

FOCUS ON OAKHAM

The Bypass... has given us back our town centre. Do we now rush into introducing expensive pedestrianisation and one-way schemes, or wait and see how well it works as it is? Let us know what you think.

Somerfield... seems likely to become another large store rather than the Arts and Leisure Centre, which many people feel that Oakham needs. If it is to be a store, the developer should at least ensure that the exit is located at the point nearest to the car park rather than the furthest, as it is at present.

Empty Shops... are nearly all in buildings that are an important part of Oakham's character and should be preserved. If the shops are no longer suitable for retail use, why not convert them into living accommodation? This could help to revitalise the west end of the town.

What does Big Brother know about you? As the US demands more and more information about European citizens, Bill Newton-Dunn, MEP for the East Midlands, has launched a new website www.protectyourpersonaldata.eu which shows you how to find out what information businesses and governments have about you on their databases and whether it's correct. More and more we live in a world of Big Brother. The Liberal Democrats want to fight back. Phone us for more information on how to go about this (01572 770422).

FOCUS ON UPPINGHAM

Affordable Housing... is an important issue in South Rutland and needs to be taken forward as a matter of urgency.

The Cellar Bar... currently has premises that are unsuitable due to a lack of access for people with disabilities. Finding an alternative venue must be a priority for Uppingham.

Empty Shops... are still a problem in Uppingham. One way of dealing with this would be by working with the Chamber of Trade and other interested parties.



Bill Newton-Dunn, MEP