with a range of plants shrubs and trees, which between them ensure a supply of nectar and pollen throughout the year. Remember early spring supplies of nectar and pollen are vital to bees and snowdrops and crocuses are excellent sources.
- Consider creating an area for wild flowers in your garden. There is a good range of attractive native wildflowers, which are not too vigorous or invasive and are tolerant of most soils. These are available as plug plants or seeds Really Wildflowers and Habitataid are very good organizations and there is lots of good advice on the internet.

Bug hotels, log piles and garden ponds are great ways of supporting insects and other wild life.

Christian Murray-Leslie





Bees are not the only pollinators

Bees are not the only pollinators as hoverflies, pollen wasps and moths and butterflies also play their part. While our wild native species undoubtedly provide the richest source of pollen and nectar, the flowers we grow in our own gardens also have an important part to play. The following suggestions for plants to grow to attract insects are drawn from experience in my own garden. Snowdrops, crocuses and aconites provide nectar and pollen in early Spring. These bulbs like to be dry in summer so they can be tucked away under shrubs and trees. Sure winners a little later on are limnanthes (poached egg plant), and pulmonaria (lungwort). Both are prone to spreading but easily controlled. Follow these with the ever-popular lavender and the now fashionable echinacea. Plant single roses as double flowers do not provide a good food source. Alliums, especially the drumstick variety, perennial potentilla and yellow scabious are all magnets for insects. Sedum and Michaelmas daisy have long been favourites in the garden in Autumn but I find the caryopteris shrub to be a revelation with its bright blue flowers proving irresistible to every insect you can imagine. Now that we seem to be having milder winters, insect activity starts early and winter heathers provide a welcome supply of nectar.



Once you start taking a closer look at the flowering plants in your garden you might be surprised at the number of insects you see there. Let us know about some of your own favourites and let's get gardens, far and wide, buzzing to boost our life saving pollinators.

Pam Adams

Daffodil Planting

While we wholeheartedly support Christian Murray-Leslie in his crusade for more bee-friendly planting, the Civic Society will still continue its long tradition of also planting to brighten the approaches to Melbourne. There are some sites still crying out for expansion and infilling with bright daffodils. So as well as buying snowdrops, bluebells and crocuses for the bees we will be buying daffodils for the sheer pleasure of cheering us up in early Spring!

Any offers of help with planting will be greatly appreciated. None of us are getting any younger!

Pam Adams



AIRPORT REPORT

In 2014, East Midlands Airport (EMA) adopted a new Development Plan which, like the previous Master Plan, forecasts large increases in airport traffic though over a longer timescale to 2040. It now seems appropriate to start monitoring performance against the plan. Airport plans are based on number of passengers and tonnes of freight – both rather meaningless numbers to people on the ground. This report presents daytime and night-time aircraft movements derived from EMA’s planning assumptions. The charts show air transport movements (ATMs), which includes landings and takeoffs for passenger and cargo flights. Actual values are to 2015; forecasts are derived from the EMA development plan. All are figures are for calendar years.

There has been a long term increase in both daytime and night-time flights, though with a significant drop following the economic recession in 2008. In 2015, both day and night flights were slightly below the development plan trend line. Freight flights have increased steadily since 2000, but in the last two years there were slight reductions in the number of passenger and mail flights. The annual figures mean that in the whole of 2015 there were, on average, 7 ATMs per daytime hour, and slightly more, 7.3 ATMs, in each night time hour. But passenger flights are seasonal, so there are more (mostly daytime) flights in the summer, and cargo flights are concentrated into the working week. Thus the busy periods have more flights than the average would suggest.

The night noise contour is now computed as an average for the whole year shown in Chart 3. Actual figures from 1996-2013 were not computed at the time and have been estimated. In the 1990s there were extremely noisy freighters and night noise was a great problem. Since then the freighter fleet has been progressively modernised and the noise climate has reduced, though still remains a concern.

There is now a legal limit on the level of night noise, shown as the red line, imposed by North West Leicestershire District Council as a condition on runway extension. The development plan envisages that night noise will increase until around 2025 and then reduce as new generations of less noisy aircraft will be introduced.

