

**COMMUNITY AND LEISURE COMMITTEE held at COUNCIL OFFICES
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN at 7.30 pm on 4 JANUARY 2005**

Present:- Councillor D J Morson – Chairman
Councillors E C Abrahams, H D Baker, P Boland, M L Foley,
J E Menell, J P Murphy, S V Schneider, G Sell and F E Silver.

Officers in attendance:- A Bovaird, G Bradley, D Burridge, N Harris,
S McLagan and C Roberts.

CL45 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Members declared interests:

Councillor H D Baker as the Council's representative on Saffron Walden Day Centre and as a member of the Saffron Walden Town Council.
Councillor J E Menell as a member of the Uttlesford Community Support Group and Uttlesford Community Safety Action Team.
Councillor J Murphy as a member of the Great Dunmow Town Council.
Councillor G Sell as a member of Stansted Parish Council and as the Council's representative on the Uttlesford Citizens' Advice Bureau.

CL46 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 2 November 2005 were received, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

CL47 BUSINESS ARISING

(i) Minute CL37 – Museum Resource Centre

The meeting was informed that the new Chairman of the Museum Society was Tony Watson. A meeting of the Resource Centre Project Group would take place on 28 January 2005 and the Group's report would be finalised on 28 February.

RESOLVED that the Committee's appreciation be conveyed to Brian Newman who has, as Chairman of the Museum Society, contributed a great deal of work for the Museum over many years.

(ii) Minute CL42 – Multi-cultural Festival

Members thanked the Leisure Manager for her work in connection with this proposed event.

CL48 COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT PANEL

The Minutes of the Community Achievement Panel were received and considered. Members noted that the awards ceremony would take place at 6.00 pm in the Council Chamber on 17 February.

RESOLVED that the recommendation contained in Minute CA4 be approved and adopted.

CL49

CCTV FEASIBILITY STUDY

The Committee considered a report on the findings of the CCTV Task Group on the feasibility of upgrading the current system.

A letter was circulated at the meeting from Great Dunmow Town Council setting out their view that there was little value in updating the current system.

In answer to a question from Councillor M L Foley the Executive Manager (Quality of Life) said that the Police had agreed to provide mobile cameras in Thaxted. She added that if no upgrade took place the Council would be unable to keep up with technological developments.

The Chief Executive informed the meeting that he intended to discuss the Dunmow aspect at Great Dunmow shortly.

RESOLVED

- 1 that the CCTV System be upgraded in line with the Task Group's findings by:-
 - (i) use of Meyertech Telemetry – only Saffron Walden cameras would benefit at this stage from upgrading to this system due to level of crime and the number of cameras that are covered by the system in the town
 - (ii) upgrade to Digital recording from the current analogue (video) system – only Saffron Walden and Stansted require this option.
 - (iii) relocating the camera on Great Dunmow High Street
 - (iv) pursuing Great Dunmow Town Council's suggestion of using properly trained volunteers at peak times. It was agreed that this would be a pilot for Uttlesford

and that the Resources Committee be requested to include £9,500 in the capital programme for 2005/06 towards the overall costs, subject to partners providing the remaining balances.

- 2 that a further report on strategy be brought to the Committee once the new system is installed and running.

CL50

EMERGENCY PLANNING FUNDING

(Councillor J E Menell declared an interest in this item in so far as she was a non-executive member of the Primary Care Trust)

The Committee considered a report on Emergency Planning requirements and required resources and the receipt of additional government funding as part of the Local Government Finance Settlement. It was proposed that the sum of £18,168 to be received in the financial year 2005/06 should be added to the Emergency Planning budget or placed in an earmarked reserve for future use.

The Emergency Planning Officer explained that the funding increase had been made in recognition of the new duties that would be imposed on Local Authorities as Category 1 responders under the new Civil Contingencies Act 2004 which would be enforced from April 1st 2005. Without the extra grant being properly ring-fenced for Emergency Planning use Uttlesford District Council would not be able to fulfil all the duties in this new Act.

RESOLVED that the Resources Committee be requested to ring-fence the government grant of £18,138 to Emergency Planning, and to note that on this basis the service can contribute £3000 to the budget reduction exercise as requested.

CL51

LEISURE CENTRES SURVEYS – ACTION PLAN UPDATE

(Councillor G Sell declared an interest in this item in so far as his step-son had a weekend job at one of the leisure centres.)

Members received a report updating them on work done towards the action plans drawn up earlier in the year.

The Leisure Manager explained that she had written to the Chief Executive of Leisure Connection and asked for action to be taken to cover gaps in supervising gymnasium activities. The matter was being further investigated. It was the duty of the service provider Leisure Connection to report accidents to the Health and Safety Executive.

The Chairman of the Committee added that a Special meeting of the Committee would probably be necessary in February providing the opportunity to review these matters and to put concerns forward.

Councillor M L Foley asked that leisure centres be asked to give special rates to youth clubs and to assist with transport. The Leisure Manager pointed out existing provision and undertook to investigate the suggested additions.

RESOLVED that the report and progress towards the action plans be noted and approved.

SERVICE PLANS, BUDGET AND COUNCIL PRIORITIES 2005/06

The Committee considered the report of Executive Managers, presented by the Principal Accountant. The report detailed the revised targeted council tax increase for 2005/06, the Committee's updated base budget figures, its revised spending pressure proposals and options for action to meet savings/additional income targets agreed by the Council for the Committee's services.

RESOLVED that the Committee

(i) approves the base budget for 2005/06 and submits it to the Resources Committee

(ii) approves the proposed approach to spending pressures, submitting those recommended for retention (totalling £19,000 and set out in Paragraph 8 of the report) to the Resources Committee with a request that they be agreed

(iii) proposes budget reductions/additional income from the options given, sufficient to achieve the individual savings targets for services, and submits these to the Resources Committee subject, however, to the following amendments to the savings targets set out in the report:-

Bridge End Gardens	add £7000
Youth/Arts	subtract £1,000
Sports	add £700
Community Safety	subtract £200
Museum	the savings target of £11,000 to be retained but the £6,500 additional savings arising largely from Bridge End Gardens be used if necessary to pursue sponsorship and other income generating initiatives.

(iv) informs the Resources Committee that there are no budget reduction/additional income options (other than those noted in (iii) above) that it would wish to be disregarded if the council's overall finances so permitted.

MEETINGS WITH LEISURE CONNECTION – REPORT OF COUNCILLOR F SILVER

The Committee received a report by Councillor Silver on a meeting with the Dunmow Leisure Centre Manager. Councillor Silver had made requests about a tariff board followed up by correspondence of which he circulated copies. No response was forthcoming, however.

The Leisure Manager agreed to raise the matter with the Manager the next day.

Members felt that if it appeared necessary to obtain a response, contact should be made with the Manager's immediate superior.

The meeting ended at 10.15 pm.