BRIGHTON'S RUBBISH

Up to 60,000 tons a year of Brighton's rubbish could find its way to a collection and processing point opposite the University if plans announced a little over a week ago are approved by East Sussex County Council. One of two possible sites for a waste transfer station to be considered by the Council is adjacent to Falmer Station.

Earlier in the year a joint report by the County Planning Officer and the County Engineer announced proposals to site a refuse transfer station at Sheepcote Valley, Brighton. Following public and district authority opposition to the proposals, alternative sites, including sites suggested by the public, were re-examined by County Council officers who finally recommended plans to site the transfer station at Falmer.

The plan, which arises because the present Sheepcote Valley refuse tip will be exhausted by 1978-79, envisages a transfer station where collected refuse would be compacted and then carried by road to be deposited at the new disused quarries at Rodmell cement works in order to reclaim the quarries for agricultural use.

The Highways and Transportation Committee of East Sussex County Council decided last week that a planning application should be made for the siting of the transfer station at Falmer. However, as the report to the Committee stated that in the officers views the original Sheepcote Valley site was the most economic on financial and operational grounds a similar application will also be made for that site. The issue is now almost bound to be the subject of public inquiry.

Speaking at the Committee meeting last week, the County Engineer Mr. Denys Charnock said, "whichever site is eventually picked for the transfer station we are sure to get considerable objections." Before the meeting, a petition rejecting the Falmer proposals and containing more than 2,000 signatures had been handed in. Residents from Falmer Village also picketed the meeting.

The transfer station is a two-storey building, the first floor is used by refuse collection vehicles for tipping their loads into hoppers. On the ground floor three hydraulic packers press the waste into steel containers. The station also includes a weighbridge and office, civic amenity waste reception facilities and car pound.

The compacted waste is transported to the disposal site by bulk road vehicles fitted with container handling equipment: these vehicles would be approximately the size of a double decker bus. A new round-about by Stannar Park gates would need to be built if the Falmer proposals went ahead. Rail transport, considered in the report, has been ruled out because of costs.

The estimated capital cost (at November 1975 prices) of putting the transfer station at Falmer is £49,000 compared with £327,000 if the station was built at Sheepcote. Annual running costs for an operation sited at Falmer would be £36,000 more than for a transfer station at Sheepcote. These estimates are now to be referred to the County Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.

In a letter to the County Engineer expressing the University's opposition to the Falmer proposals, the Bursar, Mr. John Mangold, said: "We are extremely concerned at a proposal to introduce an industrial activity completely out of keeping with its surroundings into an area entirely devoted to educational and leisure use ... it would be a gross breach of planning policy to sacrifice the amenities of the area in the way proposed."

The University's Site Planning and Buildings Committee will discuss the issue at its meeting later this term.

Community Services Review

The Senate and Council have given the Vice-Chancellor authority to conduct a review of the Community Services Area, and the Vice-Chancellor's proposals for the conduct of that review, which have already been commented upon by the Community Services Committee on October 29, 1976, will be submitted to the Planning Committee on November 3, 1976, and thence for final approval to the Senate and the Council on November 10 and 12, 1976, respectively. The proposals at present provide for a Review Body with the following terms of reference, composition, and timetable:

(1) Terms of reference: To review the objectives and operation of the Community Services Area, the contents, structure, and decision-making processes of the Area and the allocation of duties within it, and to present conclusions and recommendations to the Planning Committee following consideration of the recommendations by the Community Services Committee.

(2) Composition:

Vice-Chancellor as Chairman;
1 lay member of Council appointed by Council;
Chairman of Community Services;
2 members of faculty appointed by Vice-Chancellor;
3 members of the Students' Union appointed by the President of the Students' Union in consultation with the Chairman of USTU;
1 or 2 members appointed jointly by the recognised trade unions representing University employees.

(3) Timetable: in order that proposals for change, if any, may go to Senate in May 1977, the Review Body is to report to the final committee meetings of the Spring Term 1977 (i.e. Community Services Committee on March 9, 1977 and Planning Committee on March 16, 1977).

