

**ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING held at 7.40 pm at COUNCIL OFFICES
LONDON ROAD SAFFRON WALDEN on 8 MAY 2001**

Present:- Councillors E C Abrahams, W F Bowker, Mrs C A Cant, Mrs M A Caton, R P Chambers, Mrs J F Cheetham, R A E Clifford, Mrs D Cornell, A Dean, Mrs C M Dean, R C Dean, Mrs C D Down, Mrs S Flack, M A Gayler, Mrs E J Godwin, R D Green, D W Gregory, M A Hibbs, D M Jones, A J Ketteridge, P G F Lewis, Mrs C M Little, Mrs J I Loughlin, Mrs J E Menell, R A Merrion, D M Miller, D J Morson, R J O'Neill, A R Row, Mrs S V Schneider, G Sell, R W L Stone, A C Streeter, Mrs E Tealby-Watson, A R Thawley, R B Tyler and P A Wilcock.

Officers in attendance:- Mrs E Forbes, Mrs M Cox, J B Dickson, A Farrow, B D Perkins and Mrs J Postings.

1 STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF GREAT DUNMOW TOWN COUNCIL

Messrs Douglas James and John Davey from Great Dunmow Town Council, made a statement prior to the commencement of the meeting. Summaries of the statements and the Council's response are attached as an appendix to these minutes.

2 OUTGOING CHAIRMAN

Councillor D M Miller, the outgoing chairman, said that his time in this office had been gratifying, interesting and also entertaining. He had tried to promote the district in the best way he could. At the Council meetings he had hoped to curtail unnecessary discussion and felt he had only been partially successful in this, although he realised the need for councillors to "blow off steam". He had, though, been pleased that there had not been too much political dissension during the meetings. For the future, he hoped that Members would refrain from dismissing a good suggestion just because of where it came from.

Councillor Chambers thanked Councillor Miller for being an excellent Chairman and a great ambassador for the district.

3 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor M A Gayler and seconded by Councillor Mrs M A Caton that Councillor D W Gregory be elected Chairman of the Council.

RESOLVED that Councillor D W Gregory be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

4 STATUTORY DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Councillor D W Gregory thanked the Council for giving him this honour and pledged that he would do the job as well as he could. He paid tribute to the outgoing Chairman for the exemplary way in which he had carried out his duties. He then presented Councillor Miller with a portrait photograph which would be hung in the council chamber alongside those of previous chairmen.

5 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by Councillor R P Chambers and seconded by Councillor R C Dean that Councillor A J Ketteridge be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council. Councillor Ketteridge had been a Member of the Council for many years.

RESOLVED that Councillor A J Ketteridge be appointed Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

6 STATUTORY DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Councillor Ketteridge thanked Members for electing him to this position and said he would endeavour to support the Chairman as well as he could.

7 APPOINTMENT OF LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Caton and seconded by Councillor R B Tyler that Councillor R P Chambers be appointed Leader of the Council. Councillor Tyler said that Councillor Chambers had worked with exemplary dedication through what had been a difficult year.

It was proposed by Councillor P A Wilcock and seconded by Councillor Mrs E Tealby-Watson that Councillor Gayler be appointed Leader of the Council.

RESOLVED that Councillor R P Chambers be appointed Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

8 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER

It was proposed by Councillor R P Chambers and seconded by Councillor Mrs M A Caton that Councillor R B Tyler be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council.

RESOLVED that Councillor R B Tyler be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

9 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs C A Bayley, R J Copping and R C Smith.

10 **CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Councillor Gregory said that he hoped to promote the district at every opportunity and, as he was Chairman for the whole of Uttlesford, he would like to be seen out and about as much as possible. There would be an act of worship and dedication for his chairmanship at the Holy Cross Church, Felsted on Sunday 27 May at 10.30am. He hoped to be able to worship in as many different churches as possible during the year.

He would be supporting two local charities, the Buffy Bus and ResCu. Possible events were a sponsored walk, a quiz, a sponsored visit to every pub in Uttlesford and busking. He would like to give as prizes products that are made in Uttlesford. He finally mentioned the Festival of Young Musicians 2001 to be held in Thaxted church on 25 May 2001 and hoped Members would support this.

11 **COMMITTEE STRUCTURE 2001/02 TO 1 SEPTEMBER 2001**

The new committee structure was to be introduced from September 2001. Following the decision taken on 24 April, Members were therefore asked to continue the membership for the existing committees for the next cycle of meetings.

