

Questions and responses from the South Community Forum

Highways

Question	Response
<p>Are there any plans to widen the road bridge that goes over the railway bridge at Stansted Mountfitchet station, Church Road? If a bus or lorry is coming over the bridge traffic in the opposite direction has to wait. With the new houses at Forest Hall Road nearly ready for occupation this will start to cause congestion.</p>	<p>There are no plans to widen the railway bridge at Church Road. Widening of the bridge was raised by the Parish Council utilising funds from Rochford Nurseries development. It will significantly use a large proportion of the Section 106 contribution as this would be a very expensive scheme to implement. I believe that the funds can be used more effectively elsewhere. Liz Chapman and Chris Stoneham have received a comprehensive priority list of requests from both Birchanger and Stansted Parish Councils.</p>
<p>The continuing failure to complete the new bypass for Dunmow is the greatest contributor to congestion in the town. What action can UDC and Essex CC take to expedite this?</p>	<p>The bypass must be completed prior to completion of the 651st dwelling from memory. The house builder has not reached this level of development. If any additional development is proposed in the future this may present the opportunity to renegotiate provision of the bypass but this is largely dependant on the developer and UDC. Tony Buston in the Transportation Team is producing a Strategic Traffic Plan for Dunmow. This would include investigations into the possibility of the opening of the North West bypass.</p>
<p>The junction at Hoblongs Hotels, Police Station, etc. – what is being done?</p>	<p>This scheme has been removed from the small towns list as the traffic light option would not give the long term benefits required, therefore this particular solution has been dropped from this year's deliverables. However, the longer term option of a roundabout is still being progressed and as this solution requires land acquisition it will take longer than this financial year and require more funds to implement.</p>
<p>Definitive map for footpaths. How is it possible to change especially bridleways (Stansted)?</p>	<p>The majority of public paths on the Definitive Map were dedicated from the outset of the original document in 1953. Most subsequent changes to the Map have been by means of Public Path Orders with new paths mostly being added by Creation Agreements. Such agreements are achieved by goodwill and conciliation with the landowner(s) concerned, not through compulsory process. The majority of new bridleways on the Definitive Map have been dedicated by such means.</p>
<p>What will happen to Grove Hill, Stansted if we get an eco-town and alternative routes? Will there be a new link road from Elsenham to the M11?</p>	<p>Not known at this time. This matter is a key issue for consideration by the developer of any Elsenham Eco-Town.</p>
<p>Would like presentation on by-ways how to get byways downgraded?</p>	<p>It is hoped that a presentation will be made to a future area forum meeting, possibly in September.</p>
<p>Would the proposed highway panels have representatives from town and parish councils?</p>	<p>Yes. They will be led by the District Council. They will need to be representative of the district but there may be a limit as to the number of representatives.</p>



Highways continued....

The quality of road maintenance and repair is often unsatisfactory, particular the repairs to potholes that appear to last for a very short time?	The Area Office seeks to follow up emergency repairs with permanent repairs where viable. It will shortly be trialling the use of hot material for rapid repairs and it is anticipated this will improve the quality and longevity of repair.
When will the work to resurface the Market Square Great Dunmow take place?	This is now complete.
Will the proposed area highway panels have a budget and will it operate in the same way as when decisions were made about schemes in the locally determined budget?	It will be similar to LDB but on a larger scale as the district will be determining priorities for both capital and revenue funded schemes that ECC will then be responsible for delivering. The budget will remain with ECC.
How will the Highway Rangers operate?	It is expected that the Local Highways Panels will influence the areas where these are deployed.
There have been a lot of problems with 4x4 vehicles using byways in the Takeley area. Is there anything that can be done to restrict the use or down grade these routes?	The Area Highways Office is currently looking at this issue. It is hoped that a presentation will be made to a future area forum meeting.

Uttlesford District Council

Question	Response
What are the responsibilities of UDC regarding litter clearing both on roads and public areas e.g. recreation ground, skate park etc?	The council has a statutory duty to ensure that land in the district is, so far as is practicable, kept clear of litter and refuse.
What actions can be taken to prosecute litter offenders and persistent offenders taking place?	Fixed penalty notices for £75 may be issued. For persistent offenders a prosecution may be brought. The maximum fine on a prosecution is £2500. However detection of persistent offenders is difficult.
Shorter presentations from agencies?	Discussed at the meeting.
The eco town proposal and the second runway will inevitably create a lot of extra work. Is the District Council receiving of any additional resources to cover the workload?	The Council is receiving considerable assistance from ECC. In relation to the 2 nd runway, the other adjoining local authorities are actively involved. However district council staff are under considerable pressure.
What is the current status of the Local Plan?	The current Local Plan is part of the development plan for Uttlesford and, together with government guidance and other material planning considerations, is used to determine planning applications. As new government guidance such as the East of England Spatial Strategy is issued and it becomes less up to date the weight that can be attached to the plan is reduced and the need for it to be replaced by the Local Development Framework will grow.

Uttlesford District Council continued....

If the G1 application is approved it will result in a lot of extra traffic in the vicinity of the airport. Who will look at the effect on the current road system?

Traffic conditions will be monitored by the Highways Agency, Essex and Hertfordshire County Councils and addressed in the Stansted Area Surface Access Strategy updates. Any G1 permission will take a view on the likely effects on the network and the necessary measures. The transport assessment submitted by BAA to the Planning Inquiry suggested the required road improvements were limited.

West Essex Primary Care Trust

Question

Response

Due to the increase in the number of homes at Little Dunmow, there has been talk of the surgery in Felsted being closed and moved to Little Dunmow, is this true?

The PCT is looking at the provision of services in the whole Great Dunmow/Little Dunmow and wider area. There are no current plans to relocate the surgery in Felsted.

Many residents of Stansted are concerned about the proposal to relocate the local health services as it is 1 ½ miles away from the centre of Stansted. Residents do not think that the consultation has been handled correctly, how can this be rectified?

It is important that the consultation process continues to move forward to ensure that the new facilities can be provided but your concerns will be passed on to the PCT management.

Police

Question

Response

- i) Should District Councillors attend Neighbourhood Action Panel (NAP) and Joint Action Group (JAG) meetings?
- ii) How should information about current crime problems be passed through the community. Could the Police write an article for village magazines?
- iii) When will the PCSO for the Stansted Area be appointed?

- i) It would be more appropriate for parish/town councillors to attend the NAP meetings in order to keep them local and non political. District councillors are welcome to attend the JAG meetings.
- ii) The Police Neighbourhood Officers will be asked to look at all local communication methods. It is also hoped to expand neighbourhood watch.
- iii) The officer will soon be appointed.

What will be the extent of the Police presence in the new police station and in the old office in the town centre?

The office in the new station will be manned for 50 hours a week. The old police station will continue to be manned for 2 hours a day, Monday to Friday until the new library has been built when there will be a Police desk there.

Will there be an opportunity for more hand held speed guns to address speeding issues in particular areas of the district?

Any particular problems should be fed into the NAP's so that resources could be deployed to the high priority areas.