



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WESTMEATH

BY-LAW NO. 89-23

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Westmeath, in accordance with the provisions of sections 17 and 21 of the Planning Act, hereby enacts as follows:

1. Amendment # 13 to the Official Plan of the Township of Westmeath, consisting of the following text is hereby adopted.
2. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to make application to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs for the approval of the aforementioned Amendment # 13.
3. This By-law shall come into force and take effect on the day of the final passing thereof.

ENACTED AND PASSED this 20th day of September , 1989

Gordon White

Reeve

Pat Burn

Clerk

CERTIFIED that the above is a true copy of By-law No. 89-23 as enacted and passed this 20th day of September, 1989.

Pat Burn

Clerk

OFFICIAL PLAN  
OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF WESTMEATH

AMENDMENT #13

This amendment was adopted by the Corporation of the Township of Westmeath by By-Law No. 89-23 in accordance with Sections 17 and 21 of the Planning Act, 1983, on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1989.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WESTMEATH

*Lawson White*

Reeve

*Pat Burns*

Clerk

I hereby certify that this is a true copy of Amendment #13 to the Official Plan of the Township of Westmeath as adopted by By-law No. 89-23 of the Corporation of the Township of Westmeath on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1989.

*Pat Burns*

Clerk

## SECTION 1 - TITLE AND COMPONENTS

This Amendment, consisting of the following text shall be known as Amendment #13 to the Official Plan of the Township of Westmeath.

## SECTION 2 - PURPOSE OF THE AMENDMENT

The purpose of this Amendment is to add policies to the Official Plan dealing with the establishment of Group Homes within the Township.

## SECTION 3 - BASIS OF THE AMENDMENT

The Township of Westmeath prepared an Issues Identification Report in March, 1987 for the purpose of stimulating public discussion on a variety of planning issues in preparation for an April, 1987, public meeting pursuant to section 26(1) of the Planning Act (5 year review). The group home issue was briefly described but there was little public reaction to it at that time.

Council has since received a number of enquiries about the establishment of group homes within the municipality leading to the conclusion that a formal policy should be developed.

Group homes currently licensed or approved by various provincial agencies can be divided into three categories, and include the following specific types:

### 1. Social Services

Satellite Residences for Seniors (Ministry of Community and Social Services - Homes for the Aged and Rest Homes Act);

Accommodation Services for the Developmentally Handicapped  
(Ministry of Community and Social Services - Homes for Retarded Persons Act or Developmental Services Act);

Halfway Houses for the Socially Disadvantaged (Ministry of Community and Social Services - Charitable Institutions Act);

Children's Residences (Ministry of Community and Social Services - Child and Family Services Act);

Halfway Houses for Alcoholics (Ministry of Community and Social Services - Charitable Institutions Act).

*Clerk*

**47-OP-0096-013**

AMENDMENT #13 TO  
THE OFFICIAL PLAN OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF WESTMEATH

Prepared: March, 1989  
Revised: June, 1989

Prepared by

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JLR 83-7967

AMENDMENT NO. 13

TO THE

OFFICIAL PLAN FOR THE

TOWNSHIP OF WESTMEATH

This Amendment No. 13 to the Official Plan for the Township of Westmeath, which was adopted by the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Westmeath, is hereby modified as follows:

- 1) Item 1 - Section 4 - DETAILS OF THE AMENDMENT is changed by deleting the section number (9) and replace it with (10)
- 2) Item 1 - Section 4 - DETAILS OF THE AMENDMENT is changed by deleting item (a) and replace it with the following:

'DEFINITIONS:

A group home is a single housing unit in which three to ten persons (excluding supervisory staff) live under responsible supervision, consistent with the particular requirements of its residents. The home is funded, licensed and/or approved under provincial statutes and in compliance with municipal by-laws.'

- 3) Section 4, Item 10(b) - APPROACH is changed by deleting the word 'Generally' from the beginning of the second sentence.
- 4) Section 4, Item 10(c) - ZONING is changed by deleting the section in its entirety and replace it with the following:

'(c) LOCATION:

Group homes will generally be allowed wherever other residential uses are allowed. Some types of group homes, however, may require access to community facilities and services. The following locational criteria which may be

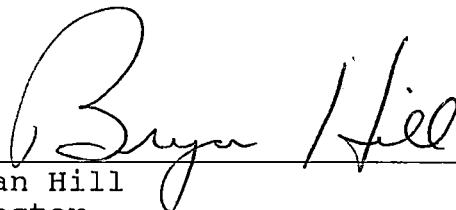
considered by Council:

- i) the proximity to the Highway 17 access corridor;
- ii) the proximity and access to the services and community facilities available in the City of Pembroke;
- iii) the proximity and access to local services and community facilities; and
- iv) other criteria considered by Council and agencies involved in the regulation and operation of group homes to be appropriate.

