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G-15

SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN ILKLEY IN 1823

The social conditions of Ilkley in 1823 when the place was no more than a village with thatched cottages and an open stream running down what was later to become Brook Street were referred to in the lecture given by John Dobson.

Having glanced at the aspect of the village itself, we now come to the consideration of its inhabitants. We will first notice their social condition. At the date in question (1823) there was no one in Ilkley above the status of respectable farmer, with one exception viz. Mr. Greenwood of Woodhouse. Two or three others had property of their own besides holding the farm they rented. The largest farm would not much exceed 100 acres. They had previously been much smaller, but the process of aggregation had begun some time before. Rents were low and improvements very backward.

The wages of agricultural labourers were also low. A married man would have perhaps his own house, his own provision, and 1/- per day. Single men who lodged and boarded in the house of their employer would get from £14 to £18 per year. Occasional workers were paid in hay-time 1s 6d. and in harvest 2s with provisions. The population of Ilkley was even then much too numerous to find employment in agriculture, and perhaps nearly a third of them found work in manufactures — woolcombing and calico weaving. Most of the materials for these employments had some time previous come from Addingham, but at the time in question the wool mostly came from Baildon and the cotton from Addingham.

Combing and Weaving

The amount which could be earned by wool combing varied greatly in consequence of the material worked being so much worse to operate upon at some times than at others. When the work was very good a man, by very hard working, for very long hours, might earn 18s a week, and when bad he might work just as hard for 6s or 7s. In consequence of the extremeness of the wages, when a man had a large family, both wife and children had to assist, one awkward result of this state of things being to keep the children from school. About one day in every fortnight was spent in taking work back to the mill, and bringing fresh material from it, the pay for horses and carts having to come out of the pitances they earned.

The weavers had been better off some time previous to this, but already "coming events were casting their shadows before". There began to be talk of power looms and combing by machinery and in the struggle called, there was an awful amount of suffering on the part of many honest, industrious, intelligent and most estimable men.

The struggle was protracted for years, but when this dark night closed, a brighter morning dawned upon them than they had ever seen before. Well he did remember a curious conversation between an old man in Ilkley a small farmer, and his daughter a weaver. He was talking largely of the ruin and beggary brought to working people by the use of machinery.

"Well", said the poor girl, as a sigh escaped her, "there was always some way done".

"Eh", said the old man, "while now 'at there's name".

Self Reliance

But the worst thing about this employment in manufactures was the frequency of entire or partial stoppages of work, and as this nearly always happened after a bad harvest, when provisions were dear, their suffering on these occasions was very great. The corn was had not been reaped, and when the crop failed the consequences were very severe. But such was the spirit of independence displayed that it would be difficult to prove that any of them applied for Parish assistance in the very worst periods of his trade. When he remembered the self-reliance exhibited on the occasions spoken of, it would be most gratifying if he could see the superior opportunities of the present properly used, and made the most of, by those who ought to recollect that the sun does not shine at midnight, that winter up to the present always followed summer, and that, as surely as employment has been scarce before, it may be so again.

In speaking thus highly of the industry and economy of the cottagers in Ilkley at the period under notice, he would not be understood to say that they were all alike thrifty; as undoubtedly there were failures amongst them, but he thought that, when numbers and means were fairly considered there was less intemperance amongst them than at present. The people, however, were cleanly in their persons, homes, and dwellings.

Highway Robbery

About the times mentioned some of the neighbouring villages were troubled with gangs of desperate characters given to house breaking and highway robbery. On one occasion a man coming home from Burley, was stopped by a man who sprang upon him and immediately had him down. The Ilkley man recognised the robber and said "well, hast thou turned highwayman?" The other replied that he had and asked "Dost ta know me?" An answer to the affirmative was given when he was allowed to go on his way promising "Not to tell".

Besides the general honesty of the people they were no less remarkable for their kindness one to another especially among the very poor. The persons who followed special trades were but few. There were two inns, the Wheatsheaf and the Rose and Crown; there were a blacksmith, a wheelwright, two butchers, three shoe-

makers, one tailor, and three small grocer's shops, the most frequented of which was the old house which stands singly in the Castle Yard, directly to the west of the Church tower. This shop had long been the draper's shop in the village for its stock was not confined to groceries by any means. The number of those who provided furnished rooms for visitors in the summer was eight, the Low House and Mr. Batty's being the principal ones. The few persons of the working classes who then resorted here found lodgings in some of the old cottages. The number of visitors at that time was then very small, the probability being great that there are far more residing in Ilkley at the present time, as visitors than could have been found at any time in summer. Nor need this be wondered at as the population was comparatively small then even in the manufacturing districts.

To Be Continued

Residents get a say in the future

TWO thousand questionnaires were distributed in Ilkley last week in a survey conducted by Ilkley Parish Council.

The questions are designed to discover residents' views on the controversial development plan for the land adjacent to the central car park, car parking arrangements in the town, and their ideas on conservation of the Victorian image of the town centre or any improvements they would like to see.

All areas of the town are being sampled so that the Council will receive replies from a representative cross-section of the population.

The results of the survey are expected this weekend, and councillors have described the response so

far as "splendid".

"We feel that it is vital to consult the people of Ilkley when far-reaching development decisions are being taken," said Coun.

Rowland Hill, who has been one of the councillors actively engaged in distributing and collecting the forms.

Many respondents have already drawn our attention to the derelict land belonging to British Rail," said Coun. Hill. "They have also complained about congestion in the car park which will increase if development takes place there.

We hope to present the results to Bradford Council very shortly," he added.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir — "I have been interested in the correspondence regarding the new store in Ilkley and the contention that we would have been better off with the old Ilkley Urban District Council.

Their record is not too good as instanced by the present supermarket which took over a profit making concern, causes dangerous congestion in a busy thoroughfare and has little parking facilities.

Other monuments to their bad planning are Wells Court which sticks out like a sore thumb, Leconfield House which replaced Tower Buildings and the Goodwood Flats.

Many people I know in Ilkley have said we need a good walk-round store and I am surprised that the Conservative Parish Council is opposing a project of free enterprise which will clean-up an eyesore which they and their predecessors have allowed to exist for so many years.

Surely for a town the size of Ilkley the amount of free car parking is sufficient and as a past chairman of the Ilkley Civic Society I do not agree that the committee is voicing the opinion of the whole of the members.

Yours truly,
C. DOUGHTY
11 St. Helen's Way,
Ilkley.

TOWN SAYS NO TO STORE PLAN

Nine members of Ilkley Parish Council lead by their chairman Coun. K.G. Johnson took the unprecedented step of bearding Bradford Council in its den on Monday.

They presented at the front entrance of City Hall the results of a mini-referendum to discover local views on the controversial plans for development in the town centre.

The six-question survey form had been delivered to a comprehensive cross section of household in the town by enthusiastic volunteers and the response was active and prompt.

Ninety three per cent of Ilkley people said they wished the existing Victorian town centre to be preserved and seventy three per cent disapproved of the new rash of yellow lines which will further reduce car parking spaces while the central car park is already under severe pressure.

"We are determined to do everything in our power to make Bradford aware of the wishes of Ilkley people. We hope that democracy will prevail.

Coun. Mrs Mary Renton a former chairman of the council who is also involved in the survey said "It is apparent from the response so far that the people of Ilkley in general support the Parish Council view and have welcomed the opportunity to be involved in the future development of the town."

"Shortage of resources has prohibited a total distribution to the area. Anyone who receives a survey form and has additional ideas about the future of Ilkley is invited to add their views to the survey form.

"There seems a great willingness by the people of Ilkley to take part in this survey and we had many offers of help. "I am sure it has created a great deal of interest."

Seventy one per cent supported the Parish Council's wish to extend the car-park which is now being overuled by the Bradford plan to develop the adjacent site as a new super development store.

Eighty three per cent reject the idea of the new store completely.

"These figures show the extent to which Ilkley people dislike Bradford Council's proposal", said Coun. Mrs Mary Renton.

"We have made the strongest effort yet as a parish council to show the Ilkley people support us completely in our fight against this proposal.

"Bradford Council has said it is prepared to listen to what the small towns under its rule say.

"Let them listen to this, the voice of the people could not be louder or clearer."

As the Times was going to press the plans for the new store plans were being discussed by Bradford City Council's Development Services Committee.

19 SEPT 1980

COUNTY COUNCIL ASKS FOR MORE TIME

West Yorkshire County Council asked Bradford Metropolitan Council to defer a decision on the proposal by the Co-operative Society to build a new departmental store in the centre of Ilkley after senior members of the Council had visited the town.

The visit was made following concern about the effects a new store could have on traffic in the town and especially on parking. As Highway Authority the County Council has responsibility for traffic matters. Cr. John Tweddle, chairman of the Transportation Committee visited Ilkley along with Cr. Harold Morris, chairman of the Development Control Sub-Committee, and Cr. Harry V. Haddrell of Ilkley who is also chairman of the Planning Committee.

Cr. Tweddle said this week "While we fully accept that Bradford Council is responsible for the planning issues, we would welcome the opportunity to fully examine how the proposals could affect the traffic in the centre of Ilkley."

"The County Council has carried out lengthy and searching consultations on the new traffic management scheme for Ilkley. This has now been finalised and is due to be introduced in the very near future."

"We have worked very hard since 1978 to take measures which could really improve road safety in this busy and thriving town."

"We would not want any new factors to crop up at this late stage which could jeopardise all our work with the people of Ilkley."

"In view of this we asked to Bradford Council to defer a decision until we have had the opportunity of a joint member meeting to discuss the car parking implications of the Co-operative application."

"There is no doubt that the development, if approved, will put additional pressure on the existing car park in the vicinity of the site which is already heavily used."

"County Council members would wish to see some examination of possible ways of easing this pressure before any final decision is taken."

The visit to Ilkley followed a request by Cr. Haddrell who has taken an active interest in the controversy because he believes that the erection of a store will have a bad effect on the centre of Ilkley. Like other residents he knows the central car park, though large, can not contain the existing demand and says "a new store of any kind will exacerbate the situation."

Conserving Ilkley

A long and helpful discussion over future proposals for Ilkley's conservation area has been held between representatives of Ilkley Parish Council, Ilkley Civic Society and the Victorian Society.

Cr. W. R. Hill who attended the meeting said one idea put forward was that the whole of Ilkley should be a conservation area. A further meeting is to be held with a view to preparing a written document for submission to the full Parish Council, he said.

ACROSS THE YEARS 19 SEPT 1980

AGE OLD TRADITION OF ILKLEY FEAST

100 Years Ago

The four days of the annual Ilkley Feast were spent in accordance with age old tradition. The only difference from days gone by being the large crowds which arrived in the town by railway trains, heavily laden with visitors. The weather was delightful and it was observed that with the sun it was sad to see how many people turned straight into the public houses for their enjoyment. Young lads were staggering around the streets propped up by their sweethearts and grey haired old men were also staggering around.

The children were in the main interested in the stalls and more particularly the velocipede circus which formed an irresistible attraction at one penny per ride for five minutes.

The greatest attraction all round were the races which took place on Holmes fields which passed off "in an excellent manner" without any serious accident apart from one jockey, Mr. W. Brumfit being thrown in the Hack stakes and getting bruised about his face. A goodly number of book-makers did a brisk trade, and for once none of their company "welched".

The annual fair was held in a croft at the rear of the Station Hotel, and with the exception of one pen of pigs, sheep were the only animals exhibited but these were plentiful and numerous sales resulted.

75 Years Ago

Feast Wednesday was a fine day for the annual Black Hats and White Hats cricket match played by the tradesmen of the town, and the 1905 match was won by Black Hats captained by Mr. George W. Thompson with Mr. A. Blakeborough captaining the White Hat team. A new novelty was added to the fancy dress judging with prizes for the three most grotesque which presented an extra spectacle for the onlookers.

On the same day a feast outing had been arranged and one hundred and fifty tradespeople and residents went to Whitby. The clash of the two organised events engendered a good deal of bad feeling between the organisers and it was hoped that the trip organisers would choose another day in future.

The licensed houses were thronged with locals and visitors to the town and there was a fair behind the Wheatsheaf Hotel with side-stalls, swings and gondolas.

An outbreak of measles in the district accounted for the high percentage of absentees from schools. As there was no improvement in the numbers and measles was reported month after month it was facetiously suggested that the disease had become chronic in nature.

50 Years Ago

A real jubilee spirit was present at the annual dinner following the trade's cricket match at the Lister's Arms Hotel, and there was a note of optimism present despite the severe trade recession. Mr. W. Lister and Mr. Gee were warmly congratulated upon having taken part in both the first match, and also the commemorative match for the jubilee.

The Rev. J. Kempson replied to the toast by the guests proposed by Mr. J. Dinsdale after an absence of 29 years from Ilkley, and was proud to say that on his return he was greeted with cries of "well Jim lad we're reight glad to see the."

Dr. H. T. Bates, another speaker said his grandfather had been the first chairman of the match although he came from the rival village of Addingham. Many years ago when Ilkley was a tiny hamlet Addingham had been the local shopping centre for Ilkley villagers.

Representatives of the hotels and hydros and boarding houses in Ilkley responded well to an invitation by Mr. Fred Sueden, Chairman of the Urban Council to discuss how the prosperity of the town could be advanced. Mr. R. E. Gray,

manager of Wells House said that scenery alone did not attract visitors, and many were annoyed when they found no golf available on Sundays and it was a pity that the bandstand was not better utilised. The town was full of litter at the weekends and public seating was far from adequate. Dr. M. Dobson, of Craiglands, said that the town's street lights were extinguished too early a night and endorsed the need for more litter receptacles and seating. The hoteliers also emphasised the need for an open-air swimming pool by the river, and urged the need for more revenue to be spent on advertising the town.

25 Years Ago

Mr. W. Hanbridge was elected chairman of the Ilkley Education Committee with Mrs. C. Illingworth as vice-chairman to succeed Mr. E. Wolfe. The committee decided to draw the attention of the County Council to the urgent need for improved accommodation for school-children in the Ilkley area.

There was a festival atmosphere about the opening concert of Ilkley Concert Club when Louis Kentner christened the new Steinway concert grand piano. There was also new seating, a new floor to walk upon, new curtains for the stage and a newly designed entrance hall. The hall was packed for this concert with four extra rows for chairs placed on the stage and an overflow of people seated in the annex.

British Rail advertised day excursions to Blackpool illuminations at 8/6 and to Morecambe 7/-.

Ilkley Cricket Club, champions of the league in 1955, finished the season in a poor manner by losing at home to Silsden. However, a highlight of the game was the 100th wicket taken by Lionel Roe and a match analysis of five for 38 gave him a grand total of 104 league wickets during the season.

19 SEPT 1980

NO ONE HURT IN EXPLOSION AT SUB-STATION

No one was hurt when an explosion wrecked part of an unmanned electricity sub-station at Ilkley at mid-day on Monday and cut off power supplies to the town for several hours.

An investigation into the £15,000 explosion is to be carried out by Yorkshire Electricity Board officials but it is believed an overhead cable fault was the cause. Damage was confined to

the switch room where the explosion reduced part of the building to a heap of rubble. Automatic emergency equipment flooded the room at the plant in Easy Drive with carbon dioxide when fire broke out. Nearby residents first heard a hissing noise followed by a loud explosion which blew open doors and rattled windows.

Mr. and Mrs. Overend, who live only yards away at 12,

Easy Drive, said they heard a long hissing noise before the actual blast which blew doors inside the house open. They then saw a huge blanket of smoke, and Mr. Overend telephoned the police.

Other neighbours reported hearing a hissing noise followed by a loud bang, which could be heard in Middleton. Shopkeepers in the town

suffered a blow to trading at lunchtime when their electricity supplies failed, and some had to close temporarily.

Others managed with their own emergency generators, and power was restored to most of the town by about 3.00 p.m.

Ilkley Lawn Tennis Club, near to the original river crossing overhead line fault, was without power for much longer.



ILKLEY DEPUTATION GIVEN "BRUSH OFF" AT BRADFORD OVER PARISH SURVEY

The argument over the future development of land on which the Co-operative Society want to build a departmental store at Ilkley was still unresolved this week.

The Development Services Panel of Bradford Metropolitan Council to which the matter had been referred by the Plans Committee decided on Wednesday to refer it to the full Council on 14 October when a decision will be made.

A deputation of Ilkley Parish Councillors who delivered the results of a Parish Survey to City Hall on Monday claim they received nothing more than a "brush off" at Bradford.

An analysis of the survey showed overwhelmingly that the residents and ratepayers of Ilkley were behind the Parish Council in its requests that the land be used as an extension to an already overcrowded central car park.

The Council pointed out that if it was essential that revenue must be obtained from the land, then they would urge that the preference shown by the survey for a cinema and a block of three shops development should be accepted.

"We were met at Bradford by Cr. Harry Peacock, Chairman of the Metropolitan Council's Planning Committee, and his reception was nothing more than a 'brush off' for Councillors and indeed the residents of Ilkley," said Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, a member of the Ilkley deputation.

He criticised the Parish Survey, saying that the 844 forms presented that day meant nothing to him and that Ilkley needed a Co-op departmental store. Cr. Mrs. Renton pointed out that the number of forms represented

844 households in Ilkley. The survey did not claim to be a complete house to house coverage but was a fair coverage of a percentage of every type of district in the town. In every case a majority had been shown backing the Parish Council.

Cr. Mrs. Renton said Cr. Peacock concluded that the Parish Survey had been a waste of time and if the Council wanted to conduct a survey it should have gone to every house in Ilkley. It was pointed out to him that the survey was based on similar lines to Gallop polls.

Cr. Mrs. Renton argued that the three storey Co-op block close to the town's conservation area would completely obscure the views but Cr. Peacock challenged this and asked "who said so".

The Ilkley deputation said all twenty one Ilkley Parish Councillors the six District Councillors, a County Councillor, the Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade, Ilkley Civic Society and the Standing Conference of Women's Organisations were against the plan for the development of a Co-op departmental store on that site.

To this Cr. Mrs. Renton said that Cr. Peacock considered this expression of opinion was quite immaterial and carried

no weight.

"In other words the wishes of the ratepayers of Ilkley will be completely ignored if the Chairman of the Metropolitan Council's Planning Committee has anything to do with it," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

"If this is democracy, then I am a china man," added Cr. Mrs. Renton who said there was nothing democratic about Cr. Peacock's attitude at that meeting. "If he thought it was democracy then I would put it as another Afghanistan," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

"We got an absolute brush off. The work and time put in by Ilkley Parish Councillors and volunteers counted for nothing so far as Cr. Peacock was concerned," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

The Ilkley deputation was made up of the Chairman of the Parish Council, Cr. K. G. Johnson; Vice-Chairman of the Council, Cr. W. Forrest; Chairman of the General Purposes Committee, Cr. W. R. Hill; Chairman of the Plans Committee, Cr. S. Crossley-Smith, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, and Crs. A. C. Dewhurst, E. S. Garner, D. Poole and C. H. Scaife. Three District Councillors, Crs. Mrs. J. Lightband, Mrs. W. J. Clavering and Cr. Jack Spencer supported the deputation.

A letter from Ilkley Parish

Council which accompanied the results of the survey stated "Bradford Metropolitan Council has stated that Ilkley recommendations are taken into account. We would therefore ask the present Council at Bradford to implement its stated policy of involving local people in local decisions.

"The people of Ilkley have overwhelmingly shown that they support the decision of the Parish Council—we now ask Bradford Metropolitan District Council to do the same."

The survey showed: Proposals by the Parish Council to increase the size of the central car park—For, 71.14 per cent. Against 28.86 per cent.

Voting for a Supermarket—Store 16.28 per cent. For a cinema and three shops 83.72 per cent.

Voting for the preservation of Ilkley town centre's Victorian image were 93.27 per cent. Against 6.73 per cent.

On the question of car parking space in Ilkley once the West Yorkshire County Council Traffic Management Scheme had been implemented with an estimated loss of one hundred car parking spaces in the centre of Ilkley 78.54 per cent believed there would be insufficient space.



Pictured outside Ilkley Town Hall before leaving for Bradford with the results of the survey are some of the members of the Ilkley deputation. They are (left to right) — Crs. E. S. Garner; Cr. W. Forrest (Vice-Chairman); District Cr. Mrs. J. Lightband; Cr. K. G. Johnson (Chairman); Cr. C. D. Poole; Cr. Mrs. M. Renton; Cr. W. R. Hill and Cr. Mrs. P. Glover.

ACTION GROUP CALLS OPEN MEETING OVER FUTURE OF ILKLEY

3 Oct 1980

Fears that local authority decisions might ruin the town of Ilkley by removing its character have led to a public action group calling an open meeting next Wednesday.

The meeting is to be held so that members of the public can see what is going on in the town of Ilkley and make plans for the survival of its unique character. The meeting, at the Troutbeck Hotel, will start at 8.00 p.m.

An Ilkley Public Action Group has been formed to fight the local authority decisions which it feels will ruin the town's character — a wide-scale traffic management scheme which will result in the loss of many on-street car parking spaces, the introduction of charges at Ilkley's main car park, and proposals for a supermarket in the town centre.

Mr. A. Robinson Barnett, a member of the group, said protests had been consistently ignored. When Ilkley Parish Council representatives delivered the results of a survey of Ilkley feeling to Bradford they were given the cold shoulder, and this sort of thing had been going on for years now. "Why shouldn't the authorities take notice of the public and their representatives?" he asked.

The Ilkley public was frightened now, and this was indicated by their response to the action group's campaign, he continued. People were now asking what they could do to keep Ilkley the way it was.

Mr. Robinson Barnett said he would like to see the three

controversial plans scrapped and started again from scratch, with full consultation.

"Our elected representatives seem to be working in the interests of the local authorities and not on our behalf, and we are not prepared to allow this to go on", he added. "One suggestion we have already received is to call for the resignation of Mr. Harry Hadrill from the West Yorkshire County Council. Another is to replace him with a non-political candidate, someone interested in ecology and preserving Ilkley as a town for people rather than buildings and traffic.

"Also suggested has been the withholding of payment of the supplementary rate being introduced by Bradford Metropolitan Council. It seems we will have to make some dramatic protests before our feelings are taken into account, and this is why we have arranged an open meeting", said Mr. Robinson Barnett.

Cr. Hadrill said his job was to represent the whole of the people of Ilkley, not just one pressure group — no matter how influential.

NO RIGHT OF WAY THROUGH ILKLEY'S ARCADE

Bradford Metropolitan Council has ruled that no public right of way exists through Ilkley's Victorian arcade.

During the summer an Ilkley Garden Centre, tenants of part of the arcade, were said to be "progressively taken over" the arcade and some Ilkley councillors pressed for the matter to be clarified.

The Metropolitan Council's Chief Solicitor has now confirmed that no public right of way was registered on the Definitive Footpath Map nor the Draft Review. There was no reference either in the deeds to a public right of way.

The Council's Chief Engineer was also satisfied that no public right of way had either been granted or gained. He also stated that the previous owners of the premises, now let by the Council, used to close the gate at the top of the arcade every Saturday night and re-open it on Monday morning.

ACROSS THE YEARS 3 Oct 80

Parts Of The Middleton Estate Auctioned

100 Years Ago

The auction sale in connection with the Middleton Estate was held in a large marquee in front of the Middleton Hotel and was there were between 150 and conducted by Mr. Hepper. 200 people present and it was the first sale for three years to be held on behalf of Mr. Middleton.

The Wheatsheaf Hotel was sold to a coal merchant Mr. Robinson for £2,250. Many of the lots were withdrawn after very low bidding or no bids at all. Holling Hall Drive land proved popular but again some was withdrawn as also was the land facing Panorama Drive.

A dramatic entertainment was held in the recreation hall of Craighlands Hydro to raise money for the Ilkley Hospital. There was a large and fashionable audience filling the more expensive seats, the only empty ones being the 6d. seats and the proprietor regretted that the working classes had not taken up this unique opportunity to visit his establishment. The players led by Dr. Dobson, of Ilkley, were mostly local people with the entire Macdonald family playing prominent parts.

75 Years Ago

The extension scheme in Brook Street was nearing completion and the large stages had been started upon with the demolition of the old Wharfedale Inn and the completion of the new Star Inn which claimed to be of architectural beauty to the district. The improvement to the street was described as "splendid".

Mr. Howard Arnold-Forster of Wm. Fison and Co., Greenholme Mills, Bury, invented a new doffer for flying frames which was said to be completely effective both economically and mechanically. Leading machine makers in the worsted and spinning industry had viewed the invention with favour.

The annual sale at Ilkley Baptist Church was held to defray debts incurred in the erection of the new church two years previously. This consisted of an assembly hall and a number of vestries and classrooms and a handsome church was contemplated as soon as funds would allow. The effort raised approximately £192 and lasted a full two days with musical items in the evenings. Miss Sargeant and Miss Brownhill were the soloists and glees were rendered by Mr. T. Smith and his Glee Party.

50 Years Ago

There were some brilliant displays by working sheep dogs at the Ilkley Sheep Dog Trials on the field in Denton Road adjoining the Ilkley Rugby Ground. There were no local winners in the open classes but Mr. George Hall with his dog "Jed" won the novice class and H. Redshaw of Netherwood, Ilkley, was second. Despite poor weather it proved to be a day of such excellent sport that it was hoped to make it an annual event. The judges were Mr. Charles Hardisty of Otley, and Mr. G. Hall, of Ash Grove, Ilkley.

Members of Ilkley Urban District Council had the opportunity to inspect the new houses recently erected on the Council's Housing estate on Leeds Road. It was thought they were of good design and made life as easy as possible for the housewife. The houses were fitted with an improved type of "Cook an heat stoves" and the visiting members praised the surveyor on a well planned scheme.

At Otley market hen eggs were on sale at 2s. 4d. per dozen and farm butter retailed at 1s. 7d. per lb. Home cured bacon was 1s. 6d. and beef 9d to 1s. 6d. mutton 8d to 1s. 6d. per lb.

Scouts from the whole area assisted the Menston Group in making their first public dance a huge success. It was held at Menston Church hall and over 250 people attended, the M.C. being Mr. Norman Hancock.

25 Years Ago

Richard Todd and Michael Redgrave starred in the film "The Dam Busters" shown at the Essoldo cinema, twenty five years ago.

The King's Hall and Annexe at Ilkley were transformed with drapery and awnings for the third year of the Trades' Fair. The King's Hall stage was draped to look like the interior of a marquee in red and white. The colours were echoed in banks of roses, gladioli and chrysanthemums altogether giving an air of festivity to the two halls. The opening ceremony was performed by the Chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council and his wife who drew up outside in a 1904 Rolls Royce driven by its owner Mr. M. Oliver Langton. Mr. C. G. Dean, President of the Chamber of Trade welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Hill.

YELLOW LINES - CAR PARK CHARGES

3 Oct 80

Big Brother wins again or DOES HE ?

