

28 August 2007

Dear Councillor

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Community Committee will be held at the Council Offices, London Road, Saffron Walden on Thursday 6 September 2007 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.

A G E N D A PART I

- 1 Apologies for absence.
- 2 Minutes of the meeting held on 21 June 2007 (previously circulated).
- 3 Business Arising.
- 4 Lead Officer's report (15 mins).
- 5 Saffron Walden Skate Park – adjoining land near Peasland Road (20 mins).

Item for Decision

This report seeks Members' approval for land at Peasland Road, on the site of the Saffron Walden Skate Park, to be leased to the Saffron Walden Town Council for recreational purposes.

- 6 Contribution Fund Scheme Grant and Other Grant Requests (20 mins).

Item for decision

This report provides details of applications for funding under the three year Contributions Fund Scheme and requests from the Thaxted Festival and the Dunmow Maltings Preservation Page 1

7 Housing Policy – Development Opportunities (20 mins).

Item for decision

This report asks Members to agree site plans for Coney Acre, Rickling and Waldgrooms, Great Dunmow so that planning permission can be sought.

8 Tenant Forum Minutes (5 mins).

Item for information

This report includes draft Minutes of the Tenant Forum meeting on 9 July 2007.

9 Uttlesford Play Strategy (15 mins).

Item for decision

This report advises Members that a Play Strategy has been developed and endorsed by the Area Panels. The Committee is requested to approve submission of the Strategy to the Big Lottery.

10 Notice of Motion

Effect of Negative Housing Subsidy.

To consider the following Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor R H Chamberlain.

“The Community Committee of Uttlesford District Council notes that in 2006/07 over 40% of the rent income paid by the Council’s tenants had to be paid over to the Government in the form of Negative Housing Subsidy. The actual figure was £4.24m. The Committee deplores this payment as yet another form of tax, this time on council tenants within Uttlesford, and calls on the Government to take urgent action to remove this unreasonable burden in order for the Council to invest all of its rent income in the maintenance of Uttlesford’s housing stock and facilitating new social housing projects for local people. Accordingly, the Committee instructs the Chief Executive to raise this matter with the Government as a matter of urgency and to arrange a meeting with relevant Members and officers at ministerial level so that the Council’s concerns can be addressed and a solution found which is fair to the Council’s tenants”.

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

To: Councillors E C Abrahams, E L Bellingham – Smith, R Chamberlain, E W Hicks, S J Howell, J E Hudson, J E Menell, M J Miller, D J Morson, J A Redfern, D J Sadler, **S V Schneider**, G Sell, C C Smith and A C Yarwood.

Also to:- E Planterose and R Wallace (Museum Society) and Tenant Panel representatives.

Encs: Reports as listed on agenda.

Lead Officer: Diane Burridge

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@uttlesford.gov.uk as soon as possible prior to the meeting.

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- 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.
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