The Vice-Chancellor intends to commission documentation of exchanges of correspondence between officers in 1973-76 regarding the future organisation of the Area, and to commission analyses of the ways in which important decisions in the Area have been taken during its past five years.

Any members of the University is invited to submit written evidence, comment, or suggestion for consideration by the Review Body. Such evidence should be sent to the Vice-Chancellor in Sussex House. The first meetings of the Review Body will be held in the current Autumn Term.
HOW SAFE IS SUSSEX?

With the Health and Safety at Work Act well past its first birthday, it is probably a good time to report on the efforts of the Act and to give an outline of the University's safety organisation. If the amount of work generated by the Act in the University is anything to go by then the safety of staff, students, children and visitors on campus should improve considerably during the next few years.

Since the introduction of the Act and following the work of a specialist Safety Committee Working Party under the chairmanship of Professor James Sutcliffe, the University has issued a safety policy, set up a detailed safety organisation and re-structured the management and other representatives of the students, and the campus unions. The Safety Committee, under the chairmanship of Professor Lilley, is fortunate in being able to obtain specialist advice from members of the University, as well as advice from the newly appointed Occupational Health Advisor, Dr. Tony Leake, and from the University Safety and Radiation Protection Officer.

Each School or building has its own Building Safety Officer and, where applicable, a Building Radiation Protection Officer.

Each area also has its local safety group meetings where its problems are examined by all staff from the area. More general problems arising from these group meetings can then be referred to the Safety Committee.

Details of policy and organisation are set out in the Report of the Safety Committee Working Party:1976 (the Sutcliffe Report) - copies of which are held by Building Safety Officers. Details and membership of local safety organisations are set out on building safety notice boards and in the safety regulations and advice booklets issued by individual Schools.

Practical safety arrangements, during working hours, include the availability of the University Search and Rescue team - a group of volunteers who by their hard work and training have become fully qualified (Fire Service standards) breathing apparatus users. This team, led by Roger Chamberlain, can reach most parts of the campus within 2-4 minutes of the initiation of a fire alarm. The Bright Club fire appliances may take up to 8 minutes. The University has also encouraged the build up of about 100 trained First Aid personnel whose names appear on posters desks and on first aid boxes in their respective buildings.

If people are injured, (unless it is totally obvious that an ambulance needs to be called directly) the first approach should be made to the local first-aiders. A local first- aider can be found, 'ignoring the emergency number 09 100 during working hours will give access by radio link to Les Matthews, SRN, and Peter Gilliver - two expert and senior first-aiders. Backing this organisation and offering an injury treatment service to staff and students is the University Health Centre under the direction of Dr. Tony Ryle. During working hours, persons with cuts, burns etc., can contact the Sick Bay to obtain advice or treatment.

All accidents (and potentially dangerous near misses) on campus should be reported to the University Safety and Radiation Protection Officer. Accident reporting forms are available from porters, school offices and the Health Centre. The use of these forms will enable particular problems e.g. cooking oil fires, inflammable solvent hazards, slippery floors, to be recognised and effort devoted to these high risk areas.

The East Sussex Fire Service has carried out an examination of residential accommodation and, as a result, it is hoped that an ongoing commitment to improved safety standards will be made. These improvements will be needed where nationally more stringent structural requirements have been recently introduced, following the 1971 Fire Precautions Act.

On campus we are fortunate in having a University Fire Prevention Officer - Jim Hickman - who, as well as gently reminding people not to obstruct fire exits (probably one of the most important life-saving tasks in the safety field) is able to train small groups of staff and students in the use of fire extinguishing equipment.

Where maintenance staff are called upon to work in hazardous areas, a "Permit to work" system must now be followed ensuring that detailed written safety advice is given directly to the personnel involved. A Safety Committee Working Party is about to prepare a Code of Safe Practice for University Workshops. In due course a Laboratory Code will be prepared.