The Council was advised of the decision of the Standards Committee that Councillor G W Powers should not be appointed to any committees or sub-committees for 2001/02 if an apology had not been made by this meeting. This had not been made. Councillor A Dean, whilst agreeing that the apology should be made, questioned the legality of the proposed sanction. He also felt that this would infringe the democratic right of Councillor Powers to fulfil his obligations to the electorate. Other Members said that the legality of this action had been established and the Standards Committee should be seen to have some teeth. It was therefore

RESOLVED that Standing Order 30 be suspended for this item.

It was further

RESOLVED that

- 1 the existing committee membership 2000/01 to continue until September 2001, subject to 2 below
- 2 Councillor Mrs S Flack be elected Chairman of the Highways Sub-Committee.
- 3 Councillor G W Powers be not appointed to any committees, sub-committees, working parties or outside bodies for 2001/02;

this to apply to the existing structure to September 2001 and the new structure from September 2001 onwards.

Standing Order 30 was then re-established.

12 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES 2001/2002 – FROM 1 SEPTEMBER 2001

RESOLVED that Members be appointed to the following committees, working parties and task groups for 2001/02 from September 2001.

RESOURCES

Chairman: Mrs M A Caton
Vice-Chairman: Mrs S V Schneider

R A E Clifford R A Merrion
A Dean D J Morson
M L Foley R J O'Neill
M A Gayler R B Tyler
P G F Lewis

COMMUNITY AND LEISURE

Chairman: A R Row
Vice-Chairman: Mrs J E Menell

E C Abrahams R C Dean
Mrs C A Bayley D W Gregory
R J Copping D M Miller
Mrs D Cornell G Sell

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND LICENSING

Chairman: R B Tyler
Vice-Chairman: P G F Lewis

E C Abrahams Mrs C Dean
W F Bowker Mrs E J Godwin
Mrs C A Cant R D Green
Mrs M A Caton Mrs J Loughlin
Mrs J F Cheetham D M Miller
R A E Clifford A R Thawley

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

Chairman: Mrs J F Cheetham
Vice-Chairman: D M Jones

W F Bowker Mrs E Tealby-Watson
Mrs C A Cant A R Thawley
Mrs C D Down P A Wilcock
Mrs E J Godwin *One Vacancy*
R C Smith

HEALTH AND HOUSING

Chairman: R W L Stone
Vice-Chairman: Mrs S Flack

R P Chambers A J Ketteridge
Mrs C M Dean Mrs C M Little
R D Green Mrs J I Loughlin
M A Hibbs A C Streeter

RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT - SCRUTINY

Chairman: R J Copping
Vice-Chairman: Mrs D Cornell

Mrs C A Bayley Mrs C M Little
R C Dean Mrs J E Menell
Mrs S Flack A R Row
D W Gregory G Sell
M A Hibbs R W L Stone
A J Ketteridge A C Streeter

COMMUNITY AND HOUSING - SCRUTINY

Chairman: D J Morson
 Vice-Chairman: M A Gayler

A Dean	Mrs S V Schneider
Mrs C D Down	R C Smith
M L Foley	Mrs E Tealby-Watson
D M Jones	P A Wilcock
R A Merrion	<i>Two Vacancies</i>
R J O'Neill	

OTHER COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES AND TASK GROUPS (from September 2001)**STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

Mrs C A Cant
 Mrs M A Caton
 Mrs C D Down
 R D Green

STAFF APPEALS

Chairman: Mrs D Cornell

 E C Abrahams
 R A E Clifford
 Mrs E J Godwin
 D W Gregory
 A J Ketteridge
 Mrs J I Loughlin

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

Mrs M A Caton
 R P Chambers
 D W Gregory
 R B Tyler

**MUSEUM MANAGEMENT
JOINT WORKING PARTY**

M A Hibbs
 Mrs J E Menell
 D M Miller

**BRIDGE END GARDENS
WORKING PARTY**

Chairman: D J Morson

 Mrs D Cornell
 R C Dean
 M A Hibbs
 D M Miller

LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE

W F Bowker
 R P Chambers
 R A Merrion

**DISTRICT GRANTS
ADVISORY PANEL**

Mrs C A Bayley
 Mrs M A Caton
 R P Chambers
 Mrs S Flack
 Mrs C M Dean
 A J Ketteridge
 Mrs J I Loughlin
 D M Miller
 D J Morson
 R B Tyler

**COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENT
PANEL**

E C Abrahams
 Mrs C A Bayley
 Mrs D Cornell
 D W Gregory
 Mrs J E Menell
 R W L Stone

LEISURE (PFI) BOARD

Joint Chairmen: R J Copping
 A R Row

 R A E Clifford
 A J Ketteridge

**REPS ON UTTLESFORD LOCAL
TRANSPORTATION PANEL**

W F Bowker
 M A Gayler
 R D Green
 Mrs J E Menell
 R W L Stone
 R C Smith

**SAFFRON WALDEN TOWN
CENTRE MANAGEMENT
SCHEME**

Mrs S Flack
 R D Green
 R B Tyler
 R C Smith

13 **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

RESOLVED that the following Members be appointed to represent the Council on outside bodies.

Name of Organisation	Number to be appointed	REPRESENTATIVE(S) 2001/02
<u>Committee broadly responsible - Policy and Resources</u>		
Association of Essex Councils	1	Cllr R P Chambers (Sub - Cllr Mrs M A Caton)
- LA21 Members Steering Group	1	Cllr P A Wilcock
- Essex Environment Forum	1	Cllr W F Bowker
- Economic Development Forum	1	Cllr R B Tyler
- Essex Community Safety Forum	1	Cllr D W Gregory
Local Government Association		
- General Assembly	1	Cllr R P Chambers (Sub - Cllr Mrs M A Caton)
- Rural Commission	2	Cllr Mrs M A Caton Cllr R A Merrion
- Rural Community Partnership	1	Cllr R D Green (Sub-Cllr A J Ketteridge)
Essex Links	3	Leader Deputy Leader Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee (Ex-officio)
Community Planning and Strategic Partnership	3	Cllr Mrs M A Caton Cllr Mrs C M Dean Cllr R C Dean
Eastern Region Local Government Conference	1	Cllr R P Chambers
Stansted Airport Consultative Committee	1	Cllr R C Smith (Sub - Cllr Mrs M A Caton)
Eastern Essex and Hertfordshire Regional Employers' Organisation for Local Authorities	1	Cllr R P Chambers
Saffron Walden Outreach Project	1	Cllr Mrs C A Bayley
Uttlesford Community Safety Action Team	1	Cllr Mrs D Cornell
Uttlesford Drug Reference Group	1	Cllr A C Streeter

Uttlesford Community Support Group (Vulnerable Persons)	1	Cllr Mrs J E Menell
Youth Initiatives Working Group	2	Cllr Mrs S V Schneider Cllr D J Morson (Sub-Cllr M L Foley)
Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group	1	Cllr Mrs J F Cheetham

Committee broadly responsible - Environmental Services Sub-Committee

Cambridge Community Health Council (Observer)	1	Cllr Mrs C A Bayley
West Essex and District Community Health Council	3	Cllr D J Morson <i>(until 31 August 2002)</i> Cllr Mrs J F Cheetham <i>(until 31 August 2002)</i> Cllr Mrs C A Cant <i>(until 31 August 2004)</i>
Essex Home Safety Liaison Committee	1	Cllr D W Gregory
Primary Care Trust	1	Cllr Mrs J E Menell

Committee broadly responsible - Housing Services Sub-Committee

National Housing and Town Planning Council – Eastern Region Council	1	Cllr R D Green (sub-Cllr M A Hibbs)
Saffron Walden Homeless Action - Steering Group (Winter Comfort)	1	Cllr A R Row

Committee broadly responsible - Planning and Development

Business Development Services (North West Essex)	1	Cllr R J Copping
The Council for the Protection of Rural Essex	1	Cllr R A Merrion
Uttlesford Local Centres Partnership	3	Cllr R P Chambers Cllr Mrs M A Caton Cllr Mrs J F Cheetham
Management Committee of the Dunmow Town Strategy Group	1	Cllr M A Gayler
Committee of the Friends of the Maltings (The Dunmow Maltings Preservation Trust)	1	Cllr Mrs C M Little
Birchanger Wood Trust	1	Cllr G Sell
Birchanger Wood Management Committee	1	Cllr Mrs E J Godwin