A PUBLIC PROTEST MEETING will be held
on Wednesday, 8th October at 8 p.m.

at TROUTBECK HOTEL

The SURVIVAL of ILKLEY
depends on YOU

We pay the Rates — We pay the Wages — WE VOTE !!

For details tel. 608292/607307/600573

TRADERS CAMPAIGN TO DRIVE ONE DAY TRADE SALES OUT OF ILKLEY

Heavily rated Ilkley traders are gaining support in their campaign to drive out of the town one day and two day trade sales.

KEEP PARKING CHARGES OUT OF ILKLEY—CRS.

Parish Councillors who were not consulted over proposals to introduce car parking charges to Ilkley are looking upon the plan by Bradford Metropolitan Council as nothing more than yet another supplementary rate.

"Keep car parking charges out of our town" is the message some Ilkley councillors hope to put across to Bradford next week. They feel Ilkley should be an exception to a plan affecting the whole of the Metropolitan district as the town is an attraction to tourists and falls into the same category as Harrogate on one side and Skipton on the other where so far parking has remained free.

Cr. Mrs. B. J. Cussons thought Ilkley should put forward its views but pointed out that Conservative Councillors on Bradford Metropolitan Council had already publicly stated they would have done the same if they had been in power.

Cr. W. R. Hill Chairman of the Parish Council's General Purposes Committee said it was expected the charges at Ilkley would raise £50,000 but thought Ilkley was not the same type of area as the remainder of Bradford. People living on the outskirts of Ilkley would have the choice of shopping in two towns and obviously they would be going to the one where there were no parking charges.

Cr. C. D. Poole said Ilkley was also very hilly and accommodated many elderly people and infirm who had to rely on their own transport to get them to the shops. "The situation is becoming absolutely ridiculous," he said.

In reply to Cr. Shelton, Cr. Hill said the proposed charges at Ilkley were for the central car park only.

A charge of ten pence an hour was the suggested rate, said Mrs. Fisher but Bradford Metropolitan Council was prepared to consider suggestions.

"I am opposed to any charge," commented Cr. Poole.

This view was supported by the majority of Councillors with one member saying any charge of this kind was equal to a supplementary rate.

Cr. Peter Williams said this matter should have been discussed long ago but the Parish Council had not been asked for its views. "This is a matter of great importance and I think this Council should have been approached if only as a matter of courtesy," he said.

The Committee agreed to recommend the Council at its meeting on Monday to oppose any charges planned to be introduced at Ilkley.

Their campaign follows an ever increasing number of stalls in the town's public halls this year. Now Ilkley Councillors have added their support and say the sales should be limited in number.

President of the Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade, Mr. Tony Peel said Ilkley traders were already heavily rated and now Bradford Metropolitan Council was allowing more and more trades sales to take place in the town's public halls. He asked Ilkley Councillors to support a campaign to oppose such sales where products already available in Ilkley were to be sold.

Clerk to the Parish Council, Mrs. P. M. Fisher told members of the Council's General Purposes Committee on Monday night that Bradford Metropolitan Council had banned trade shows in Ilkley's public halls between October and December in order to protect local traders and enable them to build up their trade for Christmas.

Unfortunately whilst the officer responsible for the bookings was away on holiday a booking had slipped through for a suede and leather sale on 24 November and Bradford Metropolitan Council wanted to know whether the Parish Council wanted to object to this, said Mrs. Fisher.

Cost of hiring halls

Councillors said they did and Mrs. Fisher went on to give the rates charged for the hire of the King's Hall on Saturdays. The normal charge she said was £7.48 per hour; for a trade event £12.07 per hour if a trader was from within the Bradford district or £14.57 for a trader from outside the area.

If the organisers of these trade shows were making enough money to pay those kind of rates then it indicated the amount of business being done and lost to local traders, said Cr. Mrs. Renton. "We have had two sales from the same firm within the past two weeks," she said.

The Chairman of the Committee, Cr. W. R. Hill, said between January and September Bradford Metropolitan Council was prepared to let the halls to any traders provided adequate credentials were supplied.

"They don't seem to take into account the damage done to local trade," said Cr. Hill.

It meant that for eight months of the year the Ilkley halls were open to any trader and this could represent sixteen trade shows, as many as one a fortnight, said Cr. Mrs. Renton. There ought to be some limit whether the halls were empty or not, she said.

Cr. Peter Williams said if a ban was put on the halls then he could see the traders using Ilkley's hotels which meant a loss in revenue to the district Council.

Cr. J. M. Shelton said if this was happening say in Bingley and other parts of the metropolitan district then he thought traders in those areas should get together and press Bradford Metropolitan Council to stop such sales unless they were for products not sold in those towns.

Traders in Brook Street were faced with rates of £3,000 or more a year and he asked how many sales would have to be held to equal the rates paid by a trader if he closed down.

More shops to close

Crs. Mrs. B. J. Cussons pointed out that two more shops in Leeds Road were closing down.

Ilkley was becoming full of estate agents and building societies, commented Cr. Poole.

Cr. Mrs. Renton said the Council ought to press for the booking in November to be cancelled and the Committee agreed to recommend the Council to press Bradford to do this.

Cr. Poole said they should ask Bradford to stop all sales unless the products being offered were not normally sold in Ilkley.

The Committee has agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that Bradford Metropolitan Council should be asked to limit the number of sales at Ilkley.

Cr. W. Forrest said "we have always stood by the local traders, so let us support them now and press home their case."

ILKLEY GROCERS RETIRE

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Burrell, grocers, provision merchants and cheese experts have retired after 30 years of business in Ilkley.

The couple bought their premises, in Brook Street, Ilkley, in 1950, and became popular among both the general public and traders during that time.

The couple, who are retiring due to ill health, have seen many changes since they started business in Ilkley. They have witnessed the closure of many private businesses, withstood the competition of a supermarket which opened next door and closed some years later.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Burrell, who have lived in Ilkley for most of their lives, look forward to a long and happy retirement.

COUNCIL TO RESTRICT GRANTS

Members of Bradford Metropolitan Council's Fieldwork Panel have decided to give the city's Marriage Guidance Council a grant of £1,500, but warned there would be no grant next year.

Members were told that last year's grant was £1,491, but the Marriage Guidance Council had applied for an increase this year to £3,000.

Cr. Ronald Farley, said that while agreeing that no grant should be paid, he felt the Council had a responsibility not to desert organisations once it had agreed to pay an annual grant.

Members turned down applications from seven other organisations for grants. They included the Abbeyfield (Bradford) Society, the Bradford Flower Fund Home, the Hanover Housing Association, the Menston Men's Forum, the Abbeyfield (Ilkley) Society, the Bingley Flower Fund Home and Cullingworth Village Hall.

Approved grants included £80 to the Ilkley Old People's Welfare Association.

COST OF LIVING AND TRANSPORT PROBLEMS IN ILKLEY IN 1823

Transport difficulties, the cost of living and religious topics are touched on in this instalment of John Dobson's lecture about Ilkley in 1823.

Money was a very much scarcer commodity, and the roads so bad, as to make a journey to Ilkley a slightly hazardous undertaking; added to which there was no public conveyance, and taking chaise was a dear mode of obtaining means of removal. Properly speaking there could hardly be said to be a road to Bradford. The rough tracks called roads, one by Woodhead to Burley, and the other to Menston from the same place, and joining on Menston Moor and proceeding by Hawkesworth Lane to Baildon, were scarcely fit for a horse to travel on, the animal being often to the knees in mud.

Cost of living

It would be a matter for wonder by some, how persons with large families managed to subsist on the pittance they earned. If the incomes were small, however, the necessities of life were cheap. The rents of many of the old cottages would range from £2 to £3 a year. Rates were extremely small. Good skim milk a penny four pints. Oatmeal and old milk formed the greater part of living of the poorest. Potatoes varied somewhat but the average was from 5s to 6s per sack, and in plentiful years came as low as 4s. Corn varied greatly; from 1s 9d to 5s being paid for flour, wet or dry seasons making the difference. Butter was in summer 10d to 1s for a roll of 24oz, and eggs at the same season 2s for one shilling.

Legs of mutton 5½d to 6d per lb, salt 4d per lb, the high price caused by a heavy duty, tea and sugar nearly double present prices and currants 1s per pound. New milk 1d per pint, the measure being nearly ½ over what it is at present.

Transport

Whatever the causes the health of the village was not as good as now. Infectious diseases such as typhoid fever and small pox were more frequent and of a more dangerous type than at present, when they occur. Probably the style of living had much to do with it, as well as the damp, undrained land by which the place was surrounded.

When visitors wanted to go to Bolton Woods for a day there was but one conveyance. It was a sort of spring cart. A seat which held three people (the driver and his party of two) swung from supports at the sides by means of stout straps. Often, however, the party of two had to be obtained from as many houses. This state of things soon changed for a carrier's cart started for Leeds on market days, and was soon followed by a car, for the conveyance of passengers at the same times and for the same place.

On a fine summer's day a string of donkeys wended their way conveying invalid ladies and children up the hillside to the Old Wells. Poor pedestrians might be seen too, toiling up the hillside on sticks and crutches, happily in many cases destined to be thrown aside, health and vigour being returned to many by the free use of pure air and water, the latter being applied with the kindest attention by "Old Bill" and his wife "Betty".

"Queer bodies"

Queer bodies sometimes "cam this gate" among the poorer visitors. Some of them were poets, after a fashion. The subjects they sang were generally the same—the beauties of Ilkley and the benefits derived from a sojourn here. Some of the productions were tolerable; in one instance truly beautiful and really poetic; often, however, it was the veriest doggerel. Many of this class of visitors, however, were very estimable men, thoughtful characters with whom it was a pleasure to converse and a privilege to associate. There was one practise they had in that day which at present seems to have fallen into disuse. He referred to their habit of singing psalms and hymns in a group on fine mornings and generally out of doors up at the Old Wells or on the back of the "Cow", and often on still evenings under the old tree in Bridge Lane.

The church

The Parish Church at the time to which he referred was not a very inviting edifice either externally or internally. The bells which conveyed the invitation to worship did not discourse very sweet music. They were but three in number and two of them were awfully cracked. The ancient clock, with antique face and wierd looking machinery, seemed in more senses than one to be a relation to Old Father Time. The seats were simple oaken benches, with higher backs than the present ones. The wood in places was decayed and worm eaten. The floor, with the exception of the aisles, was earthen and partially covered with straw mats trodden to rags and the loose straw freely scattered about.

The Vicar at this time was the Rev. William Holdsworth, a very amiable and pious old gentleman who had the esteem and regard of the entire population. Well did he (Mr. Dobson) remember his addresses to them at the Sunday School; how he was regularly in the habit of giving out one of Wall's hymns; how he was surrounded by his assistants in Sunday School tuition of Methodist persuasion, without whose help the schools could not have been conducted. In fact at that day there seemed to be the best possible understanding between the Vicar and all his parishioners. With the Catholics he never interfered, and the simple and thorough Protestant character of the services won the help and frequent attendance of those who did not regard themselves as churchmen. The prayers were read and the psalms were sung and a dignified simplicity characterised the entire service.

Father of Methodism

One of the fathers of Methodism in Ilkley was "Old Sammy". He occupied a farm in Wheatley but in early life had been a labourer. He was a tall, thin man, with a long face having a highly intelligent expression. In his air and carriage there was a simple dignity and a refinement of manner seldom seen in connection with a small farmer. Though never forward he was decidedly free once the ice was broken, and was abundantly endowed with that charming grace which made juniors and inferiors instantly feel at ease in his presence. He was a well read and thoughtful man of very considerable mental power. Hence, it was nothing less than a treat to listen to him, whether in conversation by the fireside, or when preaching from the pulpit. On the occasion of his public addresses he was soon seen to be no ordinary man; there was order and method in the arrangement, beauty and force of his diction, and pith and clearness in his thoughts. As a considerable number of visitors attended the Old Room where the Methodists had their services, they always enjoyed a sermon from "Old Sammy", many of them saying that they would quite as soon hear him as a regular Minister. Though a Methodist the old man never attempted to conceal the fact that there was a large portion of moderate "Calvinism" in his doctrinal composition. "Sammy" lived and continued to preach until Mr. Dobson was 20 years old, so that the estimate he had given of the man was not formed in childhood.

(To be continued)

How Long Must Ilkley Put Up With Bradford's Impositions

Sir, it is surely time to ask the residents of Ilkley how much longer they are prepared to finance the political machinations of Bradford Metropolitan Council and to ask them how many more impositions we must suffer before there is the inevitable show-down. I suggest that they consider the various threats which hang over our heads at the present time and urgently bring pressure to bear in the appropriate quarter. The principle threats seem to be:

1. A stated intention to make the outer residential areas finance losses incurred in running the inner city and the cost of maintaining luxury services (for those who persistently refuse to maintain themselves).

2. A policy of reduced services in the outer areas with higher rating contributions.

3. The proposal to make us pay them to use our car park.

4. The threat of another supermarket that few residents seem to want with probable increased prices at our existing supermarket due to reduced turnover.

5. The attendant traffic problems that another supermarket would bring.

6. A reduction in car parking space for the supermarket site and reduced street parking.

7. An extra rate to be levied to finance the wild spending spree in the city because Whitehall can not afford to fund such councils.

8. The imposition of a closed shop throughout all the council's departments.

9. A hesitant admission that there is 'some sort of agreement' with the unions with regard to the council providing employees addresses, the purpose of which can surely only be to put pressure on those reluctant to join a union.

This list is far from complete but it is clear that the wishes of out-of-town residents and their elected representatives are being persistently ignored whilst profligacy on a grand scale continues at the expense of those unfortunate enough (in this sense) to live almost outside the sweep of Bradford Metropolitan Council's tentacles. Without a reversal of these policies there is bound to come a time when many of us will have to move into inner Bradford in order to be subsidised or supported by those who remain. It appears that a concerted effort on a large front may be the only way to preserve some of that which we have worked and saved to construct.

I recall, a few years ago, during one of my trips to Italy that the residents of Turin had been presented with electricity accounts by the city council based on a unit charge double that of previous quarters. Tens of thousands of those accounts were publicly burnt and the whole city refused to pay the increase. Within a week the authority was obliged to issue amended accounts at the old rate.

Whilst not advocating action of this sort it is interesting to speculate how car masters in Bradford would deal with such a situation.
269 Leeds Road,
Ilkley.

H. MOORE.

"Rape of The Town"

Sir, Never before have I felt so disheartened and inwardly worried after reading the Gazette, 19 Sept, or more specially page 9 which reflects a most serious state of affair for the vast majority of Ilkley people who like the town for what it is and not as Bradford Met. insist it will be.

Consider some of the headlines on that page:— 'Ilkley Council Given Brush Off', 'Plans To Introduce Car Parking Charge At Ilkley Gets Go-Ahead', 'Ilkley's Views Not Sought', 'County Council Asks For More Time', 'Controversial Development Threatens Trees'. Read these articles and see what little say we had. One had to search for hope on page 9 and their it lay all of 1½ long article entitled 'Conserving Ilkley'.

We should ask the question who in Ilkley Really knows what is happening to the town's development? Not the Parish Council, not the Civic Society, Not the Ilkley And District Chamber of Trade And Commerce. Perhaps the Gazette should name the mole, they certainly seem better informed. One must applaud the views expressed by Cr. Renton who by her definition of democracy shows how strongly she personally feels about this matter.

What next? I cannot believe the people of Ilkley will sit back and witness this rape of the town by faceless individuals in Bradford. Time is against us, if any action is to be taken then it must be now.

L. HUGHES

56, The Grove,
Ilkley.

Parish Survey

Sir, May I thank all those who worked so hard to carry out the survey for Ilkley Parish Council. Almost 850 forms were received by Monday 15 Sept. the results of the returns from the first four questions were:

1. Do you believe there is sufficient future provision for car parking in Ilkley?
Yes.. 21.5% No.. 78.5%
2. The Victorian image of Ilkley should be preserved?
Yes.. 21.5% No 78.5%
3. Support for Parish Council over increasing size of central car park?
Yes.. 71.1% No.. 28.9%
4. Preference for Supermarket/Store.. 16.3%
Preference for Cinema and 3 shops.. 83.7%

The information sent in in response to questions 5 and 6 is still being analysed and will prove to be very valuable to the Parish Council for guidance in the future and for ideas for improvement of the town. The forms were distributed on an area basis to provide a good statistical result.

'Cranford'
100, Station Road,
Burley-in-Wharfedale
KENNETH G. JOHNSON.

Making it Clear

Sir, In view of the reports which have appeared in the Gazette and elsewhere it seems extraordinary that there should be any doubt about my position on the proposed car park development, but apparently it is so. —I am opposed to any further building at this place because the roads are too narrow and the extra Car Park demand that will be generated can not be accommodated.

I trust this makes my position clear.

H. V. Haddrill
County Councillor
41 Grange Estate,
Ben Rhydding.

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TRADERS CALL FOR ACTION AGAINST PROPOSED CAR PARKING RESTRICTIONS

A proposal that Ilkley traders should withhold paying their rates until they are awarded a public inquiry into the restricted parking proposals for Ilkley has been well supported.

The idea was put forward by Francois S. Paquis, of Chez Francois, The Grove, Ilkley, at a packed annual meeting of Ilkley Chamber of Trade.

He said: "It seems that all the petitions forwarded last year to the West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council have not been taken into account, and a total disregard has been evident for local public feeling. Why is there to be no public inquiry?" he asked.

"In my view it is quite clear that all discussions, talks, petitions, etc, have been a complete waste of time, as the decision appears to have been taken to enforce these restrictions regardless of any arguments or points that have been put forward.

Faceless Bureaucrats

"It is quite clear that action is needed instead of reasoning, and I put it to the members of this Chamber that some form of action is taken immediately. Drastic measures taken by faceless bureaucrats need meeting with drastic action and I would suggest, by way of a start, that as local business rates subsidise the council, that local traders withhold payment of their rates until such time as we are either awarded a public inquiry or the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the people of Ilkley, who are all involved", said Mr. Paquis.

It was stated that the new parking restrictions would effect every junction in the town, particularly at the foot of Cowpasture Road and outside Hillards, and the call for a public meeting in Ilkley over the double yellow lines was unanimously supported, with the Vice-Chairman of the Chamber, Mr. Vincent Dobson, proposing that they should approach other societies in Ilkley with the aim of arranging such a meeting.

Disappointing

In his review of the past year, the President, Mr. A. G. Peel, highlighted two main events held in Ilkley by the Chamber and also referred to Ilkley's disappointing showing in the "Britain in Bloom" competition. He mentioned the Trades Fair, held in October last year, and expressed thanks to Mr. Donald Griffiths, who has since retired from the Chamber, for his valuable support of the event. Thanks were also expressed to Mr. Dobson, who organised the successful Black Hats versus White Hats cricket match held on May Day this year, and the wish for the venture to be repeated next year was voiced by the President. In reference to Ilkley's showing in the "Britain in Bloom" competition, Mr. Peel suggested that Ilkley had not been judged when it looked at its best, being judged in Spring rather than later in the year.

Mr. Peel hoped that next year they would improve communications within the Chamber and more particularly improve its image and relations with the general public and the Parish Council.

A review of the general accounts of the Chamber for the year ended 31 March, 1980, showed a deficit of £101 as compared to a surplus of £184 for the previous year.

year, and the extra expenses on special items and efforts, such as Olicana '79, the literature festival and Christmas Lights.

Trades Fair Loss

A separate account for the Trades Fair showed a deficit of £170. Although rents from exhibitors brought in more than £2,500 and door takings added more than £500, the expense of hiring the hall, hiring stands, fascia boards and signs, printing, advertising, electrical work, nightwatchman and other helpers, entertainment of guests, prizes, insurance and incidental expenses brought the total expenditure to £3,443.

Several other points were raised for discussion at the meeting. Mr. Peak, the manager of the Craiglands Hotel, Ilkley, said there was no sign telling motorists arriving in Ilkley from the Leeds direction that they were actually in Ilkley until well into the centre of the town.

The issue of parking on Back Grove Road was also discussed, with claims that the narrowness of the road meant that lorries wishing to deliver to the shops on The Grove were being forced to unload at the front of the shops.

It was agreed that these points would be put to the Parish Council and discussed more fully.

The President, Mr. A. G. Peel; the Vice-President, Mr. V. Dobson; the Treasurer, Mrs. M. Booth and the Secretary, Miss S. Read, were re-elected. Mr. M. Brown and Mr. J. Bell were elected to the Committee. Mr. Robinson-Barnett is "stand by".

ILKLEY STILL A TEST

Training schools for drivers of heavy goods vehicles which stopped using parts of The Grove, Ilkley, as a test course for learner drivers following complaints from local residents have now started to use Easby Drive, Ilkley.

Mr. L. Overend of Easby Drive, in a letter to Ilkley Parish Council expressed concern about the use of Easby Drive for "hill starts".

The Council is to keep the matter under review and decided to exert pressure if the nuisance persisted and more complaints were received.

RATE ON EMPTY PROPERTY IS PROPOSED

Bradford Metropolitan Council is expected to levy a rate on empty properties for the first time.

The recommendation was made by Tuesday's meeting of the Council's Management Committee and will be considered by the Labour-controlled Council next month.

The proposal is that a 50 per cent rate should be levied on empty properties with Council dwellings and properties below a £50 rateable value to be exempted.

It is expected to raise more than £500,000 a year, of which Bradford Council will receive the major share. The remainder goes to the County Council.

A report to the Council said that Wakefield and Calderdale districts were the only West Yorkshire authorities to rate empty properties. Of the 36 Metropolitan district councils in the country, 28 levied such a rate.

The report said one reason for introducing empty property rating initially was to counteract speculative building of office blocks, but there was no evidence locally that properties were being held empty for that purpose.

On the contrary, empty property appeared to be something of a liability and embarrassment to owners. It could be an additional burden on industry.

"THE RAPE OF A TOWN"

THE PLOT 26 98

Introduce a traffic scheme to Ilkley and ensure that motorists have to pay for parking in the Central Car Park.

Build a Co-op store in the Central Car Park enforcing it on the public, thereby adding to the flow of deliveries to the area along-side the bus depot, ensuring maximum chaos. This will enable at a later date the development of a multi-storey car park with increased charges, which will be of benefit to help meet increased costs.

Institute a central one way system ensuring that traffic flow enforces the introduction of a further extension to the Primrose Road Markings.

Promote Ilkley as a tourist town to ensure maximum monetary return through the parking fees.

Increase rates to the private sector and ensure the business sector pays for the new policies to the fullest extent.

THE STORY

This story is not fiction but is factual reality which has hung over Ilkley for over four years. The plotters from West Yorkshire County Council and Bradford Metropolitan Council refuse to hold a Public Meeting because "there were too many objections to hold a Public Enquiry".

When presented with a petition from the Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce, the reaction was, "they are of course biased, we shall press on regardless." The Bradford Metropolitan Council has the power and the money to meet the costs and disregard any representation. Representation from the Ilkley and District Parish Council whilst of interest is not seriously taken into account, for, after all, of what import is a puppet on a string, other than to continually hand over money?"

The story is more complex but in essence simple. It is a question of rights and of basic democracy. The democracy of course affords justice for all, fairness, equality and political equality. The West Yorkshire County Council seem to forget who they represent and who pays the bills, and seem determined to press on at all costs.

The end of this story lies with the people of Ilkley, and the action of the various groups opposed to the bureaucratic money wasters who seem to spend needlessly in order to increase the facilities that will in turn mean levying more money from the ratepayers and the business sector.

Support of local action groups is to be encouraged and a collective effort is essential in demanding a Public Meeting with both the Bradford Metropolitan Council representatives and the West Yorkshire County Council.

THE END

This story will eventually depend upon the public of Ilkley. How many are prepared to put pen to paper and deluge the bureaucrats with letters? To those who would be brave and wish to be free from decisions which are not in the interest of Ilkley please write to: Mr. A. Holliday, Chief Planning Officer, Planning Division, City of Bradford Met. Council, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD1 5RW; and Mr. R. G. Brooke, Director of Administration, West Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF1 2QW.

Do not let the Rape of Ilkley take place. Prevention is better than cure. Our message to the bureaucrats is, "Let the people speak." We challenge you to meet us publically, in the presence of the press and media.

Middleton Estate Property Up For Auction

100 Years Ago

Thirty four lots of property belonging to the Middleton Estate were to be auctioned at the Middleton Hotel. The greater part of this land was situated in the neighbourhood of the Panorama Rocks, and comprised delightful villa sites. Six of the lots were in Brook Street and included the historic and 'well-frequented' Wheatsheaf Hotel.

Ikley members of the Yorkshire Hussars met at the Crescent Hotel under the leadership of Captain Darwin and Sgt. Major Robinson and a few more members were enrolled. Mr. Darwin speaking of the prestige of the regiment was glad to see members were getting active in recruiting as Ikley should be better represented.

Astonishment was recorded in Wetherby by the non-arrival of bags of mail from Bolton Percy, and it appeared that on the arrival of the train near Wharfe Bridge the clerks in charge of the mail van by accident delivered the bags over the bridge parapet and into the river instead of into the net at Bolton Percy. Two out of five of the bags were recovered from the water.

75 Years Ago

A destructor for the refuse of the town was erected at the sewage works capable of dealing with 20 tons of rubbish per day. Previously rubbish had been shot out on to the most convenient site available resulting in chaos and mess in the town so that the new destructor was heralded as being of great advantage to the future appearance of the streets.

Mr. Thos. Rutling, a negro, produced a rich "musical treat" in the Lecture Hall, before a small but enthusiastic audience. He rendered several "excellent" drawing room songs" as well as negro spirituals and coon songs. Three members of Herr Kordy's Blue Hungarian Band rendered solos and trios and Mr. O. W. Powell gave two capital recitations.

The Ikley Gazette quoted a feature from the "Penny Magazine" which featured Mr. John Richardson, the station-

master at Ben Rhydding beside a group of his toy engines, fifty two model locomotives built by the stationmaster for small inmates of London hospitals and shown at a London toy show. The models were made of wood, and Mr. Richardson built one each week for a year.

50 Years Ago

A stormy meeting of the Ikley Urban District Council was concerned with the filthy condition of Leeds Road and Skipton Road and there had been many complaints about them. They were told that the County Council had taken over the responsibility for scavenging these roads but had carried out the work properly and the streets in the meantime would go dirty unless Ikley Urban Council took the work over as an extra.

The Surveyor presented a scheme for the relaying of the water mains in Ben Rhydding and Owlter Park Road and said that this scheme would help to relieve unemployment in the district. It was decided to proceed with the scheme and apply to the Ministry of Health to borrow £2,445 for the purpose and to make application to the Unemployment Grants Committee for a grant in aid of the work.

Once again the question of more publicity for Ikley arose at a meeting between the hoteliers, the tradesmen, the medical profession and the sports club representatives with the Ikley development association. It was felt that Ikley was inclined to "hide its light under a bushel" and more advertising was decided upon.