The application of the above criteria may vary in accordance with the particular needs of the proposed group home.'

As thus modified, this amendment is hereby approved pursuant to Sections 17 and 21 of the Planning Act.

Date: Feb. 26/93

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bryan Hill  
Director  
Plans Administration Branch  
North and East  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

SECTION 3 - BASIS OF THE AMENDMENT (Cont'd)

2. Psychiatric Services

Supportive Housing Programs: Community Mental Health Services (Ministry of Health - Ministry of Health Act);

Homes for Special Care - Residential (Ministry of Health - Homes for Special Care Act);

Approved Homes (Ministry of Health - Mental Hospitals Act).

3. Correctional Services

Halfway Houses for Ex-Offenders (Ministry of Community and Social Services - Charitable Institutions Act);

Community Resource Centres (Ministry of Correctional Services-Ministry of Correctional Services Act);

Group Homes for Young Offenders (Ministry of Correctional Services or Ministry of Community and Social Services - Young Offenders Act).

While supportive of the general concept of group homes, Council is concerned that correctional group homes in particular only locate in areas of the municipality where they will be compatible with neighbouring uses and achieve community acceptance and support.

The proposed policy will therefore establish appropriate locational criteria which will be implemented through the Zoning By-law

SECTION 4 - DETAILS OF THE AMENDMENT

1. Section 5 of the Official Plan of the Township of Westmeath, GENERAL LAND USE POLICIES, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

"(9) GROUP HOMES:

(a) DEFINITIONS:

~~A group home is a single housekeeping unit in a residential dwelling in which up to three persons (excluding supervisory staff or the receiving family) live as a family under responsible supervision consistent with the particular requirements of its residents. The home is licensed and/or approved under provincial statutes and in compliance with municipal by-laws.~~

MODIFICATION

1

NO. 1  
UNDER SECTION 17(9) OF  
THE PLANNING ACT,

MODIFICATION

2

NO. 2  
UNDER SECTION 17(9) OF  
THE PLANNING ACT,

SECTION 4 - DETAILS OF THE AMENDMENT (Cont'd)

(b) APPROACH:

It is the intent of this Plan to recognize the need for group homes, to recognize the needs and concerns of the residents of the Township and to ensure the effective integration of group homes in the municipality in order that they will function successfully and achieve community acceptance. Generally, it is intended that group homes will be encouraged to locate in a normal residential setting where the general public can serve as a behavioural model and where community facilities and services may be more readily available.

MODIFICATION

NO. 3  
UNDER SECTION 17(9) OF  
THE PLANNING ACT,

(c) ZONING:

~~Most types of group homes will be allowed wherever other residential uses are allowed. However, where Council feels that more careful review of a particular type of group home is warranted, the Zoning By-law amendment process will be used.~~

~~Zoning regulations requiring the separation of group homes from other group homes and limiting the total number may also be established."~~

MODIFICATION

NO. 4  
UNDER SECTION 17(9) OF  
THE PLANNING ACT,

SECTION 5 - IMPLEMENTATION

The provisions of the Official Plan as amended from time to time, regarding implementation, shall apply to this Amendment.

SECTION 6 - INTERPRETATION

The policies of the Official Plan as amended from time to time, regarding interpretation, shall apply to this Amendment.



## Appendix 1

### Public Involvement

A public meeting was held September 20th at 8 p.m. to consider Official Plan amendment # 13.

Approximately 17 ratepayers attended the meeting.

A letter received from the Family & Children's Services Agency was read, generally supporting the amendment although commenting that normally a 6 person group home is more viable than the 3 person type proposed.

Letters were read from Andrew Nellestyn and Sarto Lefebvre opposing the amendment mainly because correction group home provisions were included.

Several ratepayers wanted all reference to correctional group homes omitted entirely from the amendment.

Some ratepayers also wanted the whole issue of group homes dropped, and for Council not to proceed with the amendment.

Mr. Nellestyn commented that Council should make its' own decisions and not just do what a planner recommends. He referred also to the types of residents in group homes as being a bad influence on neighbourhood children.

Fred Coulson spoke in favour of Group homes being allowed in the Municipality, but pointed out that a maximum of three residents is impractical and not viable. He said anyone can have four young persons in a foster home, including correctional referral residents, without any permission from the municipality. He noted that a group home for less than 5 people will not be allowed by the Ministry of Community and Social Services as a parent model home, therefore by this amendment the Council is virtually eliminating Group homes from the Township. He also commented that Council seems to incorporate whatever a small, vocal ratepayer Group wants into a further modified amendment.

No one else spoke either in favour of, or in opposition to the proposed amendment.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Amendment #13 to the Westmeath Official Plan establishes policies for the establishment of group homes in the municipality. The purpose of this Zoning By-law amendment is to implement Amendment #13 by establishing zoning regulations in conformity with those policies.