Committee broadly responsible - Amenities Sub-Committee

Dame Johane Bradbury's School	1	Mrs Y L Morton (until August 2004)
Saffron Walden Museum Society	3	Cllr M A Hibbs Cllr D M Miller Cllr R J O'Neill
Museums in Essex Committee	1	Cllr D J Morson
The Crawley Prize Endowment Charity	2	Cllr R P Chambers Cllr Mrs J I Loughlin
East of England Regional Tourist Board	1	Cllr Mrs J F Cheetham
Eastern Orchestral Board	1	Cllr Mrs C M Dean
Eastern Arts Board	1	Cllr Mrs E Tealby-Watson
Essex Arts Forum	1	Cllr Mrs E Tealby-Watson
Saffron Walden Arts Trust	1	Cllr R P Chambers
Saffron Walden Age Concern	2	Cllr Mrs D Cornell Cllr R D Green
Saffron Walden Rural Over Sixties Welfare Association	1	Cllr Mrs D Cornell
Dunmow and District Over Sixties Welfare Association	1	Cllr Mrs S Flack
Crossroads Care Attendant Scheme	1	Cllr Mrs D Cornell
Bishops Stortford Citizens' Advice Bureau	1	Cllr A R Row
Uttlesford Citizens' Advice Bureau	2	Cllr P G F Lewis Cllr D M Miller
British Red Cross Society – Essex Branch	1	Cllr R D Green
Uttlesford Sports Forum	2	Cllr E C Abrahams Cllr Mrs S V Schneider
Essex Sport	1	Cllr Mrs S Flack
Dunmow Local Road Safety Advisory Committee	2	Cllr Mrs S Flack Cllr P G F Lewis
Saffron Walden Local Road Safety Advisory Committee	2	Cllr W F Bowker Cllr R C Dean
Council for Voluntary Service - Uttlesford	1	Cllr D M Miller
Uttlesford Police and Community Consultative Group	2	Cllr R W L Stone Cllr R C Smith
Dunmow Society – Executive Committee	Page 8	Cllr Mrs S Flack

Thaxted Guildhall Management Committee	2	Cllr Mrs M A Caton Cllr M L Foley
Dunmow Day Centre Management Committee	1	Cllr Mrs C A Cant
Saffron Walden Day Centre Management Committee	1	Cllr Mrs D Cornell
Stansted Day Centre Management Committee	1	Cllr R A E Clifford
Takeley Day Centre Management Committee	1	Cllr Mrs J F Cheetham
Thaxted Day Centre Management Committee	1	Cllr Mrs M A Caton
Youth Service - Local Management Committee	3	Cllr M A Hibbs Cllr M L Foley Cllr Mrs S V Schneider
ResCU	1	Cllr Mrs D Cornell
Essex Cycling Forum	1	Cllr M A Gayler
Uttlesford Community Travel	1	Cllr R B Tyler
Board of Turpins Indoor Bowling Club	2	Cllr R D Green Cllr R J O'Neill
Alzheimers Disease Society - Uttlesford Branch	1	Cllr A R Row
Uttlesford Buffy Bus Association	2	Cllr D W Gregory Cllr Mrs J E Menell
Uttlesford Carers	1	Cllr R A Merrion
Dunmow Museum Management Committee	1	Cllr A R Thawley
Old Manse Home Community Support Group	1	Cllr R J Copping

The meeting ended at 8.35pm

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF GREAT DUNMOW TOWN COUNCIL

Douglas James

Councillor Douglas James spoke to the resolution passed by Great Dunmow Town Council, concerning the recent decision taken by Essex County Council not to be maintain Redbond Lodge elderly persons' home, against the county officers' recommendations.

The Town Council believed that Councillor Chambers had influenced county Members to vote in favour of retaining Stanley Wilson Lodge in his capacity as County Councillor for Saffron Walden. As Leader of Uttlesford District Council, he had a responsibility to represent the whole district, and as he had not done so, the Town Council considered that he should resign.

John Davey

Councillor John Davey was concerned at the disproportionate power and influence of the Leader of the Council. He asked the Council to consider changing its Leader of the Council more frequently.

Response by Chairman of the Council

Councillor Miller replied that it was up to Uttlesford Members to decide who the Leader of the Council should be. He also felt that the Town Council overestimated Councillor Chambers' influence on County Council members.

Councillor Chambers said that he would reply direct to the Town Council and issue a press release in response to the statement.