25 Years Ago

Two young men of St. Margaret's Church, Ikley, were ordained as Deacons to the ministry of the church. Mr. Robert Greenwood was educated at Ikley Grammar School and gained his B.A. at Leeds University and took his theological training at Mirfield. Mr. Donald Dales Martin son of the organist at St. Margaret's Church was educated at Bradford Grammar School and Salisbury Theological college.

The reservoirs in the Ikley area following the hot dry summer only contained 12 days supply of water. Residents were told that they must reduce their consumption by an additional quarter immediately or else supplies would have to be turned off and standpipes erected in the streets.

Amongst the list of houses for sale twenty five years ago were a semi detached house in Moorfield Drive, Ben Rhydding, at £4,250 and a new detached house in Ben Rhydding at £9,300. Bed sitting rooms were available to let from 25/- and flats from 35/- On the other hand the Wharfedale Creamer were advertising for a milk roundsman for six days per week £8 18s per week full time and 1st Year psychiatric nursing rates were £255 for a 48 hour week less £108 board and lodgings.

Appealing For Less Heat And More Light In The Debate

Sir, It is with some nervousness that I enter the controversies about the proposed Co-op development and the parking restrictions, because feelings are running high and I do not wish to offend those whose views I do not share. I am, however, very concerned about certain aspects of the campaigns and feel that I should say so.

Firstly, I am dismayed at the hysterical tone of those who feel that their interests are threatened. "Rape of the Town" appears twice as a heading in your last week's issue. "Bradford's Plan to Destroy Ikley" is a phrase we have seen on petitions. Any one would believe that we were faced not with a few more yellow lines, but with the total collapse of the western way of life.

Secondly, I am confused by some of the arguments on both issues. Your correspondent, Mr. Moore, says that a Co-op would probably result in Hilliards raising its prices. One of the advantages of competition is that it usually helps to keep prices down. Is Mr. Moore some sort of communist that he challenges the principal tenets of private enterprise? Your anonymous contributor of the "Rape of the Town" article in two consecutive paragraphs argues that the council will "ensure maximum monetary return through parking fees" and "increase rates... ensure the business sector pays for the new policies". But why, if Bradford's aim is to increase revenue through parking fees, should it also be necessary to pay for the policies through rates increases? I would have thought that if the council were successful with the former, they would be less likely to proceed with the latter.

Thirdly, there are some arguments which I suspect are not entirely sincere. If Ikley traders think that their businesses will suffer if there is less street parking, that is a perfectly fair point for them to make. It is not, however, legitimate to dress this up as a concern for road safety. Some of the principal spokesmen do nothing for the credibility of the campaign. The views of M. Paquis of "Chez Francois" are given great prominence in your "Ikley Traders Call for Action" article. But M. Paquis's customers' cars are clearly an inconvenience to many residents of Ikley. To declare my own interest, I and other residents of St. James Road are greatly hampered as we try to get in and out of it in the evening. The central car park is not full between 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.; it is not far away and the customers of Chez Francois are not crippled.

Fourthly, although I applaud the attempt of the Parish Council to seek views of residents, the questionnaire they issued was very loaded. It was more like propaganda than a genuine attempt to collect opinion. To take just one example: we were asked to state a preference for a supermarket or a cinema and three shops, but we were not asked to choose between either of these and an extension to the car park. I suspect that a straight choice of the three options would have put the cinema in first place. Incidentally, if the Parish Council takes the survey seriously, what is it going to do about the fact, reported in your last edition, that four out of five respondents do not want the Victorian image of Ikley town centre to be preserved?

My own views on these issues is that I support the parking restrictions, but not paying to use the central car park, and would rather have a cinema than either a Co-op or a bigger car park. However, my main purpose in writing to you is to appeal for less heat and more light in the debate and for rather more honesty in the arguments that are used.

G. J. Oldham

9 St. James Road,
Ikley.

"Unpleasant personal attack"

Sir, As Chairman of the County Council's Area Sub-Committee, I have had forwarded to me some comments from Ikley on traffic management proposals. I am staggered, to say the least, since the reaction was precisely the opposite from what I expected.

After all the public consultations, where about 200 people had their say by letter (which could not have been achieved at a public meeting), all representations were considered by a group including County Councillor Haddrill. It should also have included your MP, but although we altered the date to suit his convenience he failed to attend on either occasion.

Most of the requests supported the representations of Councillor Haddrill, and in every case we considered the proposals individually. We have in fact cut back so radically on the original scheme that I fully expect to be harangued by those who have called for action.

We also met your elected Parish Council representative to discuss the revised proposals. I can only assume that the people who are now protesting do not appreciate either that the proposals are the result of demands by residents for action on dangerous or congested areas; or the extent of the revision.

The new development in Ikley against which Councillor Haddrill has striven mightily — and for which he needs your support — is the responsibility of the District Council, as are the car park charges. I am sure the Planning Officer will meet the Parish Council on those issues.

Traffic management proposals are designed to meet safety and allow free flow of vehicles and people should ask themselves "If it is my property to which the fire brigade was delayed by congestion, or a member of my family the ambulance was slower to reach because the road was blocked, how would I feel?"

I am saddened by the unpleasant, personal attack on Councillor Haddrill. I have long thought how fortunate Ikley was to have such an able and caring and conscientious Councillor. He is always worth listening to and — rare in these days — an honest man.

MRS. MURIEL WOOD
West Yorkshire
Metropolitan County
Councillor.

4, Westway,
Bradford.

Dedicated Work

Sir, Since the Urban District Council, using decentralised financial powers terminated in 1974, far less annual development and maintenance of Ikley Parish has occurred under the Bradford Metropolitan Council, in common with other rural fringe areas.

Hence it is inevitable that the long suffering Ikley citizens should see red at the avalanche of penalties descending on them — viz — supplementary rates, charges for the central car park, serious objections to building a departmental store next to the bus depot ignored, Council House rents increased, etc., etc.

Sheer uninformed belly-aching however, will not help, still less denigrating the constant dedicated work of our County Councillor, Harry Haddrill.

In my new capacity as liaison officer between Ikley District and Parish Councillor I quote P.C. Minute 80/255 proclaims — "that thanks to County Councillor H. V. Haddrill for working so hard with the Traffic Management scheme in the interests of Ikley be recorded."

With Ikley traffic increasing by at least 3 per cent per year, it is not an easy problem and the safety aspect of Ikley's traffic black spots has been neglected for far too long.

Should a public meeting be convened by pressure groups, I would naturally hope to be present. In the meantime, of course, the electorate can rely on all its elected representatives continuing to oppose measure obnoxious to Ikley Parish by all means allowed by law. Our political inferiority in City Hall can be five to four. Several of the battles are very much in progress. Nil Desperandum.

A. E. TURNER
District Councillor,
Ikley Ward.

AMBITIOUS £300,000 ^{3 Oct} APPEAL TO SAVE ¹⁹⁵⁰ BOLTON PRIORY CHURCH

An ambitious £300,000 appeal has been launched this week to save the 800 years old Priory Church at Bolton Abbey—a church which survived 14th century looting by marauding Scots as well as the Dissolution of the monasteries in 1540, but which is now falling victim to the ravages of weather and the stress of old age.

Urgent and extensive repairs are needed to save the church chief beauty spot of the Yorkshire Dales, from falling into ruins the same as the historic Priory of which it is part.

The fifty families who make up the regular congregation have pledged themselves to give £26,000, and a further £30,000 has already been promised through private donations, but to raise the rest a public appeal has been launched.

"We are hoping for world-wide support," said Mr. C. M. D. Roberts, the Appeal Director. "Our visitors' book contains names from many countries. More than 23,000 signed the book in nine months last year and still more since April this year. Many more come but do not sign. We estimate that the number of visitors in a year tops the 250,000 mark. A recent survey showed that this small Wharfedale village is the most visited place in the Yorkshire Dales."

Many must be puzzled by notices which refer to the Priory Church at Bolton Abbey. For centuries the village was simply Bolton-in-Wharfedale, then came the railway whose officials wanted to avoid confusion with Bolton in Lancashire. So they called the station—about a mile from the village—Bolton Abbey, and the name stuck.

The lure of Bolton Abbey is its superb setting beside the River Wharfe, with moors and woodlands forming a backdrop to the ruins of the Augustinian Priory founded in 1154. But all is not ruins. The nave of the monastic church is the parish church of St. Mary and St. Cuthbert, which has been called the living heart of a place soaked in prayer.

It was the only part of the priory to escape wholesale destruction in Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries. The local people had always worshipped in the nave, and they were allowed to keep it—"lead and bells remaining", as the royal commissioners recorded. The archway leading to the rest of the newly-ravaged church was walled up.

Work stopped on the west tower, which was to have been the crowning achievement of Richard Moone, the last prior. This magnificent example of medieval architecture had reached the level of the church roof with another 100 feet to go when the King struck. It remains so today and is deteriorating rapidly. About £40,000 is needed to save it from collapse.

About 100 years ago the church was extensively restored. Repairs to the lead-covered roof were among the work undertaken. Now the lead has deteriorated beyond the point where further repair is possible. The timber of the lead-lined gutters has rotted forcing rainwater into the church, and it is feared that the rain will have damaged the wooden roof on which the lead is laid.

The bill for removing this major threat to the whole building is likely to be £80,000. A similar sum is needed to make the church walls safe.

The six 130-year-old stained glass windows on the south side of the church are in danger of collapse. They were designed by the famous Victorian architect and artist Pugin, and have been described as superb. Each will cost £10,000 to restore.

Work connected with the floor of the church and the lighting and heating systems is also scheduled in the restoration.

Mr. Neil Hartley, the Skipton architect who will supervise the restoration work, says the most urgent task is to repair the roof of the church. To make that possible certain work is needed on the south wall, which has been roughly treated over the centuries. The cloister buildings which shielded it from the weather were demolished, and in the last century excavations for a boiler house sapped the foundations of the wall.

Generally it is in poor shape. Part of it is bulging and will have to be rebuilt.

Mr. Hartley hopes that work on the wall will begin this year the reconstruction of the roof being scheduled for next year. The Victorian repairs were not a success—the sheets of lead used were too large, and some have slipped and stretched as much as eight inches.

The Victorians failed to modify the design of the rainwater gutters which became blocked and forced water into the church. This has led to much mopping up before services in wet weather. Snow and ice have been known to block the gutters in winter with disastrous results when the thaw came.

President of the Appeal is the Marquess of Hartington, who has a home in Wharfedale. He is heir to the Duke of Devonshire, whose family became owners of the Bolton Abbey Estate in 1748. Bolton Hall, once the priory gatehouse, is the Duke's Yorkshire home. The trustees in whom the estate is now vested, own the ruined part of the priory but not the parish church. The £300,000 restoration appeal the organisers stress, is for the church and not the ruins.

Lord Hartington warns that unless quick action is taken the pace of decay in the church fabric will inevitably accelerate and shortly reach unmanageable proportions.

The Chairman of the Appeal Committee, Mr. F. J. D. Marshall, is a company director, and lives at Netherwood Hall, Ilkley. He commented, "Unless this appeal succeeds all Bolton Priory could be in ruins in 30 years."

A service of thanksgiving and inauguration to mark the official launching of the appeal, will be held in the Priory Church at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday.

It will be a time to remember the twenty Priors of Bolton, and their black-robed canons who kept the Faith alive. They defied the severe winters of the Dales, and in the early part of the 14th Century they had to contend with raids by marauding Scots. Some of the brethren took refuge in Skipton Castle while flames licked the monastic buildings, but they always returned, repaired the damage and resumed the life of prayer and work. Some of the community's retainers were given arms and became a small garrison ready at all times to repel raiders.

Now more stealthy raiders have to be dealt with, the ravages of weather and stresses and strains which old age sets up in buildings that have seen centuries of change and decay.

The last word belongs to Mr. Roberts, the man with £300,000 on his mind. He says, "Please send your donations to me at the appeal office, Bolton Abbey Skipton, North Yorkshire. And thank you."

10 Oct 50 MEETING OVER CO-OP PLAN

West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Councillors who last month asked Bradford Metropolitan Council to defer a decision on the proposal by the Co-operative Society to build a new departmental store in the centre of Ilkley meet Bradford Metropolitan Councillors on Thursday.

County Councillors asked for a deferment of the decision until they had the opportunity of a joint member meeting to discuss the car parking implications on the Co-operative application.

The request for a meeting with Bradford Councillors follows a visit to Ilkley by County Councillors. The visit followed a request by Cnty Cr. H. V. Haddrill, of Ilkley, who has taken an active interest in the controversy because he believes that the erection of a store would have a bad effect on the centre of Ilkley. Like other residents he says he knows, the central car park, though large, can not contain the existing demand and thinks "a new store of any kind will exacerbate the situation."

It is expected Bradford Metropolitan Council will reach a decision on the Co-op application at its meeting on 14 October.

GOVERNMENT ASKED TO INTERVENE IN ^{10 Oct 50} ROW OVER CO-OP PLAN

The Government is to be asked to over rule the "dictatorial partisan approach" of Bradford Metropolitan Council over the proposals for a Co-operative Society departmental store in the centre of Ilkley.

Ilkley Parish Council at its meeting on Monday night unanimously agreed that a letter of appeal should be sent to the Prime Minister asking for support in its fight against the plan for a Co-operative store.

It could not agree, however, reached on the matter and it to another suggestion that Bradford thought it was unfair then they should carry out their own survey before altering the ways of life that have gone on in this town over the past 200 years," said Cr. Williams.

Bradford Metropolitan Council is expected to reach a decision on the planning application for a Co-operative store at its meeting next Tuesday.

Since last December controversy has raged in the town when it became known that the West Yorkshire Co-operative Society had applied for planning permission to build a store on land adjoining Ilkley central car park. The Parish Council has pressed for the land to be used as an extension to an already overcrowded car park and a Parish Survey revealed that if the land was to be developed the majority of residents would prefer a project for three shops and a cinema above in preference to a Co-operative store.

Cr. J. L. Freeman who said he had "always gone along with Bradford" was beginning to have second thoughts saying "it seems obvious Bradford could not care less about Ilkley."

The Parish Survey had shown eighty three per cent of the people interviewed were in favour of a cinema with three shops, he said.

"Everyone I have spoken to is against a departmental store and I propose that we encourage people to withhold the payment of rates," said Cr. Freeman.

Bradford Metropolitan Council thought no more about Ilkley than it did of the rest of Bradford including Lumb Lane, he said.

"They seem intent on making Ilkley a suburb of Bradford and are not bothered what we think," said Cr. Freeman.

Cr. C. D. Poole supported this move but pointed out that withholding the payment of rates was illegal.

Cr. C. H. Scalle said they had to continue to live by the rules of the law and though people might forget to pay the supplementary rate or some civil disobedience might take place the Parish Council could not ask ratepayers to withhold paying rates.

His proposal that the Parish Council should write to the Prime Minister and other MPs stating their case and appeal to the Government to overrule this dictatorial partisan approach by Bradford Metropolitan Council on a matter which will blight this town for the next fifty years" was accepted. He thought they should remind Bradford that they were trying to promote tourism in the town.

Cr. W. Forrest said it would be wrong for the Parish Council to ask people not to pay their rates.

The change of political power at Bradford was referred to by Cr. Mrs. M. Renton who thought the Socialists were out to make the Tories in Ilkley squeal. "Whatever Ilkley wants I am afraid we shall get the same treatment as we are getting over this plan," said Cr. Mrs. Renton.

Chairman of the Council, Cr. Kenneth G. Johnson was relieved to see so many councillors did not want to be associated with something illegal. "I don't mind what lengths we go to but advising people to withhold paying rates is very serious," he said.

Cr. Freeman was asked to withdraw his remarks but, saying he would not do so, said they should be regarded as his own personal remarks.

Cr. Mrs. Renton hoped that the Council's appeal to the Government would bring at least a stay of execution.

Cr. Mrs. Renton hoped that the Council's appeal to the Government would bring at least a stay of execution.

ILKLEY RESIDENTS TOLD TO MARCH ON CITY HALL OVER CONTROVERSIAL PLANS

Over 200 Ilkley residents who attended the public protest meeting on Wednesday night were called upon to lobby Bradford Metropolitan District Councillors when they consider proposed car parking charges and plans for a supermarket in the town.

They were asked to fill the public gallery and if necessary carry placards when they attend City Hall on Tuesday. "Let us show Bradford the people of Ilkley are united," said Ilkley Parish Councillor C. H. Scaife.

"We have to show them we don't want car parking charges or a supermarket development which will exacerbate the parking problems," he said. They were urged to write letters to the Leader of Bradford Metropolitan Council or to leave them at Ilkley Town Hall by Monday morning.

After a stormy meeting lasting two hours a proposal that a scheme of disc parking should be introduced instead of the County Council's controversial plan to put down more yellow lines in the town was accepted overwhelmingly. The meeting agreed that disc parking should also apply to the central car park.

Ilkley Parish Councillor F. G. Lambert said the Parish Council had pressed for a disc scheme but its request had been turned down.

Bradford Metropolitan District Councillor Alan Jerome, of Addingham, who had travelled from London to attend the meeting asked for clear guide lines on what he should say at Tuesday's meeting. He was totally opposed to car parking charges for Ilkley but thought they would get them in some form.

Getting the best deal

"We have to be realistic about this," said Mr. W. D. Fisher, of the Ilkley Ratepayers Action Group, who went on to say "we don't want to have to pay more than Bradford people do but it is not reasonable to expect Ilkley to get off scot free when the rest of Bradford will be paying. It's a question of getting the best possible deal," said Mr. Fisher.

"This meeting was well intended but ill-conceived and should have been called by the District Councillors," said Mr. Fisher.

President of the Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Tony Peel said "the National Executive of the Chamber of Trade will be closely watching what happens in Ilkley and that Chamber's Liaison Officer will be lobbying Dr. Keith Hampson, Ripon MP, and Mr. Michael Heseltine the Environment Secretary, because this situation does not just affect Ilkley but other towns as well."

"The question tonight was not just related to yellow lines but who has got the power. You are paying the rates and your demands are not met nor your opinions listened to," said Mr. Peel. They should lobby their MPs and write letters individually because petitions were meaningless. Two thousand signatures to a petition don't mean a thing but six individual letters have more meaning so we have been told," said Mr. Peel.

Local building contractor, Mr. Vincent Dobson said the public meeting showed the tip of frustration which existed in Ilkley at present. He said the public was to blame for allowing Bradford Metropolitan Council to be created. "We did not voice our opinion five or six years ago when we should have done. We knew big at the time was not beautiful but allowed national and local politics wash over us.

Blundering Giant

"Bradford Metropolitan Council is a big blundering giant, sometimes stupid, sometimes soft hearted, sometimes thick skinned, but always remote and recently wielding a big political club to keep us in our place," said Mr. Dobson.

"We put him there and he will stay there until we get rid of him. If we can't get rid of him we must, like Gulliver's little people, tie him down and control him by sheer weight of numbers and volume of opinion," said Mr. Dobson.

He suggested that if some of the elected representatives were not prepared to put up a full blooded fight on behalf of the public then it was up to the public to seek out and sponsor alternative enthusiastic candidates who would convey their views with conviction and represent them with sincerity in giant metro's clown hall.

Mr. Griffin said they had to remember in Ilkley, and in the country, that absolute freedom demanded absolute discipline. They had to discipline themselves in Ilkley so that they did not take away other people's freedom by poor parking. "Bradford does not like Ilkley but it likes the revenues from Ilkley's substantial rates," said Mr. Griffin.

Ilkley Parish Councillors, Mrs. M. Renton reminded people that Ilkley Road Safety Committee triggered off the Traffic Management Scheme by asking the County Council to look at two or three places in the town which were dangerous. They did not, however, at that time anticipate a blanket scheme for the whole of Ilkley. She went on to criticise some Ilkley traders who occupied key parking spaces in the town by getting there

first and grabbing these parking spaces for the rest of the day.

Cr. Mrs. Renton said the Parish Council had already told Bradford they were against all parking charges at Ilkley. There were many who would be going to the District Council meeting on Tuesday to sit in the public gallery and if necessary to boo.

Councillor Defended

Bradford Metropolitan District Councillor A. E. Turner, of Ilkley, defended Cnty. Cr. H. V. Haddrill, of Ilkley, who had been under attack for his part in the Traffic Management Scheme. "Cnty Cr. Haddrill has gone to the greatest trouble to get the details right and has persuaded the County Council not to put down yellow lines on The Grove.

"There is a lot of traffic chaos in this town and it has to be eliminated and fairly done," said Cr. Turner. He had conducted his own survey of Brook Street and had found thirteen cars parked there all day. "Let us clear up the black spots," he said.

Mr. J. Gaunt appealing for support for the Parish Council said he was astonished by the lack of interest shown by the people of Ilkley. Besides the Press he had been the only person interested enough to attend Monday night's meetings of the Council.

"This is the situation month by month. Do you think we could support the Parish Council which is trying to do something for the town?" he asked. Every planning application was available for inspection at Ilkley Town Hall but in one week only three people had asked to see the plan for the proposed Co-operative store, he said.

An official of the Ilkley Good Neighbours Scheme, Mrs. H. Chapman said the new purpose built Day Centre for the Elderly was soon to open in Cunliffe Road. It was not realised by many that the proposed supermarket would be built on land opposite the Day Centre. The supermarket would bring with it increased traffic in that area and around the Day Centre which would be catering for the elderly and disabled.

Standing room only

The meeting opened with standing room only but two hours later after periods of utter confusion half of those attending had left.

The meeting was frequently interrupted by people seeking the removal of cars causing obstruction around the Troutbeck Hotel where the meeting was held.

The meeting was chaired by Mr. A. Robinson Barnett who was assisted by Miss Julia Laurie and Mr. Michael Clegg who gave a detailed account of the plan since it was first proposed in 1975.

During the meeting there was a resounding "no" to the West Yorkshire Co-operative Society's plan to build a supermarket on land adjoining the town's central car park.

ACROSS THE YEARS 10 Oct 1980

Found Guilty Of Poaching At Middleton Lodge

100 Years Ago

Two Ilkley men were found guilty of poaching game when they appeared at Otley Police court. They had been rabbiting in the grounds of Middleton Lodge and were found with six rabbits in their possession. They were each fined 30s and ordered to pay 9s each in costs.

The Ilkley Gazette reported the third in a series of deaths from typhoid fever at Burley. The victim was Adelina Barker, a single young woman who lived in Pleasant Row.

Burley Feast was celebrated in 1880 in a quiet manner with nothing except a marionette show, two shooting galleries and a steam merry-go-round to attract visitors. However, the public houses were crammed to the doors and many people paid a visit to the new large hotel "The Malt Shovel" built in "splendid style and at great cost" by James Whitehead. The weather was fine and people thronged the streets of the village.

75 Years Ago

Residents of Ben Rhydding, members of the Established Church had long awaited a church of their own, and at last their "heart's wish" was gratified, when on Saturday, 14 September, the foundation stone of Ben Rhydding Parish Church was laid at the west end of the building by Mr. W. A. G. Walker of Uplands, Ben Rhydding. There was a large congregation assembled both inside and outside the church. A short service was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Muntz, vicar of Ilkley, and the Rev. Canon Waugh, late archdeacon of Ripon addressed the congregation. The choir of Ilkley Parish Church took part together with the organist, Mr. Hirst who played upon a portable American type instrument. When the erection of the church was started there had been no foundation stone laid to mark the event, and it was left until October 1905 which was rather unique as it was not at that time intended to proceed with work at the west end of the church.

Mrs. E. P. Arnold-Forster presided at the annual meeting of the subscribers and friends of the Ilkley and Wharfedale Orphanage and Children's Home in the Grove Schoolroom, and thanked townspeople warmly for their continued support for the children.

50 Years Ago

Ilkley Gliding Club "spread its wings" and took part in demonstrations at Apperley Bridge when the Bradford Club were presented with their glider and Herr Magersuppe piloted their plane on its first flight. The Ilkley club gave demonstrations with their Zogling glider which were greatly appreciated by members of the new club at Bradford.

Addingham Parish Council urged the widening of Main Street with its many grave danger points at their October meeting. The County Authority were not prepared to do anything about this, but the Chairman Mr. T. Brear stressed the urgency of the measure and pointed out that some of the property involved could do to come down. Mr. Brear failed to see any difficulty in starting to widen the road adjoining Townhead mill as the land could be purchased very cheaply. Mr. Townson said he would like to see the beck filled in when the road was altered. After lengthy discussion it was resolved to urge the County Council yet again to widen the road.

Cheaper trips were on offer by the L.M.S. to visit Blackpool illuminations by rail, the all in fare between Ilkley and Blackpool being 4/6.

25 Years Ago

Mr. F. A. Wallbank, headmaster of Ilkley Grammar School, suggested to a meeting of the Governors of the school, that as the school was approaching its 350th anniversary it might be a suitable time to produce a booklet of the history of the school's origins and traditions. He invited anyone who had any documents or photographs to contact him. Mr. Wallbank reported a total of 439 pupils, 198 boys and 241 girls. He welcomed Mr. V. Pollard as the new music master.

A dance was held on the new floor in the King's Hall for the first time when the Trades Fair committee held their grand Trades Fair Celebration Ball in the King's Hall and Winter Gardens. Mr. W. Hill, Chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council, presented the prizes to Trades Fair Competition winners. Mr. C. Holdsworth gained first prize for judging the merits of the stands and other prizewinners were Mr. John Hampshire, Carol Richardson, Adam Woodhead, D. Turner, Joyce Ellums, Mr. and Mrs. Howitt, Marjorie Isles, Mrs. N. Copping. Miss Joan Parks presented a bouquet to Mrs. W. Hill.

Local M.P. Had "Seldom Been So Angry"

Sir, When I returned from holiday and read the so-called 'gang of three' leaflet which quotes a sentence from a letter of mine of July last year, I have seldom been so angry. But the ugly use of distortion, however good the cause being fought for, warrants only contempt.

May I go on record to say that Harry Haddrill's record of self-sacrifice, hardwork and devotion to his own town, his upright and painstaking service to local government over a great many years, and his patent honesty is worthy of public honour, not snide denigration.

In coming to a decision about difficult and complicated issues, there is not one of us who is going to please every side in the argument. But disagreement does not warrant this descent into character assassination. I am amazed that my letter, which was not written to the Chamber of Trade as implied but was private correspondence to Mr. C. A. Peel, should have been so selectively used.

In 1979 the County Council committee and our County Councillor clearly had a point, that after four years of interminable debate, discussion about Ilkley's traffic problems could not go on indefinitely, and they wanted to press matters to a decision. Some of us felt that the voice of the newly elected town council should also be heard and so I counselled delay. What the authors of the leaflet do not tell the public is that Harry Haddrill, after my letter was received by Mr. Peel, did decide there should be another look at the proposals and eventually after I might add, a lot of effort he secured substantial changes.