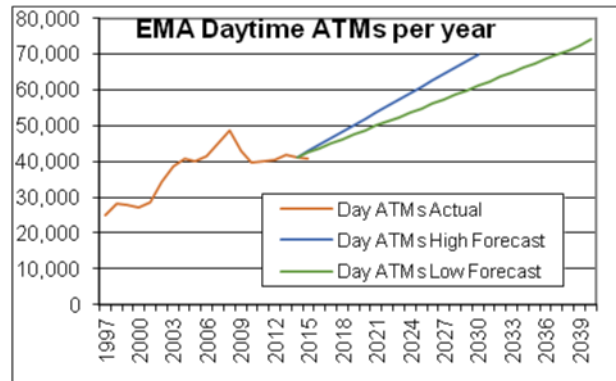


Chart 1 EMA Daytime Air Transport Movements

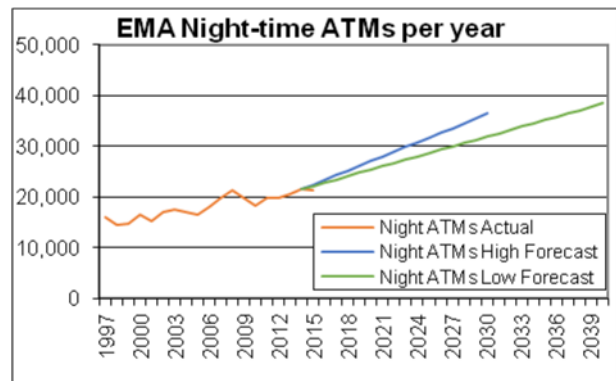


Chart 2 - EMA Night Air Transport Movements

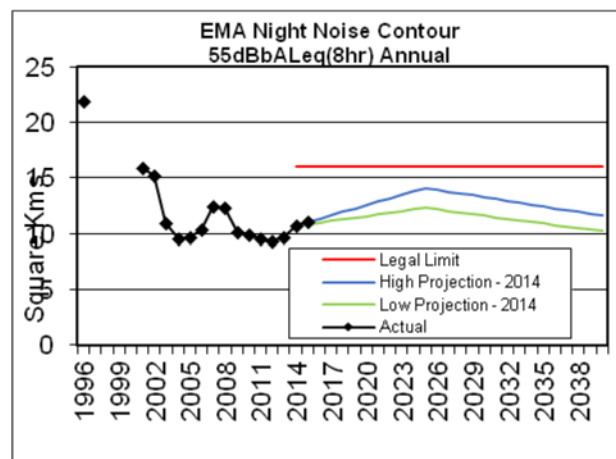


Chart 3 EMA Night Noise Contour - Annual

SOCIETY REPORTS

Night flights

In 2015, night-time movements decreased slightly, but night noise increased, so is the night-time fleet becoming more noisy? We will be pressing EMA on this issue at the Consultative Committee.

There will be a respite from aircraft noise later this year: the runway will be closed for resurfacing between 20.00 on Saturday and 20.00 on Monday on 7 consecutive weekends starting 5 November. There will be no aircraft movements during these periods.

The new development plan promised a series of reviews of environmental and charging regimes at the airport. None of these reviews have yet been initiated and we are urging EMA to bring forward a schedule for these important reviews.

Finally you will have seen that the DHL extension is now well advanced, creating a huge building. We understand that testing of the automated sorting system is in progress.

Dr Paul Grimley

Museum Visit 16th July

Following our April talk on framework knitting, some fifteen members and friends spent a warm summer's afternoon at Ruddington Museum near Nottingham. Knitting was the predominant trade as the village grew in the 19th century. Most of the small industrial buildings in the area are now private dwellings, but the museum opened its listed site in 1971 to show how the knitters lived and worked in the restored frame-shops, cottages and outbuildings, now adorned by a pretty courtyard garden.

After an introductory talk in the adjacent chapel, we explored the manager's house – tiny and basic but no doubt superior to the average knitter's home, with a few books and ornaments for comfort. Some of us braved a ladder to view the bare second bedroom in the attic.

The main frame-shop has a collection of huge knitting machines of varying ages and complexity. Museum volunteers demonstrated the workings for us and it soon became clear how noisy, crowded and uncomfortable the work must have been over many hours. Trying our hand at sock making on small circular machines was altogether easier. We rounded off the afternoon with tea and delicious cakes served in delicate china that would have been the envy of a poverty-stricken knitter.

Claire Sturges

November Social

You are invited to join us on **Monday 28 November** for our Winter Social Event taking place after our evening talk. Claire and Barbara will provide their usual tempting and delicious buffet and wine will be on hand (for a donation). It is a great chance to have a real chat with fellow members and gives an early start to the festive season.

Pam Adams

Litter Picking Time Again

It is that time of year again when thoughts turn to the need for clearing the litter left on our verges by thoughtless pedestrians and car drivers.

If you can lend a hand we will be meeting in front of the Assembly Rooms in Melbourne on **Saturday 5 November** at 10 o'clock. An easy date to remember so we hope to see some of you there.

Pam Adams

DIARY

October 2016

Monday 31 October - Civic Society Talk — **A Photographic Journey to Ravenna and Florence** by David K Jones — *A chance to admire some of the cultural treasures of Italy* — 7.30 pm
Melbourne Assembly Rooms

November 2016

Saturday 5 November — **Autumn Litter Pick**— Collect your equipment at 10.00 am outside Melbourne Assembly Rooms

Monday 7 November – **Monumental History** by Graeme Mitcheson MRBS- *sculptor of major commissions at the National Arboretum* - 7.00 pm Castle Donnington Methodist Church

Monday 28 November - Civic Society Talk - **The Foss Dyke** by Ian Morgan *A watery tale of mystery and intrigue* - **Followed by The Civic Society Winter Social Evening** — 7.30 pm Melbourne Assembly Rooms

January 2017

Monday 23 January 2017 – **Footpads, Kings and Highwaymen** - *In just 34 miles of the Great North Road through Nottinghamshire* by Ian Morgan - 7.00 pm Castle Donnington Methodist Church

Monday 30 January - Civic Society Talk - **Four South Derbyshire Parklands** by Philip Heath — *A local historian describes some interesting areas near Melbourne* — 7.30 pm Melbourne Assembly Rooms

Editorial

The next newsletter is due in the second week of January 2017, so if you would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail or contribute to the newsletter please send any comments or articles to the editor

CONTACTS

Chairman

Dr Paul Grimley
37 Sweet Leys Way
Melbourne
DE73 8LE
01332 863385
Pmgrimley@aol.com

Vice Chairman

Mr Neil Wright
3 Hardacre Close
Melbourne
DE73 8GY
01332 864287

Secretary

Mrs Pam Adams
56 Ashby Road
Melbourne
DE73 8ES
01332 865760

Treasurer

Mr David Calvert
104 High Street
Melbourne
DE73 8GJ
01332 862127

Newsletter Editor

Mr Martin Key
16 Church Street
Melbourne
DE73 8EJ
01332 863828