

5 September 2006

Dear Councillor

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Community Committee will be held at the Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden on Thursday 14 September 2006 at 7.45 pm or at the conclusion of the question and answer session, whichever is the earlier.

Yours faithfully

ALASDAIR BOVAIRD

Chief Executive

Commencing at 7.30 pm, there will be an opportunity of up to 15 minutes for members of the public to ask questions and make statements subject to having given two working days prior notice.

AGENDA PART I

- 1 Apologies for absence and declarations of interest.
- 2 Minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2006 (previously circulated).
- 3 Business Arising.
- 4 **Emergency – Beirut Evacuation July 06**
Item for information
Summary and sequence of events.
- 5 **Empty Homes Initiative**
Item for decision
A proposal to jointly finance a post of Empty Homes Officer has been made by the Environmental Health Officers at Epping Forest and Brentwood District Councils. Members are asked to consider the initiative and advise officers on whether to take the idea further.
- 6 **Housing Policy**
Item for decision
This report outlines a number of housing issues that need to be addressed by the Council over the next few years.

7 Great Dunmow Museum

Item for decision

Great Dunmow Museum Society has requested a renewal of their previous grant from the Council for 2006/07 and the next two years, at £2,750 per year. The grant is essential to enable them to meet their share of the running costs of The Maltings, Great Dunmow, as required by their lease agreement. A small earmarked reserve has been found which can fund the current year's application, pending consideration during the forthcoming budget process of the longer term request.

8 Museum Audit Report (verbal report)

Measures to address the criticisms in the Museum Audit Report

9 Choice Based Lettings

Item for decision

This report requires the Committee to make a policy decision regarding Choice Based Lettings (CBL).

10 Emergency Planning – Council Offices

Item for information

An account of the flooding in the Council Offices

11 Diversity

Item for information

The document updates on work in progress on the diversity agenda.

12 Funding Allocation Criteria

Item for decision

The purpose of this report is to assist Members in deciding whether or not ad hoc funding should be awarded by the Community Committee and, if so, to determine a Funding Criteria for future ad hoc requests.

13 Great Dunmow Skateboard Park

Item for decision

This report informs Members that a letter has been received from Great Dunmow Town Council requesting a contribution towards replacement of the existing Skatepark equipment. The District Council is requested to contribute £30,000 towards the equipment and to underwrite the project.

14 Stansted Skateboard Park

Item for decision

This report informs Members that a letter has been received from Stansted Mountfitchet Parish Council requesting a contribution towards Phase 2 of the development of the Skatepark. Discussions with a representative of the Working Group have resulted in a request for the District Council to contribute £20,000 towards the purchase of equipment.

15 Report re Housing Conference

Item for information

This report provides the Committee with a brief summary of the Housing Conference held in the early summer.

16 Budgetary Control 06/07

Item to follow

17 General Fund Budget 07/08

Item to follow

18 Any other items which the Chairman considers to be urgent.

To: Councillors H D Baker, C A Bayley, P Boland, M A Gayler, M A Hibbs, E W Hicks, R M Lemon, A Marchant, J E Menell, M J Miller, J P Murphy, **D J Morson**, S V Schneider, G Sell and F E Silver.

Also to:- E Planterose and R Wallace (Museum Society) and J Bolvig Hansen and D Cornell - Tenant Panel representatives

Encs: Reports as listed on agenda.

Lead Officer: Rod Chamberlain

Committee Officer: Maggie Cox

MEETINGS AND THE PUBLIC

Members of the public are welcome to attend any of the Council's Committee meetings and listen to the debate. All agendas, reports and minutes can be viewed on the Council's website www.uttlesford.gov.uk.

Members of the public and representatives of parish and town councils are now permitted to speak at the meetings. You will need to register with the Committee Officer by 2.00 pm on the Friday before the meeting. An explanatory leaflet has been prepared which details the procedure and is available from the Council offices at Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow.

The agenda is split into two parts. Most of the business is dealt with in Part 1 which is open to the public. Part II includes items which may be discussed in the absence of the press or public, as they may deal with information which is personal or sensitive for some other reason. You will be asked to leave the meeting before Part II items are discussed.

You are entitled to see any of the background papers that are listed at the end of each report.

If you want to inspect background papers or speak before a meeting please contact either Mick Purkiss on 01799 510430, Maggie Cox on 01799 510369, Cathy Roberts on 01799 510434, Peter Snow on 01799 510431 or Victoria Harvey 01799 510433 or by fax on 01799 510550.

FACILITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The Council Offices has facilities for wheelchair users, including lifts and toilets. The Council Chamber has an induction loop so that those who have hearing difficulties can hear the debate.

If you are deaf or have impaired hearing and would like a signer available at a meeting, please contact Mick Purkiss on 01799 510430 or email mpurkiss@uttelford.gov.uk as soon as possible prior to the meeting.

FIRE/EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by Committee staff. It is vital you follow their instructions.

- You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts.
- Do not stop to collect personal belongings.
- Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building.
- Do not re-enter the building until told to do so.