In the field of Radiation Protection, persons wishing to work with radio-active materials, X-Ray sets or other sources of ionising radiation will be required to possess a degree of competence either based upon past experience or by attendance at Radiation Protection courses to be held late in October each session. Details of these courses will be available from Building Radiation Protection Officers or from the University Safety and Radiation Protection Officer. Recently all radioactive laboratories have been surveyed; although some cleaning operations were required, in general the results indicated a high level of competence and responsibility towards the handling of radionuclides. As a service to staff and students, Dr. E. Lilley in EAPS in conjunction with the University Radiation Protection Officer will soon set up a personal dosimetry service for workers exposed to penetrating radiation.

The University has established contact with the Health and Safety Executive whose inspectors have now examined many workshops and laboratory areas. As a result of these visits the University has applied for funds to the University Grants Committee where structural improvements were suggested and is tackling a variety of smaller problems where minor works were needed.

The quality of our safety arrangements could be improved if members of the University would consider and act upon the following two points:

Planning Safety

Safety rules and legislation should not stop research but should provide guidelines within which research projects can proceed in a safe manner. To facilitate the safe progress of new work or the introduction of new equipment, contact your Building Safety Officer well in advance to enable orders for safety equipment to be placed and to enable all structural requirements to be built into the system from the start, thereby avoiding clumsy, makeshift arrangements which can often be more expensive to achieve.

Thinking Safety

Whatever your status or responsibility on campus and whatever you are doing or planning to do, spend time thinking about the safety implications. If you are going to cook chips, think what may happen if you leave the oil unattended. If you are working with flammable solvents, think about the presence of sources of ignition. Although many facets of safety are complex, quite often it is failure to think of the safety implications of some of the simplest of operations that can result in serious injuries.

Here at Sussex we have a splendid organisation for dealing with accident situations. Let us now try to go one better and with a little more thinking avoid having the accidents.

DR. PETER E. BALLANCE
UNIVERSITY SAFETY AND RADIATION PROTECTION OFFICER.
A grant of £27,000 was recently awarded by the Schools Council to Professor Colin Lacey and Stephen Steadman for a survey of the impact and take-up of Schools Council projects. The aims of the team's work are discussed below.

The IMPACT AND TAKE-UP PROJECT

Contrary to the militaristic undertones of the title, the research project which shoulders this title is within the Education Area. It has been funded to examine the ways in which new ideas in education spread and how much use schools are making of the results of educational research and of new teaching materials in schools.

The project, funded by the Schools Council, is based in the Mantell building and is under the direction of Professor Colin Lacey and Stephen Steadman, with Carl Parsons and Dr. Brian Salter as Research Fellows. The research began in September of this year and will continue for three years, focussing on the work of the Schools Council and the extent to which it has found its way into schools and influenced and stimulated teachers.

The Schools Council, a body with a considerably tarnished reputation according to recent press coverage, was established in 1964 and is financed through local education authorities and the Department of Education and Science. It has sponsored well over 130 research and development projects in teaching and the curriculum, covering almost the whole age, ability and subject ranges and therefore, in terms of its output, is the largest single organization in England and Wales informing, supporting and promoting developments in school education.

As in other countries there has been in recent years considerable speculation about how influential at the classroom level such research and development work has been. The Impact and Take-up project, by means of questionnaire surveys and extensive visiting of schools throughout England and Wales, is concerned to provide information about the situation.

In the first year attention will be concentrated on the primary sector and in 1977-78 on the secondary sector. Postal questionnaires will inevitably be an important information-gathering strategy. But, with the help of Schools Council staff, about 100 schools in each sector will be visited, giving a more detailed picture of what impression the Schools Council makes in schools. A number of case studies will be carried out in schools identified as having a high, medium or low involvement in curriculum development. The intention is to go somewhere beyond a 'stock-taking' exercise of how the Schools Council publications and materials are handled, used and interpreted by users. The work will relate to future actions of the Schools Council and similar organizations concerned with educational research and curriculum development designed to meet the needs of teachers. Schools Council projects have been diverse in origin, form and aspiration. Some have produced research reports, surveys of "good teaching practice", discussion documents; others have catered more directly for teachers and pupils by supplying teaching materials, guides, audio-visual language courses, resources packs, films or even diagnostic tests. To describe fully the impact of this output and the extent to which teachers have adopted the ideas and methods offered to them is difficult enough. To point towards explanations which might guide future policy decisions is a forbidding brief. The team has no illusions about the ease of this enquiry.