I simply can not believe that the authors of the leaflet did not realise that my remark had been made redundant by events, yet they deliberately parade it, over a year later, to try it seems to me Haddrill with incompetence or bloody mindedness, which was not the point I was making and which are charges I totally repudiate. If they did not realise that my comment was no longer of relevance they might have had the decency to check with me before rushing into print.

Keith Hampson MP
House of Commons,
London.

Goodwill evaporated at Public Meeting

Sir, What an excellent opportunity has been thrown away by the Ilkley Action Group! The goodwill of local residents at the packed meeting on Wednesday gradually evaporated due to the ineffectual conduct of the chairman Mr. Robinson-Barett. Several matters raised from the floor were neither discussed nor voted upon, and a question from the Parish Council Chairman was ignored altogether.

As actions speak louder than words, it is hoped that as many Ilkley people as possible will crowd the public galleries of Bradford Council Chamber at the City Hall from 4 p.m. onward on Tuesday 14 October when the matters of car-parking charges and Ilkley Car Park Development Scheme will be on the agenda.

A. D. Glover
Craigour
79, Bolling Road, Ilkley.

A breath of common sense

Sir, May I commend to all your readers the letter which appeared from Mr. G. J. Oldham in your last issue who has brought a breath of much needed common sense into the disputes which presently range around us.

His letter will, I hope, serve among other things, to make many people think how much vested interest motivates some of those who say that they wish to preserve Ilkley's Victorian and Edwardian image by lining every street with Elizabethan motor cars belonging to their cash paying customers. As Yorkshire people have sometimes been known to say, "Think on."

H. V. Haddrill
41, Grange Estate,
Ben Rhydding

Vociferous Traders

Sir, I am writing this letter before going to the "Big Brother" meeting tonight (Wednesday). I worry about the vociferous Ilkley traders over two points.

1. Although no doubt professing to be Conservative, they are seeking to deny the working of market forces by protesting loudly against the building of the Co-op on the derelict land abutting the car park. Nobody protested when they set up shop in Ilkley.

2. Their protest over the parking restrictions would be more credible if some of them did not insist on parking their cars outside their own shops all day every day.

There is obviously need for parking restrictions in certain places in Ilkley, and every resident knows them the top of Bolton Bridge Road, Thirkell's corner and outside the Health Centre — and if the protesters would try to be more constructive instead of vindictive, their efforts would be much more credible.

A. G. White
3, Manley Rise,
Ben Rhydding

New Wesleyan Chapel Opened At Ilkley

100 Years Ago

A new chapel in connection with the Wesleyan Church situated above the Railway Station and having a frontage on the 'road leading to the establishment' was opened by the Rev W. O. Simpson of Ilkley, the superintendent minister. The building which was of wood was formerly used as a temporary church by the congregation of St. Margaret's and had been moved from its old site.

A new railway scheme had been sketched out to the Wharfedale area. The new Hull and Barnsley railway was to run by Barmby on the Marsh near Howden, and it was suggested that a new line should branch off and follow the course of the river Ouse past Selby to Cawood continuing through Bolton Percy, Tadcaster, Harewood and Arthington, where it would join the North-Eastern line to Ilkley. From Ilkley it should follow the course of the Wharfe through Bolton Abbey and down the Draughton line to Skipton thus giving an independent line without touching Leeds from Skipton to Hull.

75 Years Ago

A new era in the mode of refuse disposal in Ilkley was inaugurated at Ilkley by the formal opening of the Horsfall Destructor erected at the Sewage Works. The proposal to erect this destructor was first seriously considered by the Local Board in 1899 when they concluded that the cost of £3,000 to £4,000 was too much to bear, and they instead purchased land at Cocken End for the purpose of tipping at a cost of £1,050.

This did not prove to be a success however, as the land bordered on the main road and also on to one of the prettiest and "most romantic" walks in the neighbourhood.

Complaints were so numerous it was decided that a destructor should be erected at all costs.

The opening ceremony was presided over by Mr. J. W. Dixon, Chairman of the Council. During the proceedings photographs were taken by Mr. Bontoft.

50 Years Ago

A new organisation was formed to advance the interests of Ilkley as a health resort to be known as "The Ilkley and Ben Rhydding Publicity Association. Dr. Maurice Dobson of Craiglands Hydro was invited to be president of the new association with T.

Kirkley and R. E. Gray joint hon. secretaries, and B. T. Akers Hon. Treasurer. Mr. C. F. Pyett, Chairman of the King's Hall Committee thought the time had arrived for the town to be rediscovered by people seeking holidays among peaceful surroundings.

Many high tributes were paid to the work of the Rev. A. B. Carter and his wife at the annual sale of work in connection with St. Margaret's Church. He was to terminate his ministry in Ilkley and take up his duties as Vicar of Scarborough at the end of the month. Mr. Edward Fletcher presided and presented Mrs. Carter with a fur coat as a parting gift from the parishioners, and the Vicar with a cheque and a book bearing the names and good wishes of all the subscribers to the collection.

25 Years Ago

Two new classrooms to be situated in the sports field were planned to extend Ilkley Secondary Modern School on a list of minor building projects during the year 1956-7. The plans had been forwarded to the headmaster Mr. H. C. Brabban for his inspection and approval. The actual erection of the buildings would only take about six months but there was a great deal of urgency for more room and the Governors were concerned as to exactly how far down the list the start of building would be.

Representatives of local authorities, chambers of trade, motoring, cycling and rambling associations were to be invited to a public meeting in Ilkley to discuss the formation of a Yorkshire Dales Tourist Association. This was the idea of Mr. E. Lodge of the Manor House Private Hotel, Burnsall, who had already called a meeting at Grassington to discuss ways of attracting visitors to the Dales for holidays.

LOCAL PLANS 17 Oct 80

SCHEME FOR FLATS AND RESTAURANTS ON STONE LEA HOTEL SITE

Outline plans for the construction of 23 flats and garages and restaurants on the site of the Stoney Lea Hotel, Cowpasture Road, Ilkley, which was closed earlier this year, have been approved by Bradford Metropolitan District Council's Planning Division.

The planning application was submitted by the estate agents Dacre, Son and Hartley after planning permission previously granted by the Council expired.

The hotel was built in 1880, and became known as a hydropathic establishment, and later developed into a fully licensed hotel, receiving visitors from all parts of the country.

Horrified Over Lack Of Public Inquiry

Sir, — May I make one or two points which I feel, as an individual, need to be made. Firstly, may I suggest that, until such time as the residents of Ilkley have all seen a complete plan of Ilkley incorporating existing and proposed restrictions, a comment should perhaps not be made referring to such as "a few more lines." Could I perhaps ask here—who has seen such a plan? It is only in response to my letter of 17/9/80 that I received a complete plan from W.Y.C.C., and was made aware that these were in actual fact an Order. I was, like so many residents of Ilkley, awaiting a Public Inquiry where I should be able to voice my own opinions, and hear the opinions of others. I am horrified and angered to learn that this will not be so. To state my own interest in these matters, as a trader I do not wish to lose business—but on close examination of the "Plan" I see that I shall be one of the fortunate few who shall not have yellow lines—directly outside my premises. However, I shall suffer, along with the rest of the traders, in the entirety of the "Plan".

Meeting at Bradford

Sir,—They just don't care about Ilkley! Many more of us should have been there yesterday at Bradford Town Hall. It was an eye opener, all party political. Labour didn't think once of our town, both sides vote en masse. All we wanted was a car park with no congestion with vans of any sort from any large store. As far as we could ascertain from the meeting, it was the Conservatives who should have stopped the development before they went out of office. The speakers from the Labour party gave us the strong impression that they thought we all lived in large houses with large cars and that, now they were in power, Ilkley would have to do as it was told.

It was tragic. Poor, poor Ilkley!

K. M. COOPER
36 Kings Road,
Ilkley.

G. B. IRWIN
45 Parklands,
Ilkley.

Action Group

Sir,—May I thank all the members of the public who attended the public meeting held at the Troutbeck Hotel, Ilkley, last Wednesday.

I must apologise to those people who were unfortunate in being unable to get into the meeting, as over 200 attended.

As an immediate course of action the Action Group have sent correspondence to the Lord Mayor of Bradford following the suggestion of local Parish Councillors at the meeting, concerning the proposed alterations to Ilkley's life-style, with the traffic plan, car park charges and development in that area.

The Action Group are considering all the points raised at the meeting and will continue to encourage action on any issues which will help to retain the character of Ilkley. Anyone with similar thoughts, who would like to help the Group, please telephone Ilkley, 607307, 600573 or 608292.

JULIA D. LAURIE
Secretary, Ilkley Public
Action Group.

As a resident of this town (and may I say, as a foreigner, that I moved here; not only for business interests, but because Ilkley is the sort of town and community in which my family and I wish to live) I am seriously worried that the way of life and character of Ilkley shall be decimated—not only by new restrictions, but by the apparent attitude of Bradford Metropolitan Council that Ilkley is the same as anywhere else in their region. I'm sorry—but Ilkley is NOT the same—that is the precise reason why I live here and not in Shipley or Bingley, and why I pay Ilkley rates. In answer to G. J. Oldham Esq., in 3rd October Gazette, may I just say that, although my customers' cars may cause slight inconvenience to him personally, I can not agree that they cause a major road hazard—or even that they increase the possibilities of an accident. The junction of St. James Road, Grove Road, Bolton Bridge Road and The Grove is slightly hazardous in that all the roads are offset, it is not a cross-roads. The Grove and Grove Road seem to provide a filter line rather than a junction. Parked cars in this area SLOW TRAFFIC DOWN—and more care is obviously taken. Put yellow lines down round every corner and up the roads, and cars will travel much faster—having nothing to impede their vision or manoeuvrability. This already occurs on a Sunday—when my business is closed, along with other businesses along The Grove—and I see cars travelling at a much faster rate than would normally be possible along The Grove, causing more care to be taken by pedestrians. I would rather be hit by a car doing 15 m.p.h. than 30 m.p.h. Logical common sense—not hysterical hypocrisy! Yellow lines, we are informed, are to increase the flow of traffic—but they will also increase speed—and I, for one, do not wish to see the centre of Ilkley converted into a mini Monaco Grand Prix Circuit.

FRANCOIS S. PAQUIS
60, The Grove,
Ilkley.

Refreshing after recent hysteria

Sir, I applaud the sane and reasonable tone of your last weeks correspondents, a refreshing change after some of the hysteria of recent weeks. Of course what happens to our town is of momentous concern to us all, but irrational, ill-informed arguments, and sweeping statements are surely counter-productive, and unlikely to win the respect necessary to gain a proper hearing. Ill-founded personal attacks upon Councillor Haddrill, who has given years of conscientious service to this community, are equally pointless. We certainly need "more light and less heat," as J. G. Oldham says.

The new Action Group's statement in last week's Gazette, says that they object to schemes which will "ruin the town's character," and that they want to keep Ilkley the way it is: worthy aims which most of us will agree with. But the question is what do people see as the character of the town? And what sort of thing do they think would ruin it? A survey based on those two questions would no doubt produce differing and contradictory answers.

What of Ilkley's image? many see it as a gracious Victorian town, with its solid, attractive buildings of local stone a perfect complement to the setting of moors and hills. There are one or two blots on the landscape, some of which are legacies from the Ilkley Urban District Council, so let's not get too sentimental about the good old days before reorganisation. Would the new Co-op building, large square and modern with its flat expanse of blank grey roof, constitute another blot? Would people like to have a department store, (not a super-market as some of its opponents persist in calling it), and find it an amenity, or look upon it as something alien? If we do have it couldn't it be housed in a building which is more compatible with its surroundings? Then there is the question of yellow lines. It seems we have to choose between rows of yellow lines or rows of parked cars lining our streets. Which spoils the look of the town more? Some people might wish for neither.

Would the new parking regulations really "ruin the town's character?" The Action Group spokesman wants to preserve Ilkley as "a town for people rather than buildings and traffic." Doesn't this imply controlling the traffic to make life pleasanter and safer for the people? Opinions obviously differ here, as Councillor Haddrill has found during five years of sounding people out on the traffic management scheme, and the action group of three may not represent the majority view. The new scheme is not something thought up by "Big brother," but it has been worked out after five years

of consultation and debate, and is a much diluted version of the original proposals. There is much confused argument about it at present, because few people know exactly where restrictions are being imposed. A clear up-to-date copy of the plan, put on display, might help us to get a more constructive and well-informed debate. It appears that what we have now is a minimal scheme to restrict parking in places where it will cause danger or inconvenience to others, as suggested in the Highway Code, on bends or at junctions for example. Is this a bad thing? Some objectors, especially in the Chamber of Trade, seem to oppose any form of parking regulation. Is this true, or do they agree that there are some spots where it is necessary for people's safety? Perhaps some of the very strong objectors might care to read sections 116 to 122 of the Highway Code.

The shopkeepers' point of view and the motorists' point of view have been forcefully put. It would be interesting now to hear the views of pedestrians, especially the elderly and the very young. Do they find difficulty in crossing the roads, especially The Grove, because of parked cars? The Grove has particular problems. Would it make life easier if parking there was restricted, say, to loading and unloading only? This would enable elderly or disabled people to be put down at the place where they want to be, as well as reducing the daily congestion when deliveries are made to the shops. It might also minimise the damage which is caused to trees along The Grove by higher vehicles having to squeeze past on this overcrowded road. Some of the Chamber of Trade will no doubt be horrified by such a suggestion, but is trade really so dependent on a parking space outside the shop?

It is worth noting that, sadly, the number of actual shops along The Grove is dwindling, whereas in Church Street, where parking is forbidden, shops and restaurants seem to flourish and have increased in number. These new ventures include a very successful wine-bar, so perhaps there is really no need for us to put up with the nightly chaos and hazards created near the western end of The Grove by the customers of M. Francois Paquis's wine bar who park so indiscriminately on junctions and bends, and even on the pavement; surely they wouldn't stop coming if they had to walk a few more yards?

Let us fight by all means for a say in our local affairs, but let us be sure we know what we are fighting about; and let the fight be about what is best for all sections of the community.

V. J. Lister
Brook Lodge,
Grove Road, Ilkley.

17 Oct 80

DISTRICT COUNCIL DEFIES COUNTY DIRECTIVE OVER PROPOSED ILKLEY STORE

Despite a directive from the West Yorkshire Metropolitan County Council that permission should be refused, Bradford Metropolitan District Council on Tuesday decided to defy the Council and approve a plan for a store in the centre of Ilkley providing it has legal powers to do so.

Bradford District Council is to take legal advice about the validity of the special powers taken by the County, which as highway authority, opposed the scheme because of the traffic problems which would be created.

Bradford Council decided by 46 votes to 30 that if the County Council directive was not binding when the development should go ahead.

This would give the West Yorkshire Co-operative Society permission to go ahead and build a departmental store on land adjoining Ilkley's central car park.

The scheme has been strongly opposed by Ilkley residents. A deputation listened in the public gallery and were called to order by the Lord Mayor, Cr. Arnold Lightowler when they interrupted some of the speakers. Some carried placards and one read "Consultation not Dictation".

Retail Decay

Cr. Harry Peacock, Planning Panel Chairman, said he was being depicted as a dictator. For sometime there were signs of retail decay in the western part of the centre of Ilkley. To redress the balance there was need for a retail attraction or a focal point there.

He said that to develop a store on the old railway goods yard would only add to the decline in the other part of the centre.

Cr. Peacock said a firm representing another development had tried to prejudice him against the Co-op scheme. He held up an envelope containing documents which he said had been given to him and other members of the Planning Panel just before a meeting with Ilkley Parish Council.

Cr. Jack Spencer, of Ilkley, described the site as one of the most valuable assets of Ilkley. It was important as a tourist town to have a large car park. It was always full to capacity.

He said that most of the residents opposing the development were not against the Co-operative Society. They would be equally adamant if it was Harrods. They objected to the siting of the proposed development.

He added "I consider this recommendation is the worst planning decision I have ever encountered. How can his authority ignore the overwhelming feeling of almost all the people in that famous town."

He said if the proposal went through it would mean the biggest upheaval in the town since the Romans were there.

Cr. A. E. Turner, of Ilkley, said it was an unsound proposal which should be rejected on the grounds of illegality and certainly must be buried under popular criticism and common sense. There was railway land available with the possibility of a transport interchange and of adding a departmental store which would be the right place for one.

Permanent Misfit

He said there was a worsening traffic congestion at Ilkley and more car parking space was wanted. The proposed building would be a permanent misfit.

He added "why should representatives of seventeen wards victimise one ward on a domestic detail. It is a shameful precedent and if they can do that to Ilkley what is to prevent them acting the same towards some other ward," he said.

Cr. P. Hockney, the Liberal Leader, said it should be remembered that the matter got under way when the Conservatives were in control. People had been taken for a ride and had not fully known what was going on. As a result the Council had been placed in a great dilemma.

Cr. Mrs. Winifred Clavering, of Menston, said Ilkley residents were independent and proud of their town. They were determined not to be pushed around. They did not want this scheme, especially when there was a good alternative site outside the Town Hall and near to the railway area.

She urged the Council to go back to the drawing board and listen to the local people.

Cr. Colin Hunter of Burley, a representative of the Shipley ward, was interrupted. Service and Interment took place at St. Peter's Church, Addingham.

by spectators in the public gallery after claiming the opposition was being motivated by a few people.

The Lord Mayor told those in the gallery not to interrupt.

Cr. B. Womersley, Tory Leader said his group in power had decided to dispose of under used assets, to raise money and had had discussions with Ilkley Parish Council.

He regretted what he described as "a sordid saga" had not been completed before the election. There were no changing circumstances. There was an upsurge of genuine feeling and the council should take note of it.

Cr. J. Senior said the commitment was made before Labour took over and a firm involved had already spent thousands of pounds. He said Bradford Council had a duty to honour an agreement which had been made with the West Yorkshire Co-operative Society by the Tory controlled planning panel last year.

"This authority entered into a commitment on 12 December, 1979 not only accepting the highest bidder, the Co-op, but saying the development was likely," he said.

"Kill the Scheme"

Of the County Council's involvement, he said Bradford Council representatives had met County Council representatives. It was clear that the County Council had wanted to kill the scheme. It was a decision of members and not officers.

He claimed the County Council had not got the correct information. They said there needed to be about 260 spaces of the car park to deal with the extra cars using the store, but in fact there were already 252 spaces in existence.

Details of deliveries to the store had been obtained and he did not think they provided any major additional generation of traffic.

He stressed that the store would not be built on the car park but was on a suggested extension to the car park.

The Labour Group's decision could be challenged in court if the County Council feels the District Council has exceeded powers.

Another aggrieved developer or member of the public did challenge the Council in court. In either case the Council would have to pay heavy costs if the Co-op declared planning approval invalid.

However, if Bradford's solicitors feel the district Council must abide by the County Council's directive it is possible the Co-operative Society would appeal and that Bradford would support them.

CAR PARKING CHARGES AT ILKLEY APPROVED

Bradford Metropolitan District Council on Tuesday approved new car parking charges for the district including the introduction of charges at Ilkley and Shipley.

An amendment was defeated but parts of it could be incorporated into a scale of charges.

It was moved by Cr. D. Pollard who said it introduced a two tier scale of charges which would help to give equality through the district. It would help to ensure a quick turnover on the short stay car parks for shoppers by having a low charge for the first three hours but this would be increased after that.

Cr. Alan Jerome, of Addingham, said he was opposed to car parking charges in outlying districts. In the present difficult economic conditions any additional factors which would make High Street trading more hazardous were to the detriment of the district in the long term. If the increased charges were introduced then the Council was helping shopkeepers in places like Skipton, Otley and Harrogate.

Cr. P. Hockney, said it was ludicrous that shoppers would go as far as Harrogate with petrol so costly. He favoured a two tier system.

Cr. John Senior, chairman of the Development Services Committee said no one liked imposing the extra charges but these were considered to be reasonable. They would bring in much needed income. At present car parking was costing City Council £106,000. Cr. Senior said he would consider suggestions in the amendment and the intention was to be flexible and fair in any scheme put into operation.

He claimed the free car parks were being used by long stay parkers. To impose a charge could bring benefits to some shops, by making more space available for shoppers.

CHARGING RATES ON EMPTY PROPERTY

The Labour-controlled Bradford Metropolitan Council has approved a scheme to levy a rate on empty properties despite opposition from Conservative and Liberal councillors.

Tuesday's meeting of the full Council heard that the proposal would raise over £500,000 a year, but opposition councillors condemned the scheme, claiming that it would damage small businesses and industry.

Coun. Derek Smith, the leader of the council, said the necessity to levy a rate on empty buildings had arisen as a result of Government policies which had reduced the amount of money available to local authorities.

24 Oct 80

ILKLEY MUST NOT BECOME A CARBON COPY OF ANY OTHER TOWN, SAYS CR.

SUGGESTED RATES FOR PARKING AT ILKLEY

After losing their battle against proposals to introduce car parking charges at Ilkley, Parish Councillors are to tell Bradford Metropolitan Council next week what charges and restrictions they would like to see imposed.

The Technical Services Panel of the Metropolitan Council is to meet on Wednesday when Ilkley will be recommending:

Free parking for the first hour.

Ten pence per hour thereafter to a maximum of 50p per day.

Free parking between 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. and all day Sunday.

Chairman to the Council Cr. Kenneth G. Johnson said they had to be realistic and try to get the best for Ilkley and Cr. C. D. Poole said it was ridiculous that the Metropolitan Council was even thinking of introducing charges at Ilkley. Many people lived in hilly and awkward parts of the town and needed cars to get into the centre and for them to be charged a car parking fee was wrong, he said.

Chairman of the General Purposes Committee, Cr. W. R. Hill thought some provision should be made for those people who wanted to park for just 15 minutes, but Cr. J. M. Shelton said it had to be a scheme which was realistic and operable.

They ought to be supporting Ilkley shopkeepers who had nowhere else but outside their premises to park, said Cr. Mrs. R. J. Cussons. She thought it was "disgusting" that Councillors were not giving them more support.

Cr. Mrs. Cussons went on to express concern over parking once the new centre for the elderly in Cunliffe Road, opposite the car park, was opened.

Cr. Mrs. M. Renton said it was wrong for people to park cars all day long outside shops, and Cr. Mrs. Cussons asked if there was any reason why shopkeepers on The Grove should not be allowed to park on the wide pavement.

"I think that would be a very retrograde step," commented Cr. Mrs. Renton.

When Ilkley puts forward its recommendations it is to ask that no charges or restrictions are imposed until the long term free car park opposite Ilkley Town Hall is brought up to standard.

Cr. W. R. Hill commented that this week three quarters of it had been under water.

"Ilkley must not become a carbon copy of any other town but must preserve and enhance the historic individuality that makes it a highly desirable place to visit."

This view was expressed by the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. W. R. Hill, when he presented a statement this week on the need for an Ilkley Town Centre Plan.

Parish Councillors and local organisations are at present discussing whether there is a need for a Town Centre Plan in the future. They have been told that Bradford Metropolitan District Council feels that with the abandonment of the Ilkley By-Pass, the publication of a policy statement is a more appropriate vehicle for the guidance of development control than the production of a local plan.

The Council's General Purposes Committee agreed at its meeting on Monday to recommend the Council that their Chairman's report should be submitted for consideration by a sub-committee.

"Current changes and future trends in the economic and social climate make it more important than ever that the future development in the Ilkley town centre is within a clearly defined plan. It is vital that short term financial constraints and economies are not allowed to permit developments that are undesirable both in the short term and in the long term," stated Cr. Hill.

Leisure Centre

The possibility of greater leisure time being available because of a reduction in working hours, and the possibility of a four day working week, will increase the importance of Ilkley as a leisure centre," stated Cr. Hill.

"Recently, the severe curtailment of on-street parking, charges for parking in the main car park and the announcement that land adjacent to the railway station will become available for development change materially the scene in which the future development will take place.

"The current investigations into the possibility of extending the conservation area to cover the whole of the centre of Ilkley will enable a tighter control of development and it is essential that this will be fitting into a reasoned scheme.

"The survey carried out by Ilkley Parish Council revealed there was a strong local feeling that the existing Victorian character should be retained and that new development should harmonise with the existing buildings," stated Cr. Hill.

His report, described by some councillors as "excellent" went on to state that the conservation area should be extended to cover a band stretching from the River Wharfe southwards to the edge of the moor, covering the town centre, the railway station and the area proposed for development on the site of the railway sidings. It is vital that the latter area is included so that any new development will harmonise with the old.

"All bus services should start from a site adjacent to the railway station, and the existing bus stop in Brook Street abandoned.

Traffic Management

"The parking restrictions being introduced into the centre of Ilkley and in Ben Rhydding require constant monitoring so that recommendations of improvements or modifications can be made. The use of the unmade section of Castle Road requires detailed examination, and until this is done, no development should be allowed on the north of the road, as it is considered that the land should be purchased for extension of the gardens along the river-side.

"The existing car park adjacent to the railway requires to be upgraded, lighted and extended. If the Church of England School is moved to new premises, the site released should be converted into a car park to provide parking for the Leeds Road shops and for visitors to the town coming from the direction of Burley. Any new major shopping development should be required to provide adequate parking spaces within the site for any additional parking requirements engendered by the development.

"Advertisement boardings should be restricted to the A65 trunk road. The planning authorities should exercise their powers to refuse permission for renewal of existing advertisements when they come up for renewal, excepting advertisements that are specific to the trade of the shop concerned. No free standing advertisements should be permitted.

Shopping

"The existing shops and shopping centres should remain undisturbed and any new major developments restricted to the railway site. Owners of shops should be encouraged to design shop fronts that are in keeping with the existing Victorian character of the streets. Fronts of the buildings should be free from advertisements above ground floor level and the nameboards over the front of shops should not partially obscure first floor windows. The overhead footbridge should have stairs giving access to the railway site.

"The replacement of All Saints First School is a matter of urgent priority. There is a need for premises where entertainment facilities for the under 21 could be made available. Such facilities could include a small cinema and sports complex," he stated.

Commenting on tourism Cr. Hill stated "a tourist information centre should be opened, preferably at a site adjacent to the railway station. Sign-posting of all facilities requires to be improved, and the large scale plans of the town already in existence should be upgraded.

"All existing open spaces in the town centre should be preserved and extended where possible. The ghyll running alongside Back Bolton Bridge Road should be upgraded. The Council should purchase any land suitable for open spaces, including the area between the Manor House and the river.

Looking at industry Cr. Hill stated "a detailed survey should be carried out to identify existing industrial sites, potential demand for sites, areas where industrial development could take place and encourage the transfer of industrial development away from residential areas to an industrial site.

"Guide lines need to be set down in respect of the desired appearance of existing and proposed buildings in the town centre. These guidelines should be available to developers as a code which they would be encouraged to observe," stated Cr. Hill.

