

**PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE held at COUNCIL
OFFICES GREAT DUNMOW at 7.30pm on 25 JANUARY 2001**

Present:- Councillor Mrs J F Cheetham – Chairman
Councillors W F Bowker, Mrs C A Cant, R A E Clifford,
Mrs C D Down, Mrs E J Godwin, P G F Lewis, Mrs C M Little,
Mrs E Tealby-Watson, R W L Stone and A R Thawley

Also present:- Councillor R P Chambers

Officers in Attendance: J Bosworth, Mrs L J Crowe, R Harborough,
Ms J Harrison, B D Perkins and Mrs J Postings

1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor R W L Stone declared a pecuniary interest in planning application
1271/99.

2 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30 November 2000 were received, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3 **BUSINESS ARISING**

(i) Minute 150(iii) – DETR Consultation Paper on telecommunication mast development

Members expressed concern about telecommunication mast development in residential areas. The Leader of the Council said that the Leader of Kent County Council had notified all Council Leaders of problems regarding planning permission for telecommunication masts and were pressing the Government to pass relevant legislation.

RESOLVED that a letter be sent to the Government requesting legislation be passed regarding planning permission for telecommunication masts.

(ii) Minute 151(ii) – Redevelopment of Haulage Yard for residential purposes – erection of two dwellings, conversion and extension of barns to form three dwellings, associated garaging, boundary walls and alteration to vehicular access at Blampsters Hall Farm, Duton Hill, Great Easton for Askew Transport and Haulage Limited – UTT/1323/00/FUL and UTT/1324/00/LB

The Corporate Director Development reported that the legal agreement had not been signed as the Highway Authority had indicated that there were some highway works still being negotiated.

RESOLVED that Officers would report back to a future meeting of the Development Control Sub-Committee.

(iii) Minute 152 – Workload and staffing in Development Control

The Corporate Director - Development reported that the Administrative Assistant would commence work on 19 February and the Planning Assistant would start work in the planning department on 5 March.

(iv) Minute 160 – Liaison with Essex County Council Transportation

The Corporate Director - Development reported that two meetings had taken place between County Transportation and District Officers. It was hoped that a service level agreement would be agreed shortly.

(v) Minute 163 – Eastern Sector, Great Dunmow

Members noted that the application for the redevelopment of this site was unlikely to be considered by the Development Control Sub-Committee before March 2001.

(vi) Minute 164 – Business Development Services (North West Essex)

The Leader of the Council informed Members that the Small Business Service was due to start this year but was unlikely to have an effect on Uttlesford. He hoped that the Council would continue to support the Uttlesford Enterprise Service for the time being.

4 MATTER REFERRED FROM DEVELOPMENT CONTROL SUB-COMMITTEE

Proposed Erection of four two - bedroomed sheltered bungalows to relate to existing sheltered scheme with support car parking at rear of Hanover Place, Abbey Lane, Saffron Walden – UTT/1380/00/FUL

On 15 January 2001 the Development Control Sub-Committee received an application which related to a departure from the District Plan for four two-bedroomed sheltered bungalows. The Sub-Committee recommended the application to be approved. Members believed that on the whole the benefits of this scheme justified the departure in policy.

RESOLVED that planning permission be granted for UTT/1380/00/FUL subject to the conditions recorded in the Town Planning Register.

5 DRAFT REVENUE ESTIMATES

The Committee received the draft Revenue Estimates for a second time. The detailed figures presented now included internal charges and previously identified growth items. Members noted that there might be a slight variation in the figures due to Best Value grants.

RESOLVED that the draft Revenue Estimates for 2001/2002 be submitted to the Policy & Resources Committee on 8 February 2001 for approval subject to possible adjustments.

6 DETR WHITE PAPER “OUR COUNTRYSIDE : THE FUTURE, A FAIR DEAL FOR RURAL ENGLAND”

Members received a report which identified key points and commented on them in the context of Uttlesford.

Members welcomed the White Paper and in particular the mention of affordable homes. They expressed concern re light pollution, rural roads and protecting the countryside. In reply to Councillor Clifford’s concern for provision of recreational space the Head of Local Plan and Conservation said this matter would be dealt with under Housing Review.

RESOLVED that the Council take into account appropriate matters from the Rural White Paper when reviewing its plans and policies and would do what it could to ensure that the more general statements in the White Paper were realised to the benefit of the Uttlesford community.

7 REGIONAL PLANNING GUIDANCE

The Corporate Director - Development informed Members that this Council was working with colleagues of the Association of Essex Authorities to safeguard Essex interests in the Regional Planning Guidance as much as possible. There had been no clear decision on the rate of development after 2006 but it had been intimated that it had to increase. The Association of Essex Authorities had put forward a number of concerns:-

Imbalance of employment

Infrastructure

Thames Gateway

Study on M11 corridor and factual mistakes in maps

Councillor Chambers said that the East of England Assembly had also expressed concern at the rate of development after 2006. The Essex consensus of opinion was to ensure that this area did not get swamped with

housing. Councillor Mrs Cheetham said that the M11 London/Stansted/Cambridge corridor study was to start next month.

RESOLVED that a report from the Association of Essex Authorities meeting held on 24 January 2001 be circulated to all Members.

8 **ECONOMIC STRATEGY**

Members considered the draft Economic Strategy Action Plan 2001/02 for the purposes of consultation. Councillor Mrs Tealby-Watson suggested that childcare should be included as a key issue. Following discussion the Corporate Director - Development suggested that it might be appropriate to raise this separately with Agenda 21.

RESOLVED that this Council work with strategic and other partners to secure the outcome important for this community.

9 **BEST VALUE REVIEW – GRANTS**

Members considered the various courses of action in respect of the grants that would fall within the responsibilities of this Committee, as considered at the Best Value Sub-Committee on 27 November 2000 and Policy &

Resources Committee on 19 December 2000. Councillor Thawley questioned the removal of the Listed Building Grants scheme.

Councillor Chambers declared an interest as he lived in a thatched listed building.

The Listed Building situation would be reviewed in a year's time.

RESOLVED that the recommended option for each of the grant schemes within the responsibility of this Committee as set out in the Appendix be approved subject to modifications which had been identified.

10 **DEVELOPMENT CONTROL SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Minutes of the meetings of the Development Control Sub-Committee held on 11 December 2000 and 15 January 2001 were received.

11 **TREE PLANTING PROGRAMME**

Quotations for this year's tree planting programme had been requested but there had been only one formal response. £6,600 had been quoted for 5750

specimen trees. This amount was similar to the amount spent last year and Officers felt represented good value for money.

RESOLVED that Standing Orders relating to contracts be suspended and that the tender from Spains Hall Nurseries in the sum of £6,600 be accepted.

The meeting ended at 8.45pm.