Throughout the three years of its work, the project team will be contacting many groups and individuals who have worked upon the Council's projects and especially with those local authority advisers, teachers' centre wardens, publishers and others who mediate between the producers and consumers. While the prime focus is upon schools, it is these other groups who will provide different perspectives and assessments of the Schools Council's influence in schools. It will be interesting to contrast the different views which emerge and explore the wider system which, directly or indirectly, controls the communication and support of new ideas and materials destined for the school and classroom.

Such should be gained from exchanges with the Education Area where there already exists a research expertise and interest in the problems of dissemination. The team will be holding regular seminars to discuss its work and results as they take shape, and will contribute to the teaching in the Area. It would be a pity if a project studying dissemination failed to get its message across within its host institution.

UnIon ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Associate membership of the Students' Union is open to anyone working on campus. Associate membership includes membership of the Brighton Film Theatre and admission to all "members only" sessions, as well as giving the right to take part in any of the social, cultural, sporting (depending on facilities and numbers) and recreations activities of the Union. Only £1 per annum.

Please contact Miss Varney at the Union Reception Desk.

Prizes awarded to 1976 B.A. Finalists

The Adam Weller Prize for 1976 has been won by Mr. A. N. Glaser, who majored in Social Psychology in the School of Social Sciences, for an essay entitled "A failure of intelligence? The beginning of the Yom Kippur War". It was considered to be the best essay on the background and reason for inter-racial, international or inter-religious conflict. The adjudicators considered the essay combined clarity, tenacity of argument and a fresh and subtle use of sources to an outstanding degree.

The Gladstone Memorial Essay Prize for the best piece of work written in the general field of British political history since 1800 has been won by Mr. A. Lerman, who majored in History in the School of English and American Studies, for a dissertation entitled "The Banesburugh Committee on Unemployment Insurance 1925-27: Employers, Unions and Government Policy."

Mr. Lerman also won the Rose Prize as the best History finalist in the 1976 B.A. Final Examination.

Miss C. D. F. Wells, who majored in International Relations in the School of European Studies, has won the Norman Angell Prize for a dissertation entitled "Unesco as an Instrument of Foreign Policy in the Middle East Conflict." It was deemed to be the best piece of work in the field of International Relations or on a topic related to the promotion of the study of international and social conflict and the means of overcoming it.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND UNIVERSITY CLOSURES 1976-77

The University will be closed this Christmas from December 25, 1976 to January 3, 1977 inclusive.

The Government has announced that because Christmas Day and New Year's Day are both Saturdays there will be public holidays on Tuesday, December 28 and Monday, January 3, Monday, December 27 is also a public holiday and is being treated as Boxing Day.

University buildings will also be closed on June 6 and 7. Spring bank holiday is Monday, June 6, and not May 30 as previously publicly announced (so check your next year's diary). There is also to be a special bank holiday the following day, June 7, to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

Easter closure dates will be discussed by the Council Committee on Terms and Conditions of Service at its next meeting in December.
The Bulletin has been asked to publish the following letter from Dr. Aaron Sloman:

Cleaning up the Atmosphere in the University

I would like to propose the following motions for discussion in all areas of the University:

1. Smoking in public places (e.g., common-rooms, seminar-rooms, corridors, dining-rooms and bars) should be banned (as it already is in lecture theatres) with smoking-rooms set aside for each building to compensate.

2. Just as many tutors already exercise the right to prevent students smoking in their tutorials, students should have the right to prevent tutors smoking in their tutorials and this right should be widely publicised.

3. Appointing Committees should always give preference to applicants who are non-smokers, all other things being equal.

4. University Selectors should always give preference to applicants who are non-smokers, all other things being equal.

Comments

People who smoke in the company of non-smokers, especially without obtaining their consent, should be thought of as vandals polluting the environment of their fellow men, analogous to those who leave litter around (as many smokers do), break windows at bus shelters and otherwise damage or disfigure public amenities.

It would be very nice if at least one university were able to take a strong lead in doing something about this, even though it is clear that the process will have to take a long time.