The next meeting of Ilkley Parish Council's Sub-Committee with representatives of Ilkley Civic Society, Ilkley and District Ratepayers' Action Group and Ilkley and District Chamber of Trade and Commerce will be held next month when the question of a Town Plan will be raised again.

24 Oct 80 HILLARDS SEEK SITE FOR NEW ILKLEY STORE

Hillards, the Cleckheaton based supermarket firm, are seeking to improve their retail outlet at Ilkley and have been having talks over a site for a new store for the last two years.

A spokesman for the company said they viewed one particular site in Ilkley with favour, and felt it would be of great benefit to the town as a whole.

He said Hillards were anxious to play their part in improving the town, and were fully aware of the serious discomfort caused by their present store in Railway Road, which had a lack of car parking and service facilities.

The site they had in mind, and which they had been discussing with the owner for the last two years, would enable the firm to trade more efficiently in Ilkley, relieving the problems in Railway Road and providing up to 150 extra car parking spaces for the town.

24 Oct 80 COUNTY'S ACTION OVER STORE PLAN IS BREATH OF COMMON SENSE—M.P.

Speaking in Ilkley on Saturday, Ripon MP Dr. Keith Hampson said "If Bradford District Council throw ratepayers' money into a legal battle with the county council over the directive stopping the development store on the central car park it will be a blatant political decision. The county's action is a breath of common sense and has brought an immense feeling of relief in the town. But Labour politicians in Bradford seem determined central car park of Ilkley.

feeling against a development they really ought to think twice. Should it go to appeal and a public enquiry. I will go my utmost to urge the Secretary of State to support the County.

If Ilkley needs a new store, then clearly the old railway goods yard is the place for it, but for a ruling party to use its political majority to impose its own view contrary to the overwhelming opinion of the people affected, can only damage profoundly the relationship between the city and its outlying communities. It is a reflection of the same bullying attitude which we saw a few months ago when the Labour majority ruthlessly imposed a closed shop on the Bradford workforce". Dr. Hampson concluded.

"The county council, in to impose a store on the my view, not only exercised its powers wisely, but correctly. The Co-operative Society can appeal against the county's decision, but faced with so much public

24 Oct 80

"Press Your Parish Council To Get Us Out Of Bradford"

Sir, As expected, Bradford Metropolitan Council has decided to force on Ilkley two of the most controversial impositions of recent years despite all our protests. Whilst deploring the implacable attitude of the present controlling party one must ask the question 1. If, as Councillor Womersley stated, the previous administrators could have settled the fate of the department store before last May's elections, why didn't they? 2. Why as was not denied at the last week's Council Meeting was there no opposition in Committee to Labour's car parking charge proposals for outer areas?

To prevent further removal of our amenities there is, in the longer term, as I have said before, only one answer and that is for Ilkley to demand that the Boundaries Commission takes us out of Bradford Met. This is not beyond reach: the lower level for a district is a population of around 40,000 and this could be obtained by a combination of Otley, Ilkley and some of the smaller areas, all of which have a greater affinity with each other than with Bradford or Leeds.

In the short term I would suggest that everyone concerned with the future of Ilkley Parish should apply for a reduction of rateable value on the grounds of loss of amenities.

Ilkley has one of the highest, if not the highest, average rateable values in the district and I believe that most people live here and are prepared to pay amenities and if they get value for money. This means the maintenance of our roads and paths, the Holmes, the almost unique Moor, our public gardens and the relative freedom from unnecessary and uneconomical controls and developments. If we are to lose these facilities then we cannot be expected to pay for them.

Make your revaluation claims now and press your Parish Council to get us out of Bradford and form a Wharfedale District Council in our valley.

C. D. Poole.
15 Princess Road,
Ilkley.

Deputy leaders praise for Ilkley Councillor

Sir, When a determined Government grapples with the national problem of excessive public expenditure it is the unfortunate lot of the elected local authority member to suffer the consequential 'slings and arrows', the sphere of essential local. At such times it is only in government is receptive to the needs of the community.

The decision by the West Yorkshire County Council requiring Bradford Council to refuse planning permission for the West Yorkshire Co-operative Society's development on the Ilkley central car park is an example of common sense prevailing in at least some corridors of power.

The fact that a large body of public opinion is behind the decision is particularly heartening to Councillor Harry Haddrill, the local member, who played a major part in bringing the seriousness of the situation to light. It unequivocally gives the lie to the unwarranted attacks to which he has been subjected by the infamous Public Action Group. I sincerely hope that Mr. Robinson Barnett for one will feel suitably chastened when reminded that he had the temerity to call for Cr. Haddrill's resignation not so long ago.

The concern of the county council in its decisions with regard to the proposed retail department store and the much discussed traffic management scheme has been to enhance the vital character of the town's centre for the benefit of pedestrians, motorists, shoppers and traders alike. Let there be no mistake. Whilst Ilkley has representatives of the calibre of Cr. Haddrill the county council at least will maintain its sensitive treatment of local issues.

G. E. B. Tyler,
Deputy Leader,
West Yorkshire
Metropolitan Council

Conservation Area

Sir, The fact that 93.3 percent (not 21.5 percent as previously printed) of those who completed the recent Parish Council survey believed that the Victorian image of Ilkley town centre should be preserved is a most encouraging statistic. However, many people may not be aware that only a small area of the town centre is officially designated as a Conservation Area, and thus enjoys a greater measure of protection against unsuitable development.

With a view to giving this degree of protection to the whole of Victorian Ilkley the Civic Society, co-operating with the Parish Council, are seeking to define the boundaries of an enlarged Conservation Area. If readers have definite views on where the lines on the map should be drawn their ideas would be welcome at our meeting on 23 October at Church House.

And if any readers comprised the 6.7 percent against preserving the Victorian image of Ilkley care to come along and give their views they will be listened to courteously—and, who knows, they might even be converted!

S. J. BECK
(Chairman, sub-committee
Buildings and
Conservation).

44 St. James Road,
Ilkley.

Hoping for a Co-op

Sir, In recent years, Ilkley has become increasingly inadequate as a shopping centre for residents. We have lost useful shops and had an increase in shops catering for the worst kind of consumerism. For the first time there is a possibility of reversing this trend by getting a Co-op back in Ilkley.

I do not believe that the recent survey on the matter reflects the real opinion of Ilkley residents, and that a random poll conducted by an independent organisation would give very different results.

The opponents of the scheme claim it is not wanted and yet that it is customers that will cause traffic chaos. They reject the scheme because they claim (probably incorrectly) it will cause congestion in West Street. They support an extension of the car park which will almost certainly cause a much greater increase in traffic there.

The Conservative minister in charge of local government tells councils to raise money from their own assets, and Bradford's Labour council obey him by letting the land to go to the highest bidder. All local Conservatives vote against them and their own government's policy.

Some claim a modern store will be out of keeping with the area. The briefest look at the site should convince anyone that to be out of keeping is the best thing it can be.

Others are delighted when Freddie Laker brings down air fares competing with nationalised British Airways. They have a very different attitude towards a Co-op competing with them and object strongly giving every reason except the real one.

If the Tory County Council seriously believes a new shop should be rejected on planning grounds it must be the most spectacular tergiversation since Elijah brought down fire before the prophet of Baal.

Hillards causes a great deal of traffic congestion. They succeed in this only because they are providing a service so many people want to use.

In the same way, the Co-op will cause congestion only if it provides us with things we need at prices we are prepared to pay. I very much hope the scheme is proceeded with.
S. Manly Grove,
Ben Rhydding.

C. Carpenter

Major Issue "Clouded"

Sir, With regard to the recent public meeting in Ilkley, as so often happens in local affairs, the major issue is being clouded by numerous petty arguments, criticisms and prejudice that do nothing for the benefit of Ilkley.

Frankly, I could not care less about upsetting any elected representative, particularly as some have no qualms about doing likewise to preserve their own little empires, if they have failed to support the electorate; neither would I criticise anyone, elected or otherwise, for expending time and effort on trying to get some positive action taken.

Despite all the critics, a meeting of over 200 people was achieved and all present had the opportunity of expressing their views. Has any other body managed, or even tried, to do this and are any of the critics capable of chairing such a meeting without applying restrictive rules and regulations? If anyone thinks that he/she can do the latter, I suggest that it might be worth while first studying the performances of the House of Commons, District and County Councils—even Parish Councils at times.

The major issue is that we are being compelled to suffer restrictions and developments that the majority of residents do not want and the meeting gave emphasis to this result of the recent survey. It also indicated that many people would support the Parish Council in positive action, action that may have to be taken in the near future in view of Bradford Met's present defiance of the directive issued by the County Council on the matter of the department store.

In conclusion, it is sad to have to say that the present situation has arisen because of the actions, or lack of them, of both main political parties and not just the present controllers.

C. D. Poole
15 Princess Road,
Ilkley.

Parish Church Restoration Gets Under Way

100 Years Ago

The work of restoring Ilkley Parish Church was started at the end of October 1880, and services were to be held in the National Schools whilst the restoration was taking place. The plaster was to be removed from the walls, clerestory windows were to be introduced in the north wall of the nave, the chancel was to be reset and the vestry to be enlarged. Messrs. Dean Bros. of Ilkley were the masons, Denison Bros. were the joiners, Mr. Nelson, the plumber and Messrs. Nelson and Hirst the slaters.

The weather in England in 1880 was described as "Eight months of winter and four months of bad weather." There had been frost and snowfall recorded as late as 10 June and again in mid-October. There had been four months of "very indifferent spring and summer weather in between."

A scheme was announced to provide Ilkley with pleasure gardens, and public sports grounds, concert hall, reading room and library, billiard and refreshments rooms. For this purpose a Company was registered with nominal capital shares of £20,000, and a board of directors consisting of Major Middleton J.P., Leonard Horner, Matthew Todd, Dr. Scott, J. C. Naylor, H. J. Cooke, Wm. Hirst, and Constantine Moeller was appointed.

75 Years Ago

Ilkley traders angrily expressed the opinion that the compulsory half day closing on Wednesdays in the winter months was an interference with personal liberty. However the Ilkley Tradespeople's Association was making every effort to induce the County Council to enforce this closure.

The new church at Ben Rhydding aroused some controversy in 1905. The question had arisen as to who should be appointed to be vicar of Ben Rhydding, but this was supposed to be a question to be posed by future generations as the erection of the Ben Rhydding Church did not create a new Parish, as the church was attached to Ilkley Parish Church, and the minister therefore would not be a vicar but a curate, probably a curate in charge. Dr. Muntz would have to do with his appointment and he would be responsible to him in every way.

Suggestions were given each week to Ilkley women for "Little sixpenny dinners." The menu had not a great deal of variety as it consisted of Macaroni and Bacon with cheese, cost 4d; and Toasted Cheese, cost 1d.

50 Years Ago

Ilkley Arts Club celebrated its first twenty one years of existence, and an appreciation of its work was published in the Ilkley Gazette. The meetings for mutual criticism had proved popular, and many exhibitions had been held in the town. For the "coming of age" celebration a special critical meeting was arranged, when an artist from the Lake District, Mr. W. Waddington criticised members paintings

which were hung on the walls. He was appreciative of the show and specially liked works by Mr. Suddards, Miss Mallinson and Miss Shepley.

Farneld Hall, a small country residence between Addingham and Bolton Abbey was offered for sale by direction of Mr. Walter Dunlop, but as the auctioneer was unable to obtain a starting price of £3,000 the offer was withdrawn.

There was an increase in the total of unemployed in the Ilkley area with 188 unemployed resident in Ilkley and 84 resident in Addingham. In addition 132 textile workers were working a short time three day week.

An increase in membership of over 200 was reported at the annual meeting of the Wharfedale Scout Association, and four new groups had been formed in the previous year. Mr. Edgar C. Woodman was elected President and Mr. W. H. Moss, Chairman, with Mr. J. C. Pindley as hon. treasurer, and Mr. Richardson secretary.

25 Years Ago

The second Ilkley Guide Company celebrated its 40th birthday with a camp fire at Robin Hole. Many former guides and friends of the company were present. A cake, decorated by a former member of the company was cut by Mrs. Griffith.

The need for more younger members of the Women's Section of the Ilkley British Legion was emphasised at their annual general meeting at Annandale by Mrs. J. Priestley, a member of the Yorkshire County Committee. Mrs. E. Chambers was presented with a silver cup for having enrolled the most new members during the year.

Ilkley Rugby Union Football Club defeated Otley at home by 18 points to three continuing the long run of home wins against them which they began in 1952. However, Ilkley 'A' team lost to Otley 'A' team at Otley by 12 points to nil.

There were plenty of dances for enthusiasts in the area, at the Winter Gardens and Annexe, the local hotels and the Lecture Hall, Burley. An average entrance fee was 2/6 per head, with dancing to an orchestra and refreshments.

75th ANNIVERSARY 24 Oct 80

PACKED CHURCH FOR THANKSGIVING AT BEN RHYDDING

A packed church "fuller than at any Harvest in forty years," said one long standing member of St. John's Church, marked the Family Service in the course of Harvest Thanksgiving at Ben Rhydding.

Extra chairs were being brought in as the service started to accommodate the numbers attending, which included the boys of Clevedon House School and some of their parents, and a group of Brownies from West Bowling, Bradford, who were spending the weekend at Highfield House on Ilkley Moor.

This was the beginning of the climax week of the church's 75th anniversary celebrations, to mark the laying of the foundation stone in October, 1905. The preacher at both the morning Family Service and the Evening Service was the Provost of Bradford Cathedral, the Very Rev. Brandon Jackson. There was again a larger than usual congregation for the evening service. Harvest gifts were subsequently distributed to about 60 old members and friends of St. John's, but the flowers with which the church had been decorated were kept for the Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday.

October 14 was the date in 1905 when the foundation stone was laid, and so on 14 October this year a Service of Thanksgiving was held, at which again a large congregation was present, some having come back to St. John's for this service, to renew old acquaintances and friendships. The lessons were read by the Patron of St. John's, the Vicar of Ilkley, the Rev. Richard Cleland, whose predecessor 75 years ago had been instrumental in the building of St. John's; and by His Honour Judge Harry Walker, from Askwith, whose grandfather, W. A. G. Walker, of Uplands, Ben Rhydding Drive, had laid the foundation stone. As some were now aware of the location of the foundation stone, there was special lighting in the church porch to draw attention to it.

Hymns and prayers appropriate to the occasion were included in the Order of Service, including "Christ is our Corner Stone", which had been sung at the service in 1905. The choir sang the anthem "Fear not, O land" by William H. Harris; and the Readers, Messrs. H. S. Gooch and S. D.

Holmes, led the prayers. The preacher was the Archdeacon of Bradford, the Ven. Frank Sargeant, taking as his text Ephesians 3, verses 17-18: "I pray that Christ will make his home in your hearts through faith, I pray that you may have your roots and foundation in love, so that you, together with all God's people, may have the power to understand how broad and long, how high and deep, is Christ's love." For any who are interested, but were unable to attend the service, copies of the service order were available at the church.

The service concluded with the commissioning of the Rev. Philip Hacking and some of his team from Fulwood Parish Church, Sheffield, who during the remainder of the week conducted a series of faith-sharing house-meetings in the parish, and who took part in the services at St. John's on Sunday.

ACROSS THE YEARS 31 Oct 80 OUTBREAK OF FEVER AT BURLEY

100 Years Ago

The Medical Officer of Health's report to the Burley Local Board, commented on the outbreak in the village of typhoid fever and gave details of three deaths in October 1880 arising from the outbreak amongst young and otherwise healthy persons. He suggested that the cause of the outbreak might have been infection through milk. He had made an inspection of ashpits and privies in various parts of the village and found bad conditions. Those in connection with Spring Gardens and North View were the worst with no ventilation, dark and loathsome with foul stagnant refuse soaking through the enclosing wall into the yard.

The Rev. A. C. Downer presided at the annual thanksgiving soiree in connection with Ilkley Parish Church which, owing to the restoration of the church, was held in the National Schools. The programme started with a pianoforte trio by the Misses Stansfield and Miss Douglas. There was a fine duet by the Misses Whitaker, and Mr. Cowling, well known locally for his fine singing voice rendered solos. A short address was given by the Rev. E. O. Williams, and a report on the work of the Sunday school by the superintendent, Mr. W. Ward.

75 Years Ago

At a meeting of Ilkley Urban District Council it was recommended that Mr. Schofield should be appointed Clerk of Works for the new public buildings in Station Road at £3 per week on the condition that he took up residence in Ilkley.

At the end of the Council meeting a presentation to Mr. J. A. Middlebrook of a framed picture of the opening of the new refuse destructor was made by Mr. J. W. Dixon (Chairman of Ilkley Urban District Council) who commended Mr. Middlebrook's work on the project and his work generally in connection with the town.

The Ilkley Gazette reported an unemployment demonstration which consisted mainly of women with children in their arms marching from the Thames Embankment to Whitehall with banners proclaiming "Work for Our Men" and "Food for Our Children," a strange sight in the wealthiest city in the world. The deputation was received by Mr. Balfour, the Prime Minister and officials of the Government. The number of demonstrators were thought to be 10,000.

50 Years Ago

Young men of Ilkley joined with the children in

pushing a handcart around the town with a collection of wood and sticks. They had been "chumping" for a fire at Ilkley Rugby Club to take place on bonfire night.

Ex-King George II of Greece was a visitor to Ben Rhydding as a guest of Mr. E. C. Woodman, Wheatley Lawn, whilst paying a visit to Bradford to attend the installation of Mr. E. Heaton as worshipful master of the King Edward Lodge of Freemasons. He enjoyed strolling in the grounds of Wheatley Lawn and "admired the beautiful prospect of Wharfedale".

Mr William Maude received many congratulations from friends and work associates on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Mr. Maude had made his home at Langwith, Ben Rhydding. Mr. Maude started work as a clerk with Messrs. Moses, Bottomley and Co., stuff merchants, in Bradford and when he retired aged 70 years of age he was the sole proprietor. Mr. Maude took a keen interest in the work of Ben Rhydding Church.

Sir William Watson, an eminent poet, who was born in Peel Place, Burley, was lame ill at Bath in "straits circumstances" and a testimonial fund was launched by lovers of literature to help his reduced income.

25 Years Ago

For the first time in the history of the Old Olicanians Association, a master of Ilkley Grammar School, Mr. T. B. Walker (art master) became its president. Mr. Walker had been a pupil at the school some thirty years previously and was handed the President's badge of office by Mr. J. O. Reed, the retiring President.

The sunshine figures for October were 109.3 the highest recorded since 1939, but night frosts were reported in the last week of the month. The water position had improved by the 2 1/2 inches of rain which fell during the month but Ilkley Council still stressed the need for water economy.

A suggestion that the Manor House in Castle Yard should be converted for use as a museum or art gallery was being revived by Ilkley Council as the suggestion was first put forward in 1922 when after investigating the cost the Council abandoned the idea. The Surveyor was instructed to inspect the building and prepare a preliminary report for the consideration of the Public Library and Museum Committee, together with an estimate of the cost involved.

A local garage advertised a Daimler Conquest saloon car with a six cylinder engine at £1,511 including purchase tax.



Torrential rain on Sunday and Monday produced severe flooding on roads in the Ilkley area by late on Monday afternoon. Almost an inch of rain was recorded on Sunday at Ilkley's Meteorological Station in Little Lane, followed by over half an inch on Monday.

From 3.00 p.m. on Monday flooding occurred at Manor Park on the main road between Ilkley and Burley,

blocking the road until about midnight. Traffic was diverted via the moor road.

Flooding also occurred in Denton Road, near the stepping stones, but one of the worst hit areas was the grounds of Ilkley Lawn Tennis Club, where flood water reached depths of nearly four feet as the River Wharfe burst its banks.

The club, celebrating its centenary this year, experi-

enced one of the heaviest floods in its history.

Marooned in the old club house, which looked like Noah's Ark, were half a dozen juniors and the professional, Terry Mabbitt. His assistant, Mrs. Bina Nicholson, asked a neighbour, Mr. P. C. Grove, a small craft enthusiast, of Sedbergh Park, Ilkley, if he could help them to escape.

With some masterly row-

ing, in fast flowing currents, Mr. Grove made two journeys across the Ghyll Royd playing field and the grass courts to the club house steps.

Despite the boat becoming holed during the operation, consistent baling ensured an effective rescue—only half an hour before darkness.

Picture shows some of the flooding at Ilkley Lawn Tennis Club's grounds on Monday afternoon.

SCHOOL MAY BE ASKED TO LOOK AFTER SHELTER

A call last month for the removal of the shelter at the bottom of Mill Ghyll, Ilkley, has been followed by a suggestion by some Ilkley Parish Councillors that pupils of Ilkley Grammar School should look after it.

The call for the removal of the shelter, because it was "now becoming a teenage vice centre" was made in a recent Parish Survey.

The shelter was provided by Ilkley Rotary Club to mark the fiftieth anniversary

of the Rotary movement in 1955.

At a meeting of the Council's General Purposes Committee, Cr. Mrs. B. J. Cussons thought they should ask the Grammar School whether they would like to take care of the shelter. They could help with window boxes and flowers and even with carpentry work and look upon the shelter as their own concern.

Cr. Mrs. P. Glover said a request had been made in the

survey for the fountain near the shelter to be made to work again and for the whole area to be opened up.

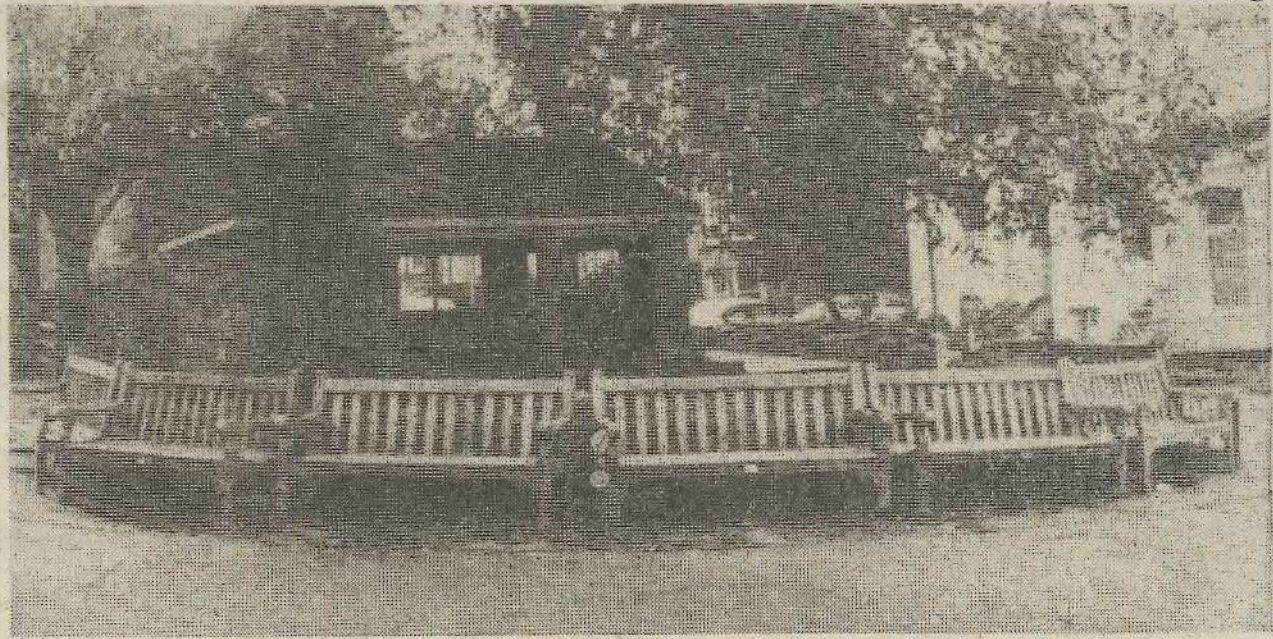
"I don't think we need bother about the fountain because people would only throw other people in, but the shelter is worth preserving," commented Cr. Mrs. M. Renton.

Complaints had been made about teenagers meeting at the shelter, said Cr. C. H. Scaife, who thought the time

to complain was when they could not see teenagers about. "It is a central place for them to meet," said Cr. Scaife.

Councillors thought the fountain and the lighting around the shelter should be reinstated, and the Committee's recommendation that Ilkley Grammar School be asked to look after the shelter will be put to members of Ilkley Parish Council at their monthly meeting on Monday.

31 Oct 80



TEN GOVERNORS OF LOCAL SCHOOLS SACKED BY METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

ILKLEY NOW OFFICIALLY A TOURING BASE

Ilkley has a fair share of £3m spent each year by the Yorkshire and Humberside Tourist Board on developing tourism.

This was stated by the Board's Development Manager Mr. John Chapman, when he told Ilkley Parish Councillors at their monthly meeting on Monday night that Ilkley had now been officially designated as a touring base.

He indicated that hoteliers and guest house owners would be able to apply to the Board for financial assistance for upgrading any project they planned. The Board thought the upgrading of existing hotel accommodation was a must and would consider financial aid for extensions or even the establishment of new hotels or guest houses, said Mr. Chapman.

An occupancy survey revealed that the Ilkley area had a bed rate of fifty five per cent against the regional average of forty four per cent which indicated a demand for accommodation in this part of the world and one which they wanted to foster.

"Ilkley as a touring base should get some financial assistance to uplift its standard," went on Mr. Chapman who said that the development of a touring base, and there were eight or nine in the region, could take place over the next ten years. It could take up to five years to complete the research on the matter and for talks then to take place between the Board and local authorities on how to improve the establishment of such bases, said Mr. Chapman.

He described Ilkley as being well known as the Gateway to the Moors and an access to the Yorkshire Dales. He defined a touring base as literally a place from which to tour.

"What we want to avoid is haphazard development in tourism in the decades ahead," said Mr. Chapman. They wanted to encourage tourists, to visit the area and from which Ilkley would benefit. Tourists spent a considerable amount of money in the shops and on staff services.

The objective of a touring base was to provide a service where someone in the far east could pick up the phone and ring a tourist base centre in Ilkley which would be able to offer information about available hotels and what activities were taking place in the town.

All ten representatives appointed by Ilkley Parish Council to serve on Governing Bodies of local Voluntary Schools have been sacked by Bradford Metropolitan Council.

They have been sacked because since March this year they no longer reflected the political balance at Bradford.

Four of the representatives serve on Ilkley Grammar School Board of Governors with the other six serving at Ilkley All Saints CE First School, Burley CE First School and Burley Woodhead CE First School.

City Solicitor to Bradford Metropolitan Council, Mr. A. R. Sykes told Parish Councillors that the Council had decided that as the appointments made in March 1980 no longer reflected the political balance of the Council all such appointments be revoked with immediate effect and new appointments be made by the Council for the unexpired periods of office.

"The controlling group feel it would be more in line with their policy if half these representatives reflected their views," stated Mr. Sykes.

