

## **Stebbing Parish Council Comments Uttlesford Local Plan Transport Study.**

Stebbing Parish Council consider that transport planning is a key factor in any development and particularly the extent of development proposed in the building of a Garden Settlement.

It is a fact that the predominant method of travel in all scenarios is the car; it is inevitable that the road infrastructure needs major upgrading to accommodate even the increased movements resulting from the 3,500 (BDC & UDC) dwellings that would be built in this plan period until 2033 in a settlement "West of Braintree".

The report shows of 22 roads /junctions relevant to the 28 development scenarios all but 3 have stress measurements that exceed capacity.

The A120 already suffers from congestion for longer periods rather than just peak rush hour time; it would not take many more dwellings accessing that route to create major problems of congestion.

Trips by mode give the impression that all the modes listed are available to all sites; it would be a challenge for most people West of Braintree to board a train with out first driving by car.

It is stated that new developments should minimise traffic movement and deliver sustainable transport measures.

Will any of this happen in this plan period up to 2033, our greatest fear in this respect is the first phase of houses are built with no changes to infrastructure, even then only 10% are assumed to make a transport change.

Much of this change is anticipated to be to rail travel, the reality is that for "West of Braintree " the nearest station is in Braintree which does not have a comprehensive service to London for commuters and little parking available.

Alternatively commuters travel by car to Chelmsford, Bishops Stortford or Witham to access a train service increasing the road congestion and demands on parking at those locations.

The report to our surprise states that although the Great Dunmow is more distant to rail services than the other areas it and West of Braintree is better served by buses --- lack of evidence to support this statement and personal experience would led me to doubt the truth of that statement.

Stebbing Parish council has great concerns that it and other villages will have unacceptable levels of traffic passing through its lanes as "rat runs " are created by drivers trying avoid congestion on the surrounding major routes.

Little if any is proposed regarding any sort of improved rail links for West of Braintree.

It is accepted that while cycling and walking will be encouraged they remain impractical modes of transport for commuting for work for the majority and certainly by 2033.

Our conclusion is that there is little solid evidence showing any certainty that substantial transport infrastructure changes are guaranteed before the effects are felt of construction of a small proportion of the eventual total of houses that make up a garden settlement West of Braintree.