I, for one, am quite fed up with having people blow smoke in my face at meetings and generally spoil the buildings I work in to such an extent that even when I come in at weekends I am made to feel uncomfortable by the strong smell of stale tobacco.

I am sure there must be many others who are affected in a similar way to a greater or lesser degree. Many of the smokers in this university are active supporters of campaigns against oppression of people in other communities. Perhaps it is time some of them looked more closely at what they themselves are doing.

I hope supporters of my proposals, or modified forms thereof, will bring up appropriate motions at meetings of Schools, subject groups and other committees around the University.

AARON SLOMAN
15 Oct. 1976
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The problems of smoking have been discussed within the University on a number of occasions and, in the 1960s, the debate centred on the question of whether the sale of cigarettes should be permitted on campus.

* In June 1963 Senate unanimously adopted a motion that no cigarette vending machines should be allowed on University premises. It also agreed in principle that cigarettes should not be sold regularly on University premises without the permission of Senate.

* In November 1966, the Union Council passed a resolution by 15 votes to 13 which requested the university to allow cigarettes and tobacco to be sold on the University campus.

* In December 1966, Senate unanimously agreed to adhere to the policy that cigarettes should not be sold on University premises.

* Two years later, in January 1969, Senate agreed by 40 votes in favour to 19 against to withdraw the existing ban on the sale of cigarettes. It also agreed by 32 votes in favour to 22 against that the University would not, in its corporate capacity, engage in the regular sale of cigarettes.

* In May 1969, Senate agreed to allow cigarette vending machines in Palmer House, the Refectory and in the residential accommodation area.

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ARTS CENTRE

* A week of experimental drama at the Gardner Centre continues with performances tonight and tomorrow of "The Dream of a Ridiculous Man" by the Pip Simmons Theatre Group.

* It is followed later in the week, Thursday to Saturday, November 4-6, by the fringe theatre group, Sal's Meat Market, with a production of "I'm not walkin'" starring Ray Hassett in a verbal odyssey across Britain and the USA.

On Monday, November 8 and for the remainder of the week, the Gardner Theatre welcomes the first of the three national touring companies which will be appearing at the Theatre this season. The Oxford Playhouse Company will perform a new play by Simon Gray, "Dog Days," starring Gayle Humble and Emma Williams.

The central character in "Dog Days" is based on all sides by values he despises and finds in younger girls a refuge from his job, his wife and his bourgeois brother. But all his means of escape backfire on him and the play develops into a powerful indictment of the pressures of modern life on human relationships.

The Prospect Theatre Company's "City Sugar" comes to the Gardner Theatre from November 15 to 20 (with no performance on November 17). It examines the inner world of a disc jockey and won for its author Stephen Poliafico the Evening Standard's 'Most Promising Writer' award.

* The University's Quartet-in-Residence, the Strange Quartet, will give a concert on Wednesday, November 17, of music by Haydn, Bartok and Tippett.

* "Works on Paper" is the title of an exhibition of work by Claire Smith in the Gardner Centre Gallery from today until November 26.

Cartoons about religion, "God's a Giggle," are on display until November 20 on the Gardner Centre stairs as part of the celebrations to mark the 10th anniversary of the Meeting House.

Every six weeks or so the Institute of Development Studies is host to a new group of some 25 middle and senior level administrators and academics from developing countries.

IDS is very anxious to make contact with University colleagues who might be prepared to offer hospitality to such people during their six weeks' stay on the University campus. IDS has funds to offset the cost of such entertainment.

Further information is available from any of the IDS Study Programme Administrators on internal extension nos. 241 or 218 or 285.

REMEMBERED YOUR FREE PARKING DISC?
Vehicles parked on campus by staff and students should display a current parking disc. The disc is free and may be obtained by completing a motor vehicle registration form and returning it to the Deputy Bursar and Estate Manager in Sussex House.

The purpose of registration is to ensure that the use of available parking space can be restricted to staff and students and to enable the University to identify quickly a vehicle and/or its owner when necessary. In addition, in the recent gales a number of cars were damaged by falling branches.

Regeneration will also assist in the interest of owners whose vehicles appear to be abandoned.

FREE PARKING

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