Leicester Urban Observatory
City Series Lectures

Reflections on 70 Years of Planning

With thanks to John Dean
John Acres, President of RTPI
Reflections on 70 Years of Planning

Martin Bradshaw

Past President of RTPI
Sir Peter Soulsby
City Mayor
John Dean: Shaping Leicester 1972 to 1993

1972: Local Government Act – major overhaul of way local government is organised; John Dean became Head of Planning in Leicester
1973: Haymarket Shopping Centre and Theatre opened – one of the first complexes of its type in the country
1974: Leicester Council replaces Leicester Corporation
1975: First pedestrianisation of city centre streets (Gallowtree Gate)
1970s (mid): Establishment of Conservation Area Advisory Subcommittee (later Conservation Advisory Panel)
1976: Leicestershire Structure Plan adopted
1978: Inner Urban Areas Act – shift in focus towards urban regeneration
1978-1988: Eight Local Plans adopted for different parts of city
1983: National Heritage Act – establishment of English Heritage
1984: Beaumont Leys Shopping Centre opened
1985: St Martin’s Square opened
1987: Our Common Future – Brundtland report that set out definition of sustainable development
1990: Leicester was designated Britain’s first Environment City
1990s: ‘New realism’ in transport planning – shift to more sustainable approach from failure of ‘predict and provide’
1991: Shires Shopping Centre opened
1994: City of Leicester Local Plan adopted
F. Robson, M. Evans, C. Geere, J. Dean, A. Davison, D. Colver
DESIGN NOTES

EXTERNAL AREAS

Paving the Way

Problems of access for disabled people and people with limited mobility often begin outside the building. A poorly designed and maintained environment can place just as many obstacles in the way of access as an inaccessible building.

Such obstacles can appear so great to some disabled people that they become reluctant to venture out at all.

Every effort should therefore be made to provide an external environment which will encourage disabled people and others with limited mobility to go out and about.

Pavements and Footpaths

Where pedestrian access to any building or facility results in crossing a road or vehicular parking area, dropped kerbs and a clearly marked pavement area should be provided eg. by the use of kerbs.

Any changes in level should be accommodated by ramps or steps. A maximum gradient of 1:10 is recommended or 1:15 if steps are also provided.

Pavements and footpaths should have an unobstructed width of 1.5m minimum. This is required for double buggies and wheelchairs.

Edges of pavements and footpaths should be defined by the use of kerbs. This is important for blind people.

Kerbs should be designed to a height of 150mm at corners and crossing points. The maximum gradient of drop should be 1:10. Minimum width 1.4m

PLACES OF WORSHIP
IN LEICESTER
1987

CITY OF LEICESTER
HEALTH DEPT.
CLEARANCE AREAS
No. 4 5 6 7
Operation Clean Up, 83 - 97 London Road. (before & after)
CLARENDON PARK

GENERAL IMPROVEMENT AREA
24 Conservation Areas in Leicester, covering the most attractive and historic parts of the city: most designated under John’s stewardship.

- New Walk (25/3/69)
- Castle Gardens (25/3/69)
- Greyfriars (25/3/69)
- Town Hall Square (24/3/70)
- Old Humberstone (29/1/74)
- Braunstone Village (29/1/74)
- Belgrave Hall (31/10/74)
- Market Place (31/10/74)
- Aylestone Village (27/2/75)
- Knighton Village (29/5/75)
- Stoneygate (28/9/78)
- Evington Footpath (29/1/81)
- South Highfields (30/4/81)
- Spinney Hill Park (28/10/82)
- Loughborough Road (31/3/83)
- St George’s (25/5/89)
- Market Street (25/3/89)
- High Street (25/5/89)
- Evington Village (30/11/89)
- Ashleigh Road (30/11/89)
- All Saints’ (01/01/2000)
- Church Gate (03/2006)
- Granby Street (06/2006)
- West End (02/10/2008)
- c.400 Listed Buildings
  - 13 Grade 1
  - c. 40 Grade 2*
  - Grade 2
- 10 Scheduled Monuments and 6 Registered Parks/Gardens
- Local Heritage Asset Register - almost 400 buildings (Local List)
RUN, JOG, WALK
WATERMEAD COUNTRY PARK

Being physically active can help us lead healthier lives. Regular physical activity can reduce the risk of many health problems.

SOME SIMPLE INSTRUCTIONS TO GET YOU STARTED...

- Choose your route from the map.
- Start slowly and gradually increase your pace.
- Towards the end, gradually slow down your pace to cool down.
- Finish off with a few gentle stretches, which will help improve your flexibility.

1. Start Line
2. 2 Mile Mark
3. 3 Mile Mark
4. 4 Mile Mark
5. 5 Mile Mark
6. 6 Mile Mark
7. 7 Mile Mark
8. 8 Mile Mark
9. 9 Mile Mark
10. Finish Line

1.5km (0.95 miles) 1.6km (1 mile) 3.0km (1.9 miles)
Aylestone Meadows
Indoor Market: before
Food Hall: after
Horsefair Street: planned
route of eastern relief road

Humberstone road to London road

POSSIBLE FUTURE HIGH LEVEL LINE

OVER SWAIN STREET

road in cutting under wainstree highfield island

EWINSTON ROAD.

HIGHFIELD ST.

Saxby St.

FOOTBRIDGE AT GROUND LEVEL

compulsory purchase, rehousing, compensation....know your rights.

COUNCIL POLICY

The Council propose a relief road to ease congestion in the city area. The site has been selected in the north of the City Centre. Once the road is in operation the traffic on the existing roads will be decreased.

THE EFFECT OF THE ROAD

As with most such schemes, the present Policy has been initiated to improve the local roads. The Council has carried out the necessary studies and has determined that the new road will benefit the area.

WHAT IS COMPULSORY PURCHASE?

This type of purchase is a common feature of schemes such as this. It is a legal procedure for acquiring land, buildings or other property for public purposes.

COMPENSATION

If a property is purchased under a Compulsory Purchase Order, the owner will be entitled to be paid compensation. This is calculated by the Valuer appointed by the Council.
Belgrave Flyover: after
Haymarket Bus Station: *before*
Haymarket Bus Station: after
Jubilee Square: before
Jubilee Square: after
Cathedral Gardens: before
Cathedral Gardens: after
Belvoir Street: before
Belvoir Street: after
Belgrave Gate South: planned
Waterside Regeneration Area
CITY’S BIGGEST REGENERATION PLAN IN YEARS UNDER WAY

£50M COUNCIL CASH TO TRANSFORM WATERSIDE

THE STREET ENTERTAINER WHO’S REALLY HOT STUFF

BABY OF THE YEAR GOLDEN TICKET DOUBLE YOUR VOTES PAGE 21

LEAP OF FAITH Lewis Collins
- Clock Street, he soared through a ring of fire with triumph and grace.

VETERAN BACK AT SITES OF BATTLES' HEROES

TIGER SET TO LEAD OUT HIS COUNTRY
Hamilton SUDs