Parish Councillors have accepted an invitation by Cr. Sowman, Chief Whip of the Controlling Group, to discuss the situation.

Ilkley Parish Councillor J. M. Shelton said he was concerned that because of the change of control at Bradford a decision had suddenly been taken to sack all the Council representatives on the Voluntary Schools.

One of those to go was Mr. Frank Newbould, a schoolmaster for thirty-five years, said Mr. Shelton who thought it was wrong that he should not be allowed to finish his term of office.

"They were only appointed a few months ago and now they are getting rid of them all," commented Cr. Shelton. "I have been sacked too," said the Council's Chairman, Cr. Kenneth G. Johnson.

Cr. Mrs. M. Renton asked where they were going to find Socialists on Ilkley Parish Council and Cr. J. M. Shelton feared the Metropolitan Council could find those representatives at Shipley or Tong and that would be absolutely silly.

Cr. S. Crossley-Smith who said he had been appalled at the standard of debate at the October Meeting of Bradford Metropolitan Council thought they should fight against the removal of those representatives.

The Chairman of the Council, Cr. Johnson and the Vice-Chairman, Cr. Mrs. Renton are to meet Cr. Sowman, Chief Whip of the Controlling Group at Bradford, to discuss the situation.

Ilkley's representatives on the four schools are:-

Ilkley Grammar School, Crs. Mrs. B. J. Cussons, Cr. Mrs. P. Glover, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton and Cr. Kenneth G. Johnson.

Ilkley All Saints CE First School, Crs. E. S. Gardner and W. R. Hill.

Burley Woodhead CE First School, Cr. Mrs. J. Hellas and Cr. K. Atkinson.

Burley CE First School, Cr. K. Atkinson and Cr. Mrs. J. A. Dawson.

The Parish Council, replying to an enquiry from the Metropolitan Council, is to confirm that it would wish Cr. W. Forrest to continue as the Parish Council's representative on Ilkley St. Mary's R.C. Junior and Infant School.

CORRESPONDENCE 7 Nov 1980

Ilkley People Thanked For Gift

Sir.—May I thank my dear friends in Ilkley from the bottom of my heart for the beautiful gift that Mrs. Joan Lightband, Chairman of the Coutances Committee, has sent me from you all. It is something that I shall always treasure, not only because it expresses your appreciation of anything that I have done to foster the link between Ilkley and Coutances, but also—and more especially—because it is a token of your friendship and affection for me personally. When I first made contact with Ilkley I was struck at once by the charm of the place and by the warm welcome of those who made me feel like an adopted citizen of the town. Since those days, and throughout the 35 years that succeeded them, the ties between us have grown ever closer and stronger. I have been a member of your Rotary Club for 15 years, I have a number of very dear friends among you in all walks of life, and I have shared your joys and your sorrows for so many years that I really and truly feel that I belong to your community. The magnificent gift that you have bestowed upon me comes as a reminder that we are closer together than ever. Even though advancing age may force me to curtail my activities, you may rest assured that I shall go on doing everything I can to strengthen the links between our two towns. And, if I do not manage to return to Ilkley one of these days, I shall nevertheless remain close to you in spirit; for as one of Montaigne's heroes once said: "We only separate from those whom we have ceased to love."

Thank you again, dear friends, not only for this precious memento, but also for the unfailing help and support that you have always given me, and for the friendship and affection that you have always shown towards me and my wife as well.

Truly it is as one of you that I write to express our thanks and our warmest good wishes to all of you, to your families and to your fair town of Ilkley.

G. LECHAPTOIS
6 Rue de Normandie, Coutances.

Amateur Bellsingers At Ilkley In 1880

100 Years Ago

The Ilkley Amateur Society of Bell Ringers rang on the bells of Ilkley Parish Church a date touch of 1880 changes of Bob Triples in 1 hour and 9 minutes. The team consisted of R. Wilson, S. Hall, C. J. Howson, E. Snowdon, J. Wood, A. Critchley, J. W. Snowdon, W. G. Cook. The touch was composed by H. Hubbard Sen., and conducted by Jasper W. Snowdon.

The number of indifferent attendances reported at a meeting of the Ilkley School Board was considered to be mainly due to inability of the parents to pay the school fees and reluctance to apply to the guardians for assistance. Their generosity was shown by their decision to allocate 10s. per annum to Mrs. Gill for dusting the meeting room for the Board, lighting a fire and providing refreshments.

Marlborough House was among the many hydropathic establishments in Ilkley offering their winter terms. They had a resident physician and all facilities and their winter terms were £1 2s. 6d. per week inclusive. The Semon Convalescent Home also advertised at an inclusive charge of 12s. 6d. per week.

75 Years Ago

Angry opinions were expressed by traders at a meeting called to discuss Wednesday half-day closure in Ilkley. The meeting was well attended by shopkeepers and their assistants. Cr. J. W. Benson was in the chair and said that the movement for half day closure had his full approval. Up to that time closure had been purely voluntary and had proved a great boon to shop assistants, and the County Council now proposed to compel the traders to comply. Mr. John Shuttleworth regarded this as a gross interference to the way in which he ran his business, and other objections were expressed by the manager of the Kiosk Cafe, Messrs. A. and E. Vickers, and Mr. Sunlay.

Mr. W. H. Ibberson, F.R.C.O., son of Rev. W. H. Ibberson, the former Baptist Minister in Ilkley, returned from Oxford University with the degree of Music, Bac., a distinction attained by not other musician in Wharfedale.

Mr. Richard Hagar, farmer of the Riddings, Bolton Abbey, was discovered lying on the road in Draughton having been kicked unconscious by a horse. Mr Hagar was severely hurt and was taken to the Doctor's surgery for treatment and then to the home of his father-in-law at Sawley Grange.

50 Years Ago

The matter of providing Ilkley with a swimming pool was deferred for two years following visits to various swimming baths in the West Riding by a sub-committee appointed by the General Purposes Committee.

The Surveyor was instructed to prepare plans and specifications for a £12,000 scheme on the land used as a motor park in South Hawksworth Street. However, when the matter came to the vote seven members voted for this scheme and seven against. The Chairman

7 Nov 1980

declined to use his casting vote on such an important matter. The decision was that owing to the high burden of rates at the time and the proposed amalgamation of other districts with Ilkley the time for decision was not opportune.

Ilkley paid its annual tribute to the honoured dead of the first world war with a service at St. Margaret's Church. Despite heavy rain a large number of people witnessed the short but moving service at the War Memorial, where wreaths were laid. Flags in the town flew at half mast, and the parade commanded by Lt. Col. J. Muller, Chairman of the Ilkley British Legion, marched to St. Margaret's Church to music played by the Silsden Brass Band.

On Armistice Day the two minute silence was observed very quietly, with all traffic sounds ceasing, and the only sound to be heard was the call of the birds. A large number of people gathered informally around the War Memorial in brilliant sunshine, and as the buzzer sounded the eleventh hour they stood motionless in silence.

25 Years Ago

Water restrictions which had been in force since 27 July were finally lifted in the Ilkley area during the second week of November. Consumers were however, asked to use extreme care as the reservoirs still had only supplies for 21 days normal consumption. There had been a rainfall recorded of well over an inch in frequent and heavy downpours over the previous week.

Ben Rhydding Hockey Club 1st team beat Bradford by one goal to nil at home, with Holdsworth scoring the deciding goal. J. Knight, the first held his place in the county hockey trial at York and was to play centre forward in the "Possibles" team.

Sir James Croydale, Lord Mayor of Leeds, was the principal guest at Ilkley Grammar School Speech Day in 1955, and presented the prizes. He was an old boy of the school. The headmaster, Mr. F. A. Walbank, appealed to parents not to allow children to do extra jobs out of school as it was a hindrance to their examination potential, and impeded their chances of getting places in universities.

A rapid rise in the water level at the Wharfe led to the rescue of two men grazing the extremity of the animals below. J. Joy of the and the other ray. Adding together again but failed to and swam but ultimately m Bentley to sw drive the an swam with a round his wa all his efforts refused to be expedient had and another swimming bac to the islan Beauty" was if it would r the others w now had thre after, after from the ba driving the th to the water, Tom they m the angry b bank.

Work on Church nea and a re-ope ned for 28 N Sunday. The been denude the stones cement. The roof was cor gas lighting church just r the new ves fittings and taken in har the interior. to be marked special servi vice every ni

75 Ye

Rumours in for some tin intention to building Addingham. been register of £5,000 to business of e property own contractors, fered office as the "Ad Company Ltd Nelson Road as that occ Dean Bros., have a large ings. The es Addingham acres and w top side of tion, with houses. In only 20 to b but Addingt interested t was every mill being c Mr. Edw secretary of perance So ture on the unemployed W attended. W

HORSES RESCUED FROM RIVER ISLAND

100 Years Ago

A rapid rise in the level of the water in the River Wharfe led to the gallant rescue of two horses which were grazing on the island at the extremity of the filtration works. One of the animals belonged to Mr. O. J. Joy of the Midland Hotel, and the other to Mr. Thackeray, Addingham Moorside. The animals did try to swim together against the current but failed to get a landing and swam back. An offer was ultimately made by Thomas Bentley to swim across and drive the animals over. He swam with a stout rope tied round his waist, and despite all his efforts the two horses refused to be driven. Another expedient had to be found and another horse used to swimming back and forwards to the island "Wharfedale Beauty" was sent out to see if it would return and guide the others with him. "Tom" now had three horses to look after, after stone throwing from the bank, and Tom's driving the three finally took to the water, and followed by Tom they made it through the angry current to the bank.

Work on Ilkley Parish Church neared completion, and a re-opening was planned for 28 November, Advent Sunday. The interior had been denuded of plaster, and the stones pointed with cement. The renewal of the roof was completed and the gas lighting improved. The church just remained to have the new vestry, the chancel fittings and the seat mats taken in hand after cleaning the interior. The opening was to be marked with a week of special services, with a service every night at 7.30 p.m.

75 Years Ago

Rumours had been around for some time regarding the intention to start extensive building operations in Addingham. A company had been registered with a capital of £5,000 to carry on the business of estate agents and property owners, builders and contractors, and the registered office was to be known as the "Addingham Estate Company Ltd", the address in Nelson Road, being the same as that occupied by Messrs. Dean Bros., who seemed to have a large part in the dealings. The estate purchased in Addingham consisted of 15 acres and was situated at the top side of the railway station, with room for 400 houses. In 1905 there were only 20 to be proceeded with, but Addingham people were interested to hear that there was every probability of a mill being erected on the site.

Mr. Edward Priestman, secretary of the Ilkley Temperance Society gave a lecture on the problem of the unemployed which was well attended. Working men who

drank, he said, were less able to put money by in case of hard times than were abstainers. Winter was upon them and this brought days of misery and lack of employment, although the country was wealthy, there was still something like one in 2 unemployed in the Trade Unions. Mr. Priestman urged reformed habits with regard to drinking as a real solution to the poverty of some of the families in dire straits.

50 Years Ago

An interesting review on "Ilkley—its rise and progress" was given by Mr. Henry West, Sanitary Inspector to Ilkley Urban Council at a conference of Sanitary Inspectors at the Kings Hall, Ilkley.

Mr. West first outlined the Roman history of the town, and described many of the "finds" of Roman origin. He then spoke of the three Saxon crosses in the Parish Churchyard, which were elaborately carved with scroll work of figures of birds, animals and men. He also told his audience about the sculptured rocks on the moors with Cup and Ring marks, the meaning of which was obscure but they were probably religious symbols.

Turning to modern Ilkley, Mr. West emphasised the importance of the railway first reaching Ilkley in 1865 and of the sale of land from the Middleton Estates in 1867. The first Local Board election was in 1869, and they acquired the waterworks from a private company in 1877. A cemetery was provided in 1877, and in 1893 the Ilkley Moor and the manorial rights and also the gas undertakings were purchased by the Local Board. The Electricity works were opened in 1915, the Town Hall, King's Hall and Winter Gardens were built in 1908 and 1914 respectively.

In 1801 the number of houses was 95 with a population of 426, in 1901 there were 1,659 houses with a population of 7,455 and by 1930 there were 2,540 houses with a population of over 10,000. The area of the district in 1930 was 4,547 acres, the rateable value was £97,105 in 1929 and a penny rate produced £383. The population of the district he described as mostly "well-to-do" and residential with servants, gardeners and tradespeople to supply their needs. In the summer the visitors needs provided work, and the building trade provided work for a considerable number of people.

In 1893 the Local Board acquired an act that gave them power to erect a public abattoir, and to close the existing private slaughter-houses ensuring the hygienic handling of meat.

25 Years Ago

A capacity audience filled the King's Hall to attend the first performance in his home town by Ilkley pianist, Mr. Jeremy Gott, and several rows of chairs had to be put on the stage. Mr. Gott was on the threshold of his professional career and gave a fine recital to Ilkley Concert Club members and friends.

Judith Ann Richards, aged four years, was chosen by the Yorkshire area branch of the Institute of British Photographers as "Child of the Month" from a photograph taken by Mr. D. R. Powell, Brook Street, Ilkley.

Ilkley Golf Club Treasurer, Mr. J. L. Gill, reported a surplus of £40 11s on the year which was to go into the Accumulated funds. Mr. J. P. Salter, secretary, reported an increase in membership from 346 to 357, mainly in lady members.

Mr. F. D. Marshall, Briery Wood, Ilkley was, with two other Yorkshiremen nominated for the Post of Sheriff of the Yorkshire County at a ceremony at the Law Courts presided over by Mr. R. A. Butler, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

PROPOSALS OUTLINE URGENTLY NEEDED EXTENSION TO ILKLEY'S CONSERVATION AREA

Proposals outlining an urgently needed extension to Ilkley's existing Conservation Area have been put forward following meetings between the Parish Council, Ilkley Civic Society and the Victorian Society.

Views on the extent of the proposed extension varied, but the urgent need to recommend an extension was unanimous. The proposals will now form the basis of a discussion document for interested parties and individuals.

Cr. R. W. Hill explained that the present Ilkley Conservation Area was very small, with its boundaries arbitrarily drawn. Conservation areas in the Bradford Metropolitan District were being re-examined, and as part of this a sub-committee of the parish council had met with the Civic Society and Victorian Society.

The sub-committee examined the central area of Ilkley in detail, and subsequently recommended a conservation area linking from the River Wharfe in the north to the moors on the south. Within this belt were many open spaces which it was felt should be preserved and not developed, said Cr. Hill. It contained the main shopping streets with their unique charm, but of great importance, as described by the Civic Society was the unity of buildings, gardens and natural surroundings.

Cr. Hill said it was hoped that shopkeepers in particular would help to preserve and enhance the central streets by ensuring that when they re-designed their shop fronts they did so in sympathy with the Victorian character of existing buildings. Already many shop fronts and name signs had been refitted to a very high standard, which could be beneficially copied by other developers, he added.

Listed Buildings

The existing conservation area covers the part of Ilkley around the parish church, the Manor House, and the listed buildings grouped along Church Street. The edges of the conservation area are straight lines drawn on the map with no special significance.

One possibility of an extended conservation area could be a belt extending from the River Wharfe in the north, covering the centre of Ilkley and ending in the south at the edge of the Moor.

The West boundary would be:-

South from the river to Bridge Lane, crossing Bridge Lane and southwards on the west of Pawsons Cottages. This would preserve the allotments and green plot fronting Pawsons Cottages as a tongue of green pointing to the town centre, containing the old wall and 'Donkey' Jackson Steps.

Crossing Skipton Road and westwards, skirting the bowling green, and along the footpath to Cunliffe Road. This would preserve the bowling green footpath, and would contain two listed buildings and the old wall on the west of Cunliffe Road.

South down Cunliffe Road, containing frontages of shops on west of Cunliffe Road, then west of the Canker Well, across Grove Road and around the gardens to Parish Ghyll Road. This would preserve the facades of shops on west of Cunliffe Road, and contain two open spaces.

South down the west side of Parish Ghyll Road, preserving the facades of houses on both sides of Parish Ghyll Road.

Roman Remains

South along the path joining Parish Ghyll Road to Queens Road, across Queens Road and following the path southwards to the moor road. This would contain several green areas, St. Margaret's Church, Roman remains and the grounds of Ilkley College.

The south boundary would be the edge of the moor, going eastwards to Wells Road as far as Crossbeck Road.

The east boundary would be: Eastwards along the north side of Crossbeck Road from Wells Road, to include the row of cottages on the north side of Crossbeck Road.

Northwards, skirting the eastern boundary of Ilkley Hall, and curving along the northern boundary back to Wells Road, including all the grounds of Ilkley Hall and listed buildings in Wells Road.

Old Shops

Northwards along the east side of Wells Road to Whitton Croft, then east along Whitton Croft to Chantry Drive, to

include the listed municipal buildings and old shops on the east side of Wells Road.

Then either:-

North along Chantry Drive to Station Road, west along Station Road then north to follow the eastern edge of the railway station (listed building), to include the florists shop and hairdressers shop at the junction of Brook Street and the railway station.

West along centre of Railway Road to Brook Street, along the east side of Brook Street to the entrance to Crescent Hotel yard (listed building). East along Crescent Hotel yard and north along east side of buildings that contain firing range (listed building) to Leeds Road. This would include facades of shops on the east of Brook Street and the Crescent Hotel complex (listed buildings).

Or:-

North along Chantry Drive to Station Road, east along Springs Lane to the footbridge north along the footbridge to Railway Road, then west along Railway Road as before. This would include an area of potential expansion to encourage appropriate development. East along centre of Leeds Road to Weston Road, then north down centre of Weston Road to Castle Road, the latter section being the east side of the existing conservation area. This would contain a development of old houses, the square between Weston Road and New Brook Street, the pinfield in Weston Road, and Ilkley Theatre.

North to the River Wharfe. The northern boundary would be the River Wharfe, containing the area north of Castle Road, all of which could be developed into an extension of the parks running along the river.

ILKLEY'S YOUNG SCIENTISTS OF THE YEAR

14 Nov 80

Six girls from Ilkley Grammar School will be appearing in the forthcoming BBC series "Young Scientist of the Year," due to be screened in January. The girls, all aged 16, are Sixth Formers at the Grammar School.

The development of links

with local industry has been a main objective of the school and, in 1978, the International Wool Secretariat at Ben Rhydding, presented the chemistry department with the problem of why a brown carpet from a seaside resort had faded. The project involved the separation of the com-

ponents in the dye mixture, by careful analysis to determine the cause of the fading.

The BBC filmed at the school last week, and the studio recording will be in mid-December.

Grateful thanks were expressed to all who supported the project, partic-

ularly to Mr. P. Duffield, of the International Wool Secretariat, for his help and encouragement.

Pictured (left to right) are: — Caroline Maxted, Wendy Selina, Helen Grundy, Jane Beckley, Jackie Hirst and Caroline Rhodes.



ACROSS THE YEARS 21 Nov 80

Ilkley In Arrears With Payments To Union

100 Years Ago

Ilkley was heavily in arrears with payments to the Wharfedale Union, to the amount of £331 according to the Clerk, Mr. C. J. Newstead. The Ilkley overseers had told him that they had no money in hand, and he was told that the winter months were the worst time of the year to get money in Ilkley. The resident gentry could of course pay, but it was very difficult for the shopkeepers and labouring class to do so. The Wharfedale Board of Guardians agreed to enforce payment and the Overseers would be proceeded against before the justices.

A local dental surgeon Mr. W. T. Marshall offered "Artificial teeth of a most natural appearance, guaranteed to wear a lifetime from 2s. 6d, with sets from £2 and fixed without pain upon a new principal."

75 Years Ago

Visitors to the Tarn were surprised to see that the much abused "green box" used by the pierrots and an eyesore for so long to so many people had at last disappeared, "no longer existing to offend the artistic sense of anybody".

Workmen digging a motor-pit in the newly erected stable behind the Wheat-Sheaf Hotel came across a skull and other human bones, seemingly of a female. The bones were two or three feet below the surface and although the churchyard bore evidence of being buried for a number of years, was only a number of yards away, there was no evidence of any coffin or anything to indicate a proper interment.

Walmsley's Grocers, advertised their noted 2/6 Christmas parcel containing 1 pint good port, 1 pint good sherry, 1lb fine tea, 1lb lump sugar, 1lb choice currants, 1lb choice raisins, 1lb new figs, 2oz lemon peel, 2oz baking powder, 2oz pure sweets, 1 nut meg, and one choice Christmas card. Mince-meat was 6d per jar plum puddings 9d each. Preserved Ginger 9d per jar.

50 Years Ago

The Wharfedale Association of Boy Scouts marked its coming of age with an exhibition of arts and crafts in the Kings Hall Ilkley which was opened by Lord Hyde, son of the 6th Earl of Clarendon, of Kenilworth Castle, himself an enthusiastic Rover Scout. The Kings Hall was packed with visitors who were interested to see all the variety of crafts which included mats, wool rugs, handbags, candlesticks, pottery stools, leather-work, trays, screens, wood painting, raffia work, wood carvings, photography, mechanical toys, Christmas cards and calendars.

Amateur mannequins attired in the most beautiful gowns glided slowly between the spectators at a fashion show at Wells House Hotel in aid of Earl Haig's Fund. Mrs. J. M. D. Barwick was the organiser and the models included Mrs. Barwick, Miss Brogden, Mrs. F. L. Charlton, Mrs. Banks, Miss M. Gaunt, Miss D. Gaunt, Mrs. J. Ives, Mrs. J. Moore, Miss M. Mossman, Miss J. Tankard, Miss M. Scott and Miss J. Suddards.

Miss Nussey was succeeded by Mrs. Foster as president of the Ilkley Society for Equal Citizenship which aimed to give women equal rights with men regarding membership of Parliament, local and County Councils, career opportunities, and also right of entry without male escorts to restaurants and public houses and claimed the right for equal pay for equal work.

25 Years Ago

A Yorkshire Dales Tourist Association was formed at an inaugural meeting at the Winter Gardens, Ilkley with a view to attracting more holiday-makers from all parts of the country and abroad.

A committee was elected with representatives from Grassington, Buckden, Kettlewell, Hawes, and Pateley Bridge, and Mr. B. E. Townend (Clerk to Ilkley U.D.C.) represented Ilkley.

Mr. J. Knight, the Ben Rhydding Hockey Club's centre forward was chosen to play for Yorkshire in a match against Northumberland at York. Mr. Knight was the first player from Ben Rhydding Hockey Club to play for his county for over twenty years.

The extension of the diesel train service to Ilkley was being considered by British Railways. An official statement issued said that the Leeds, Bradford, Ilkley service was being considered for diesel train working but even if it were decided to operate, the scheme would take some time before it could start.

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21 NOV 1980

£300,000 RESTORATION SCHEME STARTS AT BOLTON PRIORY CHURCH

Following an encouraging response to the ambitious £300,000 Restoration Appeal for Bolton Abbey Priory Church, work has already started on repairing, straightening and strengthening the south wall of the ancient Priory Church.

Confirmation of the urgent need to start this work was soon revealed when the outer skin of the wall was removed. This showed that age and weather had eroded the mortar between the outer and inner skins, and confirmed the architects' report that unless repairs were effected in the near future the wall would collapse before the turn of the century.

In the spring of next year work will start on stripping the roof of the Priory Church, formed from the nave of the original Priory after the Dissolution in 1540. This will constitute the major work and cost of the scheme of repair and restoration announced last month when the £300,000 appeal was launched by the Marquess of Hartington.

So far donations and pledges amount to just over £75,000. Appeal Director Mr. Michael Roberts hopes the generous and welcome res-

ponse will continue so that sufficient funds will be available next year to complete the recovering of the roof and repairs to the timbers beneath it.

"We have been greatly encouraged," said Mr. Roberts, "to receive letters from all over the country, and it seems that most people have been moved to support the Appeal because of the happy memories they hold for Bolton Abbey and the Priory Church."

"There must be many others who feel the same, and I hope that they will also respond to our request for support to ensure that this much needed and used church will be saved," he added.

Picture shows work in progress on the south wall of the church, watched by Appeal Director Mr. Michael Roberts (left) and Canon Maurice Slaughter, priest in charge of the Priory Church since August 1978.



Priory restoration starts

Yorkshire Post 15 Nov 80

Next spring work will begin on the Priory roof.

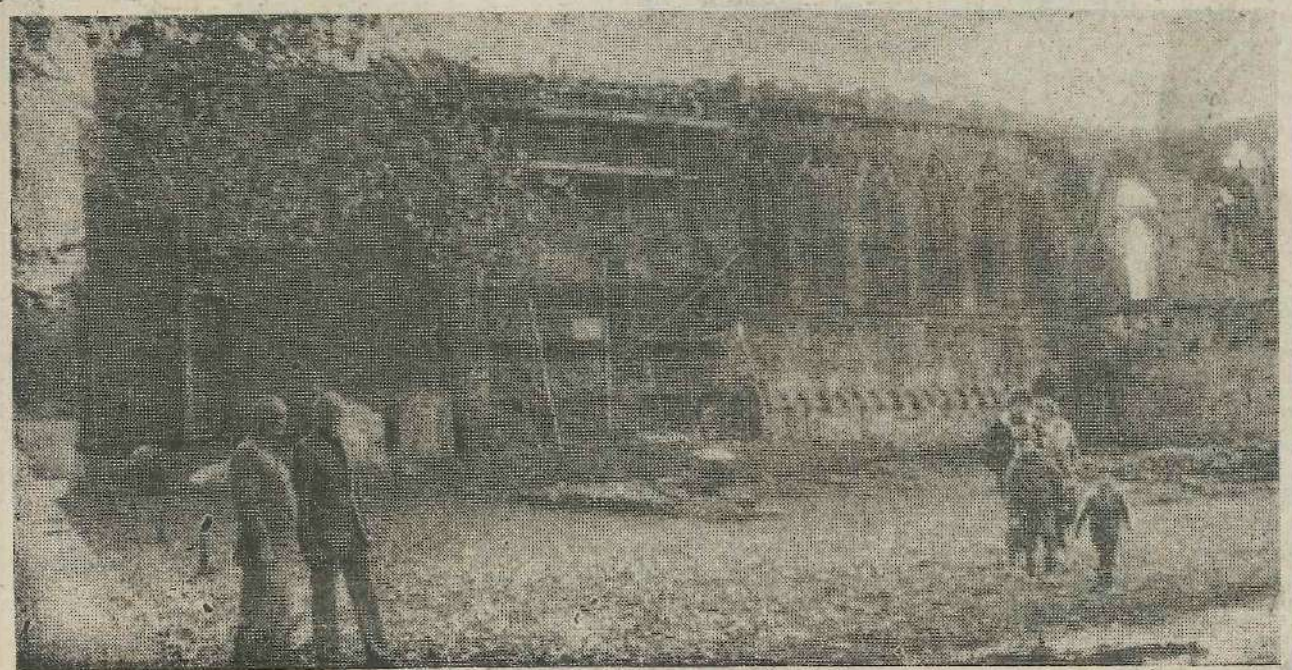
The appeal director, Mr. Michael Roberts, said the response had been very encouraging.

