

# **CAPS 2000**

## **NEWSLETTER 1**

### BACKGROUND

CAPS (Cockenzie & Portseton) 2000 was formed by the community as a result of the decision taken by the Community Council on 7th October, 1997 to "approve in principal" the housing development as proposed by Hart Estates Planning Applications No. P/0797/97 of the 27th August, 1997 for the Pond Hall Site, Links Road, Port Seton.

This decision was made "under pressure" by the Community Council after Councillor T. Lawrie stated that if they rejected the plans (which he supports) then East Lothian Council would not provide a Day Centre and Public Toilets.

CAPS 2000 also represents those wishes of the community taken in April 1995 when a survey of 1580 households in answer to the question "do you wish the Pond Hall Site to be retained for Leisure and Recreational purposes only?" 98.5% said "YES".

### PLANNING CONSULTANT

CAPS 2000 engaged the services of a professional planning consultant, Mr. James Farquhar who has advised on all technical aspects with regard to the current housing development proposed by Hart Estates. On this advice letters of objection have been sent to East Lothian Council on the actual Pond Hall Site Planning Application and also on the East Lothian Local Plan, the process of which is being jeopardised by the possible approval of this planning application for the Pond Hall Site. To date we have incurred administrative costs and consultancy fees of approximately £100, which has been met by a donation of £100 from Cockenzie and Port Seton Heritage Trust.

### PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT

As a result of the significant objection by you, the community, this Planning Application must now be referred to the Scottish Office.

### LETTERS OF OBJECTION

The following are the number of objections, all of which are recorded in the report:

682 signature petition  
471 pro-forma letters  
31 individual letters

Furthermore, the report recommends that the plans be modified to resite the toilets and redesign the three storey block to two storey.

### REVISED PLANS

Revised Plans are now available for individual comments. As before, a report will be made by the Planning Officer which will require objections and comments to be made as previously. This Planning Application will be brought up at the next meeting of the Environment Committee to be held on the 10th of March.

**The community have until the 20th February to make their objections known.**

### PRO-FORMA LETTER OF OBJECTION

Attached is a pro-forma letter of objection for your use, if you so wish. CAPS 2000 will make every effort to collect these letters. In the event of a householder being unavailable we would respectfully request (due to the time scale) that you post your objection or comments to Mr. Peter Collins, Head of Planning and Development, Council Buildings, Court Street, Haddington.

## CAPS 2000 MEETINGS

You are welcome to come along to meetings which are held in The Port Seton Centre. Details of the next meeting will be advertised in the local shops and The Port Seton Centre. Anyone who wishes to be involved or feels they could contribute but cannot attend the meetings please contact one of the following:

R. Bryson	Tel: 813657
J. Kirkpatrick	Tel: 810144
C. Philp	Tel: 812730
R. Scott	Tel: 810954
E. Willins	Tel: 812616
A. Nimmo	Tel: 812343
R. Renwick	Tel: 814065
F. Sutton	Tel: 810478

## **NEWS FLASH!!**

CAPS 2000 had a meeting with The Architectural Heritage Society of Scotland on Friday, 30th January, 1998 in Edinburgh. They informed CAPS 2000 that they will be voicing their concerns on the revised plans for the Pond Hall Site to East Lothian Council and will be communicating with us in due course.

## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

No building work can commence regarding this Planning Application until the full democratic process has been completed, which includes:

1. Advertising of plans
2. Planning Officer's Report with objections
3. Environment Committee Meeting
4. Referral to Scottish Office for decision