"It seems that most people have been moved to support the appeal because of the happy memories they hold for Bolton Abbey and the Priory Church," he said.

A STONEMASON, Mr. Andrew Bailey, works on the restoration of Bolton Abbey Priory, following the success of the public appeal for funds launched on October 1.

So far, £75,000 has been raised towards the £300,000 required for the Priory's full restoration.

The work already started involves repairing, straightening and strengthening the South Wall of the Priory Church.



Inquiry call in store row

The controversial plan for a department store in the centre of Ilkley is likely to go to a public inquiry.

The West Yorkshire Co-operative Society has applied for a public inquiry into the scheme at South Hawksworth Street to the Department of the Environment. The Secretary of State is thought likely to grant the request.

The society's grounds for the application for an inquiry is that their planning application to Bradford Metropolitan Council has not been dealt with within the two-month statutory period.

Therefore the society is entitled to treat the application as having been refused and to ask for a public inquiry.

Bradford was prevented from dealing with the application last month by West Yorkshire County Council.

The day before the Bradford councillors were to discuss the scheme West Yorkshire issued a directive that it could not be proceeded with because of traffic problems.

The directive, delivered by hand to Bradford Town Hall was from the county's Development Control sub committee.

A spokesman for the county said that their objection to the scheme was that the store development would bring a material increase in the volume of traffic entering and leaving Brook Street at its junction with West Street.

Chairman to Ilkley Parish Council thought the announcement of a public inquiry was a good idea.

"It is going to lengthen the proceedings quite considerably and probably we will not see an answer for some time.

"At least the public will have the opportunity to present their views in public rather than have them dealt with by officers in Bradford," he said.

21 NOV 80

CASTLE ROAD COULD HELP SOLVE PROBLEM

A suggestion that Castle Road from Bridge Lane to Weston Road could provide future car parking spaces for Ilkley is being considered by Ilkley Parish Council.

Mrs. M. Wade, of Midwood, Curly Hill, Ilkley, commenting on the present and future parking problems in Ilkley and the future loss of parking spaces when further restrictions were made said the question now arose as to where future alternatives might be.

Suggesting the making up of Castle Road between those two junctions, Mrs. Wade said it had long been an eyesore which greeted any visitors to the recreational facilities of Ilkley.

"It is at present used by commercial vehicles for overnight and weekend parking. It is hoped that this is only temporary while the new flats are being built," she said.

"If the residents living on the Middleton side could park

their cars in Castle Road, as some now do, if they are prepared to risk the potholes, they were not and would not be adding to the congestion on the busy parts of Ilkley," said Mrs. Wade.

It would also be an advantage to customers of the Playhouse and others, if that short part of Weston Road between Castle Road and Wharfe View Road could be two way to allow a free flow of local traffic avoiding Leeds Road.

Cr. W. Forrest thought the part of Castle Road from Weston Road to New Brook Street, where the new flats were being built, would be made up anyway.

The Council decided to refer Mrs. Wade's suggestions to the next meeting of the Plans Committee.

Picture shows part of Castle Road from Bridge Lane at its junction with New Brook Street.



28 NOV 80

Plan For New Supermarket And Car Park Goes To Council

A new supermarket, car park, servicing and warehousing complex is being planned for Ilkley.

British Rail has applied for outline planning permission for the redevelopment of derelict land formerly used as a railway goods yard in Springs Lane.

A spokesman for British Rail Headquarters in York said they hoped to get plan-

ning permission from Bradford Metropolitan District Council so as to get an increased price for the sale of the land.

The plans will be considered by Ilkley Parish Council's Plans Committee and the Metropolitan Council's Development Control Panel.

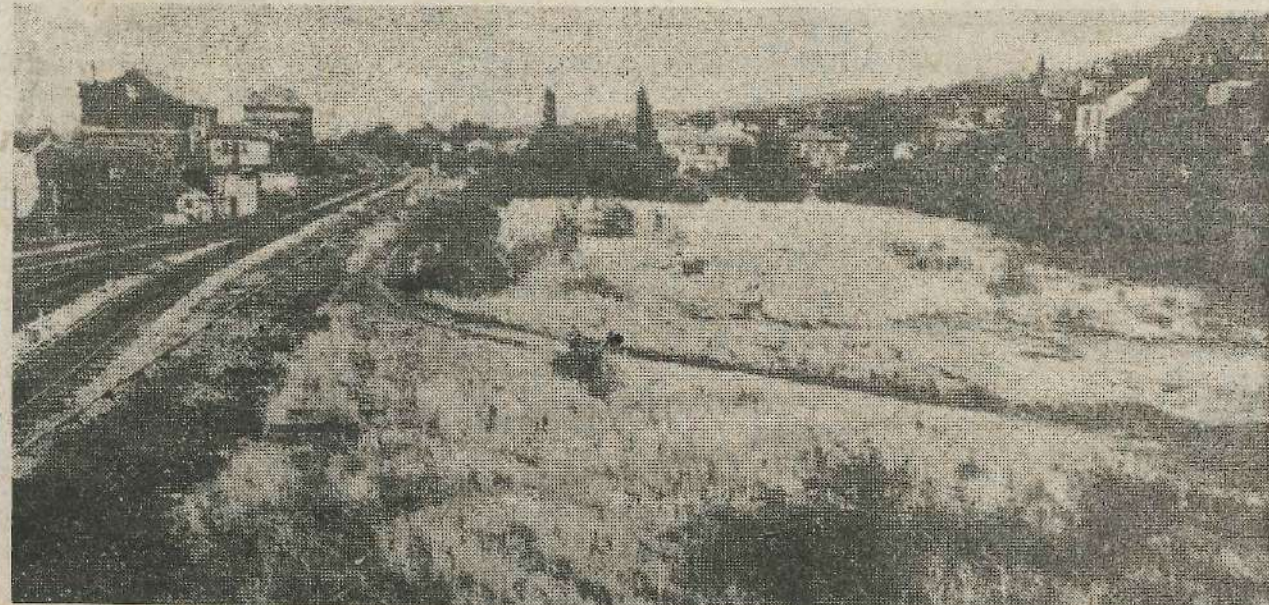
In September this year British Rail officials outlined proposals for the redevelopment of land, now surplus to

their requirements. They told Ilkley Parish Council there was a list of applicants for the site and that one of their prime objects was to get an occupier on the site.

Planning Manager for the Passenger Transport Executive said at that time that it had been mooted for some time that there would be a mini or micro passenger

transport interchange at Ilkley. He indicated this could be developed on land adjoining the station and now forming part of a temporary car park. As a second tier scheme and with the present recession he did not think anything would be done in the next two years.

Picture shows the site which once served as Ilkley's railway goods yard.



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Family Escaped Injury When Roof Of House Collapsed

100 Years Ago

Regular attendance at chapel saved injury to the family of Mr. James Roe, broom manufacturer of Addingham, when the roof of his house fell with a crash into the bedroom below on a Sunday morning in November 1880. Those who were in the house escaped injury in a downstairs room.

The need for public gardens was occupying the minds of leading townspeople in 1880 and a site, 700 yards to the west of the Railway Station in Parish Ghyll had been suggested for this purpose. It was proposed to have acres of gardens, commanding uninterrupted views of the Wharfe Valley an entrance lodge near the bridge in Parish Ghyll Drive and a Concert Hall on the nearest point to The Grove to be constructed of stone, iron and glass.

Plans were in hand for large lawns with a central bandstand, rustic bridges, a grand promenade in front of the hall, a maze, a gymnasium, a serpentine lake 180 ft. long, and swimming baths with dressing rooms and slipper baths. The promoters intended first to lay out the grounds and build a hall so that they would be open to the public by midsummer, 1881. The capital to be provided was £12,500 in 625 shares of £20 each. If eight or 12 good men invested Ilkley would have better public gardens than any in Yorkshire.

75 Years Ago

Ilkley Urban District Council re-considered the question of adequate stage accommodation in the New Hall at their monthly meeting. The proposed depth of the stage was to be extended to a minimum of 30 feet from front to back and the width extended. There was also to be provision for suitable dressing rooms.

The fifth annual dinner of the Ilkley Grammar School Old Boy's Association took place at the Royal Hotel (now the site of Wells Court flats), with Mr. J. C. Naylor presiding. Mr. C. W. Atkinson attended the function together with Mr. H. Coward, an assistant master and Mr. F. H. Humphries (Chairman of the School Governors).

The Ilkley Gazette quoted from the Leeds and Yorkshire Mercury which set forth the charms of Ilkley and the lesser glories of Harrogate. However, they disputed the claim that Ilkley in winter time was "insufferably dull" and said that three was always some attraction being provided, more so than in the summer.

50 Years Ago

Denton prize choirs provided a highly polished and entertaining concert in the ballroom of Denton Hall, by kind permission of Mrs. Arthur Hill, who said in her opening remarks that she had no idea how marvellous the Denton choirs were. The choirs had been trained by Mrs. Brooke and had gained a high reputation at the Wharfedale Music Festival for many years. A little play by the juniors was well received by the audience, and taking part were—Alan and Annie Coates, Barbara Theakston, Daisy Brown, Ronald Harrison, Jean Pettit and Tom Coates. The star was four-year old Robert Coates who "brought down the house" as Wee Willie Winkie.

The 30th annual dinner of the Old Olicanians Association took place at the Middleton Hotel, and the wish was expressed by the retiring President, Mr. C. F. Marshall that more old boys of Ilkley Grammar School should share in the "fellowship of the organisation". Tributes were expressed to Mr. H. Eames on his completion of 21 years service at Ilkley Grammar School as master of Blue House, where he was affectionately known amongst generations of boys as "Old Eamo".

25 Years Ago

A circular stone pavement discovered near the Cow and Calf rocks earlier in 1955 was part of a sandstone crushing apparatus according to Mr. Frank Atkinson, Director of Halifax Museums. He identified it from a nearly identical one to be seen on the moor near Todmorden.

Mr. J. Leonard Wade, of Ilkley, a member of the Yorkshire Lawn Tennis Council for 18 years was elected President of the Association. His father Col. H. O. Wade and his uncle Mr. C. W. Wade had both been presidents of the Yorkshire Lawn Tennis Council.

The Ilkley Moor Hotel Luncheonette offered a three course luncheon for 2/9, with a wide choice of menu and coffee 4d extra.

Officers of the Ilkley Lawn Tennis Association and the Yorkshire Lawn Tennis Association held a dinner at Craiglands Hotel to celebrate the 75th anniversary of its formation. The history of the Club was outlined by Mr. W. H. Mellor who praised some past and present members of the club, notably Mr. Edward Fletcher, Mr. E. G. Carter, Mr. W. L. Prestwich and Mr. E. M. Butler.

Few health resorts could compete with Ilkley

100 Years Ago

A company to be known as the Queen's Road, Hydropathic Establishment was formed with the object of purchasing the estate known as the Ilkley College Estate sited in Queen's Road, Ilkley from the first mortgage at a price of £6,100 and altering the premises to convert into a hydropathic establishment. The importance of pure waters was being far more appreciated by medical men and few health resorts were said to be able to compete with Ilkley as the water sprang from pure gritstone without trace of any mineral substance. Ilkley was a certainty to become more and more popular with invalids.

The overseers of the Ilkley division of the Wharfedale Union were summoned before the magistrates at Otley Petty Sessions for payment of arrears of the poor rate for the Ilkley district amounting to £331. Mr. Birkhill intimated that the amount claimed had been paid into the bank on the previous day and the summons was withdrawn.

75 Years Ago

A successful Christmas festival in aid of the Outtur Mission, Ceylon, took place at the Wesleyan Deaconess Colleg. The stage was adorned with snow and a log hut, and a representation of Christmas in many lands was given by children in National costumes. This was followed by tea and carol singing and a series of games and competitions.

The playing of the Ilkley Rugby team was highly commended in the Ilkley Gazette as despite the lack of three of the forwards and injury to Gargide the team soundly defeated Leeds St. John's. Holmes, one of Ilkley's three-quarters, was described as the best man on the field. The Gazette said that Ilkley's stalwarts were a fine pack and that it was surprising that such players as T. Ambler, Jack Ingham, Boden and Booth could not get a trial in the County.

A ball was held at Addingham in connection with the Primrose League. The music was supplied by Mr. T. Hustwick's string band.

The Bishop of Ripon consecrated the new Parish Church at Ben Rhydding which was to be known as the Church of St. John the Evangelist. At this time only the nave and chancel had been erected at a cost of £3,320 and a further £2,000 was needed to complete the tower, vestry and organ chamber. The builders, Messrs. Dean Bros. generously presented a stained glass window in the North side and also a font.

50 Years Ago

A prominent Ilkley man, Dr. A. C. F. Rabagliati died at his home, Whinbrae, Ben Rhydding, and was mourned by Ilkley townspeople together with prominent members of the medical profession from the West Riding. He had become famous for his theory of diet restriction, advocating two meals a day with an eight hour period of fasting in between. He also advocated the full use of uncooked foods, such as salads and vegetables.

His wife, Mrs. Rabagliati played a prominent part in the local political and social life. She was President of the Pudsey and Otley Women's Conservative Association, and of the Ben Rhydding Conservative Women's Association and also of the Ben Rhydding branch of the Mother's Union. Ilkley Rover Scouts ran a Christmas treat for the children and also gave a tea. The Rovers and the Crusaders joined together to hold a whist drive and dance for their funds organised by Messrs. A. Clarkson, W. Brown, T. Cunningham and R. Hartley (Whist), Messrs H. Collinson, G. Murray, W. Pearson and Mr. H. Roe's orchestra providing the dancing. Prizes were presented by Mrs. Findlay.

25 Years Ago

The General Purposes Committee of Ilkley Urban District Council had appointed a sub-committee to investigate the possibility of reviving the open air market which in previous years had occupied the area of land behind the Wheathead Hotel. The committee submitted details of enquiries received from persons interested in such a scheme but after consideration of the cost of providing such a market when there were only three remaining stalls and stall covers it was decided the town did not stand to benefit by its revival.

Mr. Percy Dalton, owner of the Manor House, Castle Yard, intimated that when the existing tenants were rehoused by Ilkley Council he would be prepared to give the Manor House to the Council for use as a Museum or Art Gallery. The council gratefully accepted the offer, and the Clerk was instructed to make enquiries concerning the possibility of obtaining grants and an estimate for the cost of converting the building for use as a Museum and Art Gallery.

Ben Rhydding Parish Church Choir celebrated its Jubilee and were photographed by the Verger, Mr. H. Furniss; the Church Warden, Mr. A. B. Swaine, the organist, Mr. A. J. Walter, and the Vicar, the Rev. A. Edgar. The Thanksgiving Services were conducted by Archdeacon Canon Williams of Otley and the Assistant Bishop of the Diocese, the Rt. Rev. Alexander Ogilvy Hardy.

OBJECTING STRONGLY OVER PLANS FOR TIP AT ADDINGHAM

Addingham Parish Council is again objecting strongly to plans to use narrow Lumb Gill Lane as an access to the proposed county council tip in the disused railway cutting off Stockinger Lane.

In reply to previous objections, the parish council received a letter from the county council's Director of Administration, which said: "I have been in consultation with the Executive Director of Traffic and Transportation, who is of the opinion that the junction of Lumb Gill Lane and the A65 trunk road has adequate sight lines and geometry. Although the trunk road is subject only to the national speed limit of 60 mph he is satisfied that the use of the junction will not be a particular hazard. The Department of Transport do not object to its use.

The Executive Director accepts that Lumb Gill Lane is narrow, but at the junction with the A65 there is ample room for two large vehicles to pass. Refuse collection vehicles will turn off the road some 180 metres from the A65. At that point, a vehicle will be considerably higher than the A65 junction so that, despite the bends in the lane, inter-visibility can be achieved and one or other of the vehicles at each end of the lane would give way. The usage by refuse collection vehicles is only likely to be in the order of ten per day, and this arrangement does not seem unreasonable," the letter concluded.

Cr. Dr. F. Wynn said he was worried about refuse vehicles coming out of the junction across the A65 to go towards Ilkley. This was the main danger.

Cr. J. Wells could not believe the county council had been up the same lane that he had been up.

Cr. A. H. Jerome, Chairman, thought there were parts of the lane where vehicles would not be visible no matter how large they were, as they would be completely hidden by hedges on both sides. He wondered what would happen if a car was going up the lane when one of the refuse collection vehicles was going down.

Cr. Jerome pointed out that cows were taken up there twice a day for milking. The road was only just wide enough for cars, and was totally unsuitable for wide vehicles.

He stressed that these were only reasons for objecting to the access to the proposed tip, however, and did not affect the council's previous objections to the tip itself on the grounds of health hazards and possible pollution of the River Wharfe.

Cr. Wells said plans for the tip had already been turned down some years ago by the former Skipton Council because of health risks and possible water pollution.

Cr. F. E. Woodward said if the tip went ahead it would sentence the village to "a dickens of a smell" for several years, and Cr. Jerome pointed out that it would be very difficult to stop children from foraging in the tip whenever it was not under close supervision.

Cr. Wells felt the economics of the tip must now be in question. An access road would have to be built, and much of the cutting had by now been filled illegally.

Councillors agreed to keep on objecting to plans for a tip on that site and reaffirming their previous views on the matter.

PUBLIC INQUIRY TO BE HELD 5 Dec 80

OVER PLAN FOR CO-OP STORE IN CENTRE OF ILKLEY

The controversy over proposals to build a Co-operative Departmental store in Ilkley's town centre is to be settled by the Department of the Environment.

PLAN TO EXTEND SUCCESSFUL CIVIC CINEMA

Plans to extend the Bradford Civic Cinema, which got off to a successful start when it was launched in Ilkley in March 1978, have been put forward by Bradford Metropolitan Council.

The Civic Cinema's first presentation was a double bill "All Creatures Great and Small" and "It Shouldn't Happen to a Vet", which played to packed houses at the Ilkley Kings Hall. Long queues formed outside the hall as over 1,250 people made it a "full house" for the four performances.

Tuesday's meeting of the Leisure Services Panel approved proposals to spend £3,500 which would enable current equipment problems to be overcome and also allow for the extension to be implemented.

It was reported that the Civic Cinema was introduced as a pilot scheme with a basic level of equipment. Its aim was to provide family entertainment at reasonable prices to the outlying areas during winter months. Queensbury, Denholme and Burley were selected for the pilot scheme, along with Ilkley—a town with no cinema and a large public hall which would return a profit to offset the loss on the smaller village halls.

Burley was no longer part of the scheme, due to poor support, but so far there had been 150 shows with over 19,500 patrons. A loss of just £314, about £2 per show, had been incurred. However, recently several shows had been cancelled because of breakdowns in the equipment, which now needed to be replaced.

The extension proposals covered taking the service to deprived areas, and also to clubs and organisations who had requested cinema shows, including Menston.

5 Dec 80 PART OF NEW SKIPTON BY-PASS OPENS

The new third of a mile link road between the A65 and A59 near Skipton was opened to through traffic yesterday (Thursday), bringing benefits for motorists travelling between West Yorkshire and the Lake District.

The Skibeden Link forms part of the Skipton Northern By-Pass, and its opening will mean an improvement in traffic conditions in the centre of Skipton. Trunk road traffic on the A65 will now use the new link road and the A59 Harrogate Road between the south-east and north-west of the town. The town centre will be relieved of this through traffic and there should be less congestion in the High Street and Newmarket Street.

The works have been prepared under the direction of the Department of Transport's North Eastern Road Construction Unit by its West Yorkshire Sub-Unit, which has also supervised the works.

The construction of the 3½ mile Skipton Northern By-Pass and the 2½ mile Western By-Pass started in April 1979 and is due for completion in the summer of 1982.

The Northern By-Pass will start from the existing trunk road west of Inghy Bridge and run north-east to two new roundabout junctions, first with the A65 and the new Western By-Pass near Aireville Grange, and then with the Grassington Road and Raikes Road. From there it will continue eastwards to join the A59 Knaresborough road, which for a short distance eastwards will be incorporated in the by-pass.

Evidence for and against the plan by the West Riding Co-operative Society is to be presented at a Public Inquiry. Ilkley Parish Council, which is preparing its case to fight against the proposals, may have to call for a public subscription to engage legal representation.

Controversy has raged in the town since the plan was first announced twelve months ago and whilst Ilkley Parish Council is not against a Co-operative store in the town it is opposed to a store on land adjoining the town's central car park. In October the West Yorkshire County Council ruled that the development should not take place but Bradford Metropolitan District Council decided to take legal advice about the validity of the special powers taken by the County, which as highway authority opposed the scheme because of the traffic problems which would be created.

No Decision

When news of the public inquiry was announced at Monday's meeting of the Parish Council councillors agreed with Cr. T. W. Pardoe that he was right in thinking that because no decision had been made by Bradford Metropolitan Council, as planning authority, within a certain time the application had been deemed as a refusal with the result that the applicant now had the choice of appeal.

Chairman of the Parish Council, Cr. Kenneth G. Johnson said they had now reached the situation where the planning application had now run out of time with the result that the developer had put in an appeal for the matter to be determined by the Department of the Environment at a public inquiry.

Ilkley Parish Council is to prepare its case to be presented at the inquiry at which local organisations and individuals will have the right to speak, said Cr. Johnson.

The Parish Council must be legally represented, said Cr. Johnson, but this meant legal fees and the Parish Council itself in somewhat of a dilemma because it had no funds.

"It has been suggested that we might appeal to the public to subscribe to a fund in which all bodies could participate or may be an outside body might organise an appeal," said Cr. Johnson.

County Help Sought

Cr. J. M. Shelton asked if the County Council which did not favour the plan for a store on that site would help the Parish Council.

"This is a very good suggestion" commented Cr. Peter Williams who said they must not forget they paid rates to the County as well as the District Council whom they would be fighting against.

The Parish Council should be legally represented and somehow it would have to raise the money to pay for that representation, unless there was support from the County Council, said Cr. Mrs. M. Renton. The Civic Society and many people had made it quite clear they would be prepared to fight this case, she said.

There had been so much support from Ilkley and its surrounding area against the

Cr. Mrs. J. A. Dawson, that she thought a public fund should be started to fight to the bitter end.

"We must make our views firmly felt by engaging proper counsel," said Cr. W. R. Hill. He said the Council should appoint a sub-committee to deal with the matter and carry out the necessary research.

As the County Council had supported the main objection to the proposals for a store on that site the Parish Council should ask what action they were to take, said Cr. C. D. Poole. "Before we take any action at all we should find out what the County Council intend to do because we might be duplicating what they are doing," said Cr. Poole.

Before May ?

Cr. Mrs. Renton hoped the appeal would be heard before May and thought the Parish Council should appeal to the Ripon MP, Dr. Keith Hampson to make sure it did not drag on.

A sub-committee made up of the Chairman of the Council, Cr. Kenneth G. Johnson, the Vice-Chairman, Cr. Mrs. M. Renton, the Chairman of the Plans Committee, Cr. S. Crossley-Smith and the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee, Cr. W. R. Hill was appointed.

LETTER FROM DOWNING STREET

The Parish Council had earlier expressed its concern to the Prime Minister over the proposals for the store at Ilkley.

In a letter of reply from 10, Downing Street, Mr. K. Dover stated:

"Mrs. Thatcher appreciated the concern of the Parish Council and local residents about the possible loss of car parking facilities in the town," stated Mr. Dover.

He said the responsibility for normal day to day planning control rested with the local planning authority, and as this was a local issue, it would not be right for the Prime Minister to intervene in the exercise of the Council's responsibilities.

"Should the proposals come before the Secretary of State for the Environment on appeal then, of course, interested parties would have an opportunity to express their views. I am sure you will understand however, that the Prime Minister can not comment on the merits of the proposals because of this possibility," said Mr. Dover.

ACROSS THE YEARS 12 Dec 80 Local Board Agrees To Make Up Springs Lane

100 Years Ago

A special meeting of the Ilkley Local Board was called in late December to discuss the proposed improvements to Springs Lane. Mr. W. Hirst, the Clerk, produced a detailed map of the area and Mr. Milner told the Board that following the purchase of a plot of land by the Governors of Ilkley Grammar School, the governors had promised to pay half the cost of a road 36 feet wide through these grounds. The report of Mr. Joseph Smith, surveyor, showed one private carriage and one occupation road of the width of sixteen feet to be known as Springs Lane Road to be maintained thereafter by the owners and proprietors of allotments which were to benefit. After much discussion it was agreed to have the road constructed along the lines of the surveyor's plan. The chorals and teachers of Burley National schools gave their annual Christmas entertainment in the Lecture Hall, kindly loaned by Mr. Pison. The entertainment consisted of songs, recitations and dialogues which were creditably rendered by several performers.

75 Years Ago

In order to provide cloak-rooms at St. Mary's Catholic Schools a three day sale of work was opened by the wife of Mr. Sidney Kellett, County Councillor for the Ilkley Division, Mrs. Kellett who was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers by little Miss Grace. Mr. John Wm. Walker, a reporter on the Ilkley Gazette staff and a teacher of Pitman's Shorthand passed the necessary examinations to register as a fully qualified teacher of shorthand. Mr. Walker had a class at the County Council Night school at the National schools.

Sixty five Ilkley residents were summoned for the non-payment of rates at Otley Police Court. Of these 30 people paid and the court proceeded with the usual order in respect of the defaulting 45. Robert Gurwen, tobacconist, Ilkley was fined 1s. including costs for Sunday trading with respect to cigars and newspapers. The complainant said that his licence was for 365 days per year, and that it was grossly unfair to knock off 52 days. He explained that he was compelled to work on Sundays in order to earn a living. The defendant remained unrepentant and declared that they could no more stop him from opening on Sundays than they could prevent him from shaving on Sundays.

Dinsdale and Co., wine merchants offered Scotch whisky for Christmas at 3/6 per bottle, gin from 2/3, port at 1/3 and old Cognac Brandy for 3/6.

50 Years Ago

A successful attempt to restore the atmosphere of an estaminet behind the lines during the first world war was made for the twelfth re-union dinner of the 11th West Riding Howitzers Battery Club. The walls of the dining room of the Lister's Arms Hotel had disappeared behind scenery transforming the interior into an estaminet with bare brick walls with chalked messages such as "What price Glory?", "Face

Oil" and a row of war maps of the trenches behind the officers' table. The waitresses were dressed in the colours of the Allies and the landlady Mrs. Lewis directed the evening affired in an officer's uniform. Major P. C. Petrie D.S.O.M.C. presided over the dinner and thanked Mrs. Lewis for all the special arrangements.

Miss A. Broughton, the Ilkley School Nurse organised a competition for the best essay on how to wash and dress a baby. The prizewinners were—Esmah Lambert, Edith Driver (Ilkley Church of England School); Patricia McRink and Violet Kitson (Ben Rhydding School); Mollie Hudson and Noel Lightbody (St. Mary's School).

Ilkley Grammar School pupils gave a series of scenes in modern dress from Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night" as a feature of their Christmas concert. Leading parts were played by E. Mallinson, R. Owen, T. Clough, W. M. Fairbrother, W. M. Bell, T. Rae, P. J. Best and F. Newbould under the direction of Mr. A. Bartle. F. Newbould also contributed some charming vocal solos. The music was directed by Mr. R. W. Evans, G. Ing'e, W. Dobson, J. Wade, and A. H. Snalman played violin solos.

25 Years Ago

There was a capacity audience at the Ilkley Choral Society's annual presentation of "Messiah." The principals and the chorus were in fine form, under the conductor, Mr. Charles Bainbridge, who also trained the choir. Despite the success of the performance Mr. Bainbridge told a Gazette reporter that he feared that the Christmas Oratorio was fast becoming a luxury Ilkley could not afford as the music was so difficult and soloists had to be engaged professionally and they had lost £30 in 1955. Mr. Bainbridge appealed to townspeople to find a way of continuing the annual performance.

Despite heavy falls of snow, Ilkley people were "posting early for Christmas" as requested by the head postmaster. Snow held up many mail trains in the North but with extra holiday staff the Post Office were coping with all their difficulties. Snow clearing had been slow owing to the full employment as in the past Ilkley had relied on casual labour to make an early start with shovels and ploughs. The village of Denton was cut off for a few days, and farmers from other outlying villages were finding great difficulty in getting to Ilkley or Otley to shop.

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CAR PARK NEEDS ATTENTION, SAY CRS. 5 Dec 80

Before car parking charges are introduced at Ilkley attention should be given to the long stay car park opposite the Town Hall, say Ilkley Parish Councillors.

The car park (pictured below) needs to be brought up to standard, say Councillors, who want the area resurfaced. At the moment they complain that the site, once used by the railway as sidings and a cattle dock, is

covered with loose stones and that during wet weather three quarters of the area can be under water.

Cr. W. R. Hill told the "Gazette" this week officials of Bradford Metropolitan Council had inspected the car park and were aware that it became water-logged during wet weather and had a hump at the exit end. They were conscious there were no funds to spare but had arranged for hard core to be placed on

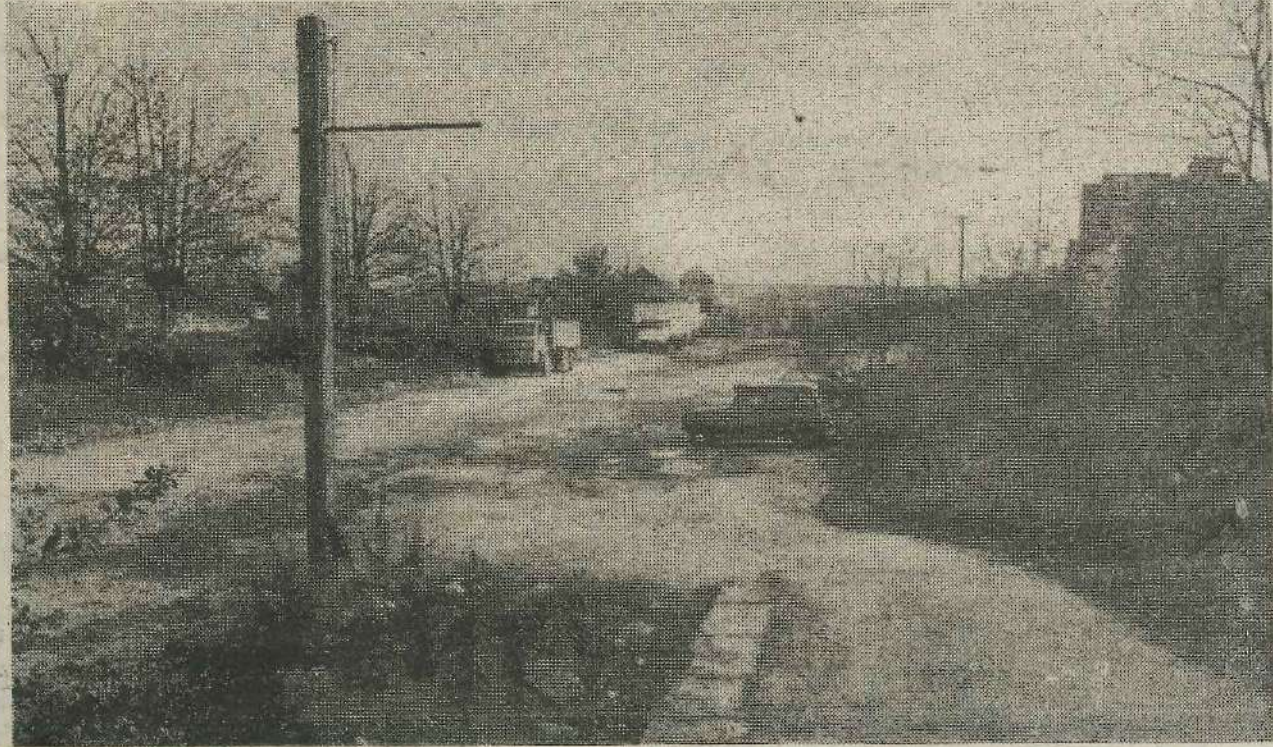
the car park in the near future, he said.

Ilkley along with other towns in the Bradford Metropolitan District will be subject to car parking charges at the rate of ten pence an hour. The Technical Service Panel of the Metropolitan Council has decided there should be no reduction for all day parking.

As a tourist centre Ilkley asked for certain concessions such as free parking for the

first hour, charges only at certain times and free parking on Sunday. The Metropolitan Council could not agree to any of these requests and according to some councillors have failed to recognise Ilkley as a designated centre by the Yorkshire and Humberside Tourist Board, as a tourist centre.

Car parking charges are to be made only on short stay car parks.



SUBMARINERS VISIT ILKLEY AREA 12 Dec 1980

Ilkley last Friday welcomed a party of crew members from the town's adopted submarine HMS "Osiris" on their annual pre-Christmas visit.

At a reception in the Town Hall Chairman to Ilkley Parish Council, Cr. Kenneth G. Johnson is pictured with Lt. M. McDermott and other crew members. Lt. McDermott presented the Council with a copper engraved picture of HMS "Osiris" and

extended an invitation for councillors to visit the submarine early next year.

After the reception they were entertained to a meal at a Menston steak bar.

Earlier in the day the submariners had visited the Wharfedale Children's Home at Menston where they presented a miniature billiard table and a giant cake to the children.

On Saturday morning the

party was greeted at Bradford by the Lord Mayor, Cr. Arnold Lightowler and Mrs. Lightowler. They received from the crew members a plaque of the coat of arms of HMS "Osiris".

During their stay members visited the Sea Cadet Unit at Keighley before leaving Ilkley on Saturday to return to Plymouth.

Ilkley first adopted a sub-

marine which carried the name "Osiris" during Warships Week in March 1942 when the town raised the cost of the vessel which then amounted to £425,000. It achieved this in a matter of three days and went on to raise a total of £702,091. A bronze plaque with the design incorporating White Wells and the Ilkley coat of arms was sent to be fixed on this submarine.



KEYS HANDED
OVER

12 Dec 1988

ILKLEY'S NEW £200,000 DAY CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY WILL BE OPENED NEXT MONTH

Ilkley's new £200,000 Day Centre for the Elderly is to be officially opened next month.

The keys to the building, to be known as the James Clarke and Sarah Foley Day Centre for the Elderly, have been handed over to the Trustees and local organisations have responded to a call to help with furnishings.

Money for the project, on which construction work began in January was left when James Clarke and his sister, Sarah Foley, bequeathed £250,000 for the benefit of the elderly in Ilkley and the surrounding area. They were brought up in Addingham, but left the village some 65 years ago to make their fortune in America.

In June, the Chairman of the Trustees, Mr. Frank W. Harms, reported that of the £250,000 left, a sum of £70,000 had been invested on a long term basis and would provide an income of £9,469 per annum, to be used for the maintenance and running of the centre. Part of this money was being used for the running of the temporary accommodation at Hawksworth House, on the edge of Ilkley's central car park, which will close when the new Centre in Cunliffe Road-Regent Road is opened.

A sum of £180,000 was left to erect the building, but the planning took place during a period of high inflation, with the result that the cost of the building as originally intended was in excess of the money available. The Trustees decided to delete entirely the finishing of certain parts of the interior and exterior and appealed to local organisations to assist in putting the finishing touches to the building.

Delighted

Now, work on the building by the contractors, W. V. Patrick of Grassington, is virtually completed, and Mr. Harms is delighted with the response by local organisations and private individuals to his appeal. Numerous people have shown an active interest in the Centre and generously contributed to the furnishings. The Soroptimist Society has agreed to completely fit out a first floor room, which will duly be named "The Soroptimist's Room", and other organisations, including Ilkley Rotary Club, Ilkley Ladies Circle and Ilkley Round Table, have contributed furniture and equipment.

The building comprises two floors, but Mr. Harms stresses the building has been carefully designed so there is no need for the elderly to leave the ground floor. The upstairs rooms are for use by the staff only, with offices, staff toilets and a shower unit, a committee room and a boiler room.

The main entrance on Cunliffe Road, leads to a large and spacious coffee lounge, for which chairs have been provided by Ilkley Rotary Club. Carpeted and comfortable, the lounge should present an ideal meeting place in a pleasant atmosphere for the elderly. A small coffee bar adjoins the main lounge.

Main Hall

The centrepiece of the building is the games room and the main hall, which can be divided by a sliding partition, or opened for special functions necessitating the use of a larger area. The main hall is to be used primarily as a dining area, but can also be used for events such as dances and social evenings. A stage at one end of the hall has been provided, but as yet it is without lighting or curtains and Mr. Harms appeals for help in this respect.

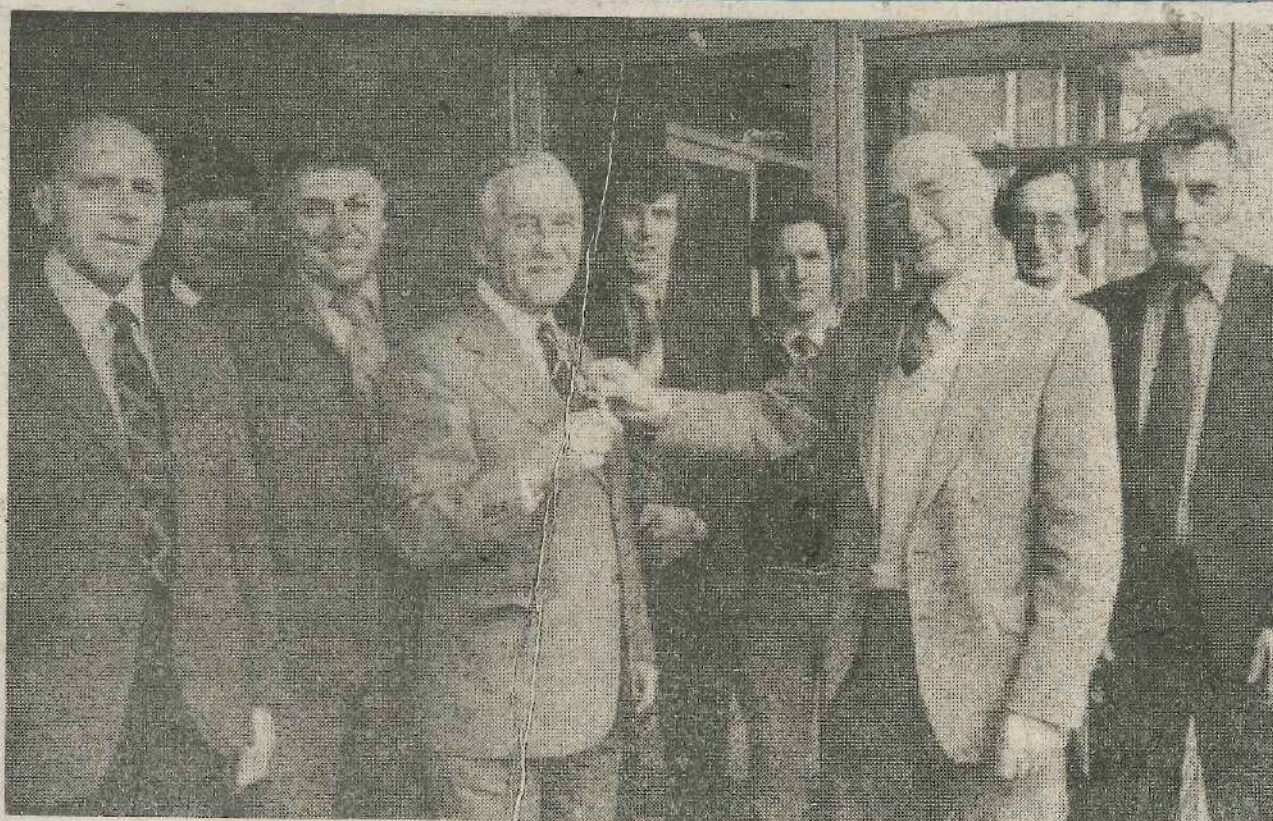
Special System

The hall is fitted with a special system, known as a "loop" system, connected to a microphone and enabling nearly-deaf people to hear clearly when using a deaf aid.

Behind the stage, there are separate changing rooms, for men and women, and toilets. In addition to the standard lavatories, there are specially built facilities for the handicapped.

A large kitchen has been built with space to accommodate a fridge and freezer and, hopefully, a dish-washer. A gas stove, sink units, cupboards and shelving have already been fitted.

Although the main work on the building has been completed, and Mr. Harms expresses gratitude to all who have contributed, furniture and equipment is still needed. Mr. Harms says that any further voluntary contributions, in the form of either money or equipment, would be gratefully received.



The keys to the new James Clarke and Sarah Foley Day Centre for the Elderly were handed over by the contractors, W. V. Patrick, of Grassington, to the Trustees of the Centre last Friday. Pictured at the ceremony are (left to right)—Mr. N. Tomblin, Cr. K. Emsley, Mr. G. Vere (Trustees), Mr. F. W. Harms (Chairman of the Trustees), Mr. J. Bott (Contracts Manager), Mr. H. Stubbs (site foreman), Mr. W. V. Patrick (handing over the keys), Mr. M. Braithwaite (Quantity Surveyor) and Mr. H. G. Robinson (Architect).

VICTORIAN SOCIETY SUPPORTS MOVE FOR EXTENSION OF ILKLEY'S CONSERVATION AREA

19 Dec 80

The Victorian Society, dedicated to the study and protection of Victorian and Edwardian architecture and other art, has added its support to Ilkley Civic Society in pressing for an extension of Ilkley's Conservation Area.

The two groups have produced a joint report for consideration by Bradford Metropolitan Council's Planning Division, stressing that the outstanding Victorian resort town merits the protection of an enlarged Conservation Area.

The report urges the extension of the Conservation Area so that the northern boundary is formed by the River Wharfe and the southern by the edge of the moor. The eastern boundary would follow the line of Bath Street, Wellington Road, Springs Lane, Wheatley Road and Cowpasture Road. The western boundary would be along Stourton Road, Skipton Road, Eashy Drive, Victoria Drive, Victoria Avenue and Heber's Ghyll Drive.

In its introduction the report stresses that Ilkley is a historic town. "Its origins must be sought in the Roman period, when a fortress was established near the River Wharfe. Yet in 1800 Ilkley had a population of only 240 and was little more than an overgrown village with an ancient church. Only a handful of buildings of pre-1800 date now survive in the town, the parish church, manor house and old grammar school being examples.

"Nevertheless, Ilkley is architecturally extremely rich and varied. In the 19th century it developed first as a holiday resort—the first 'hydro' at Ben Rhydding opened in 1843 and subsequently as a residential retreat for the wealthy businessmen and professionals of Leeds and more particularly of Bradford. The opening of the railway into the town in 1864 was crucial in this respect.

Reputation

"Ilkley was able to attract architects of national reputation—Cuthbert Brodrick, Norman Shaw and Edwin Lutyens all created major works in the town. But in general local men were employed and the character of Ilkley derives not so much from great monuments like the College and 'Heathcote' as from the infinite variety of lesser buildings, mostly Victorian and rich in detail and ornamentation," the report continues.

"Victorian housing in Ilkley ranges from the relatively humble terrace to the grand detached villa, set in extensive gardens. The setting is everywhere important: the Victorians were attracted by Ilkley's salubrious location and their planting and landscaping made maximum use of the dramatic slopes from the moor to the river.

"Ilkley is an outstanding example of a Victorian resort town, the character of which it has retained to a remarkable extent up to the present day. The town centre, particularly The Grove, has been relatively unchanged by modern development. The setting of the town remains unspoiled. But Ilkley's continued popularity as a residential area and as a shopping centre imposes considerable pressure on its historic environment.

"The present Conservation Area, which includes the parish church and manor house, is too small to play any significant part in conserving the character of Ilkley as a Victorian and Edwardian resort. Even The Grove, one of the finest Victorian shopping parades in the North, is unprotected.

Threatened

"There is uncertainty about the future of several major sites in the town centre. Throughout the town, the spacious setting of Victorian housing is threatened by pressure for new housing schemes. While many buildings in Ilkley are statutorily listed, listing can not protect the many minor structures which contribute so much to the town's character, nor can it safeguard the setting of buildings or the fine planting around houses."

The two groups feel there is a strong case for the designation of a greatly enlarged Conservation Area in Ilkley to include what they believe to be the areas of key historic interest in the town.

"We accept that a degree of new development is as inevitable in Ilkley as in any other town. Ilkley can not be embalmed. Yet some recent developments have detracted seriously from the character and amenity of the town, and there is a real need to monitor the design of future proposals and to encourage new building commensurate with the quality of the old. This could best be done within the context of a much extended Conservation Area, a proper recognition of the quality of the whole town. The present tiny Conservation Area is a grave anomaly and represents a serious under-valuing of the town. The immediate imposition of demolition control and tree protection which would be secured designation of a conservation area as proposed would be of incalculable value in controlling redevelopment.

"A considerable emphasis is now being placed on the contribution of tourism to the economy of the Bradford district. The revival and renewed growth of Ilkley as an inland resort must be expected. An increased emphasis on conservation in the town would be a logical policy if Ilkley's historic character is to be further exploited.

"There is a very considerable public interest in Ilkley in the conservation of the town and a general support for an increased degree of planning protection. Dereliction and under-investment are not problems in Ilkley, neither is it likely that major infusions of grant aid from public sources will be needed. What is needed is a protective framework for the future development of the town. The council could provide this by designating a Conservation Area along the lines suggested," the report concludes.

12 Dec 1980

PLAQUES MARK SITE OF ROMAN FORT

A plaque marking the site of the south gate of the Roman Fort at Ilkley has been placed on the wall of the Rose and Crown Hotel in Church Street. The foundations of the hotel rest on the actual south wall.

Plaques marking the sites of the north, east and west gates will be placed in the near future, and are the contributions of the Friends of the Manor House Ilkley to "Olicana '79." That programme commemorated the foundation of the Roman Fort in Ilkley 1970 years ago.

ABUNDANCE OF GOOD FOOD AND DRINK

100 Years Ago

As the festive season of Christmas came around in 1880 the Ilkley Gazette reported on the evidence of good cheer in the town and the surrounding area. Not just an abundance of good food and drink, but "Things ministering to mirth and the more intellectual pleasures." The famous makers of the Robinsons' Invalid Couch were manufacturing miniature billiard and bagatelle tables, Christmas cards and gifts were in the shops in great abundance and Wells Road and Brook Street were many and manifold in honour of Father Christmas and "all ablaze with designs the blessed season."

Mouthwatering displays of poultry, game, fruit and vegetables and cheeses were in the shops, with special mention of the display in the butchers' shops of Messrs. Grunwell, Parratt, Brogden and Wallbank, giving exact details of the farms where the stock had originated.

One passenger was killed in a railway collision between two Midland Railway trains near Leeds, and nearly fifty people were injured. The trains were an express from Bristol and one leaving Leeds for Sheffield. The accident occurred within sight of Leeds station and was attributed to a defect in the points. Many people had miraculous escapes from injury emerging from the mass of debris unscathed apart from a few bruises.

75 Years Ago

Ben Rhydding, St. John's Church was consecrated by the Bishop of Ripon, accompanied by Mr. F. D. Wise, diocesan registrar, who were welcomed by the Vicar of Ilkley Rev. Dr. Muntz. Other clergy present included Rev. Canon Smith (St. Margaret's), Rev. J. W. Hall (Addingham), Rev. W. H. Hartley (Morton) Rev. T. E. Taylor (Ilkley) and the Rev. G. F. Reynolds (Ilkley). Also present were ministers from other denominations and Mr. J. W. Hastings Duncan (M.P. for Otley Division) and members of the County Council and Ilkley Urban District Council.

The vocal society gave a creditable performance of Handel's Messiah in St. Margaret's Church, the proceeds of which went to Ilkley Coronation Cottage Hospital. The performance was good but the lack of an orchestra was lamented by the critic who felt that it should be possible to get together a band of local musicians for this purpose.

50 Years Ago

Visitors to the Ilkley hydros and hotels were assured of a good Christmas as the programmes organised for them were wide and varied. Bookings had been good, and many establishments had been fully booked for a considerable time. Dances and dinners and carnivals had been arranged, together with carols, orchestral concerts, whist and bridge drives and outdoor activities.

Ilkley Infants' School had a "red letter day" when they were paid a visit by Father Christmas, who they

entertained with three short plays. Little Shirley Chamberlain executed a charming little dance and Standard I gave a song and dance entitled "Keys of Canterbury." Father Christmas scattered nuts for the children from his bag and at the conclusion gave each child a brand new penny given by Mr. L. T. Learoyd and a toy.

Ilkley Rugby Union Football club defeated Skipton on the Skipton ground, the outstanding feature of the game being the play of Walker and Kelly who stopped the Skipton rushes. C.L. Davidson took the place of Dower, who was unable to play, on the wing, and Innes and Dalton joined the forward line.

25 Years Ago

Over a quarter of a million cards and letters passed through Ilkley G.P.O.'s sorting office during the Christmas period, breaking all previous records. Credit was given to the work of the temporary Christmas staff for their endeavours, never failing to turn up and go out in the thickest snowstorms.

The Winter Gardens was bedecked with flowers of all colours and gold and silver Christmas trimmings for the annual Ilkley Old Folk's Christmas treat. The Rotary Club chauffeured 180 old people to and from the Winter Gardens, with Mr. A. Lefevre in charge of the transport.

Motorists on the roads over the Christmas period responded very well to the "Drive Carefully During Christmas Campaign" and only two very minor accidents were reported in the area.

Passengers on the 8.15 a.m. train to Bradford owed their lives to the vigilance of two British Rail platelayers who on their way to work discovered sabotage on the line on the bridge crossing the River Aire at Charlestown by the prising away of two coping stones each weighing about a ton and which fell 60 feet to the ground. The saboteur had also removed ballast from the railway track and two fish plates were removed. Two detonators were taken from a nearby hut and placed on the lines, which would have been set off by a train passing over. Police were called to investigate.

ACROSS THE YEARS 24 Dec 80 CHRISTMAS AT ILKLEY IN 1880

100 Years Ago

The weather at Christmas proved to be all that a lover of old time Christmases could wish for, and "never did a December sun light up on a fairer day" according to the Ilkley Gazette. The churches held their usual festive services which were well attended by the townspeople of Ilkley.

In Addingham a public tea was given in the Mount Hermon Chapel schoolroom when there was a large attendance on Christmas Day. In the Addingham National and Sunday Schools the usual festivities were held on Christmas Day with lengthy programmes of carols and glees and recitations given to parents and friends.

Grand pantomimes were advertised in Bradford and Leeds. Special mention was given to a performance of Cinderella at the Prince's Theatre, Bradford, which included a team of ponies, and "the grandest ever transformation scene". The shows were on Saturday evenings, prices from 6d. per seat.

75 Years Ago

Great admiration was expressed for the displays of Christmas fare in Ilkley's shops. Vaux's, the old confectioners on The Grove, had a special showroom to display their Christmas and New Year novelties. Flowers, Christmas trees, holly and other decorations were in plentiful supply at Brook Street and Riddings Nurseries, and the displays of grocery, greengrocery, poultry and meat were a joy to behold.

To celebrate the erection of the new Star Inn, the opening was marked with a splendid banquet in the dining room and a good number of local gentlemen and their friends responded to Mr. Bryant's invitation. Mr. J. A. Middlebrook presided over the evening and proposed the toast to the health of the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Bryant. The banquet was described as being fit for a king and served in the most up-to-date and aristocratic style imaginable. During the evening guests were entertained with

songs and recitations by Mr. L. T. Learoyd, Mr. E. Critchley and Mr. J. W. Parratt, with Mr. Fisher at the pianoforte.

50 Years Ago

Christmas Day was merry but mild in 1930, and most people celebrated with their own families in their homes. The hydros, however, were full, and the festivities provided for guests went with a swing. A large number of local people visited the hotels for the dinner dances and dancing only, and there were large attendances at the Christmas Eve and Boxing Day Balls at the King's Hall and Winter Gardens.

Patients at Ilkley Coronation Hospital had the wards decorated with a Japanese theme and they were given kimonos and pink chrysanthemums to wear to follow the theme. In contrast they had a fine Christmas tree with electric lights, and Father Christmas visited them and gave presents from the tree to the children.

At Middleton Sanatorium the nurses went from block to block singing carols on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day after an excellent Christmas dinner the patients gave a play entitled "The Fourth Man" which was directed by Mr. H. Collinson, the Welfare Officer. Ilkley old people enjoyed a happy re-union at the Winter Gardens when 180 over 70 year olds were present. Two of the guests, Mr. J. Lister (80) and Mr. W. Redshaw (81) contributed to the entertainment with a violin solo and a very old song.

25 Years Ago

There was a full week of special services and nativity plays in connection with the churches, plays and concerts at the schools, and preparations for Christmas parties and entertainment at the hospitals and convalescent homes, leading up to Christmas Eve.

Hotels reported full bookings for the Christmas period for both Christmas activities and accommodation. Dinner dances, and special functions were organised at all the hotels.

The annual Conservative card party was held in the King's Hall and Annexe, with 19 tables of bridge and 24 of whist. The splendid prizes included ducks, geese, pheasants and numerous bottles. The Christmas buffet was served by members of the committee headed by Chairman Mrs. B. B. Webster. The prizes were distributed by Father Christmas who presented prizes and gifts from his large sack and from the gaily lighted Christmas tree. Mr. W. T. Fowler was the M.C. for whist and Mrs. J. R. Walker M.C. for bridge.