

MEETING OF UTTLESFORD FUTURES HELD AT 2.00 PM AT COUNCIL OFFICES SAFFRON WALDEN ON 11 OCTOBER 2005

Present:- Councillor David Westcott – Chairman.
Councillors Catherine Dean, Jan Menell, John Murphy, and Officers Jane Elsom, Victoria Harvey, Alex Stewart and Tracy Turner.
Dale Aitkin (Uttlesford PCT), David Barron (Uttlesford PCT), Paul Bowers (Essex Fire Service), Trish Bugg (LSC), Peter Coltman (Essex Police), Graham Fletcher (Federation or small businesses), Peter Fuller-Lewis (UALC), Paul Garland (LA21), Ray Gooding (ECC), Mark Murphy (BAA Stansted), Peter Pearson (ECC), Paul Raynes (Essex LAA), Christopher White (ECC/Uttlesford CYPSP),

1

UPDATE ON ESSEX LAA

Paul Raynes (Essex LAA) updated the committee on the Local Area Agreements that were currently being discussed by Uttlesford Futures and the local community. In the past few weeks the emphasis was on finding areas of added value. He outlined two important questions that the LAA were considering. Firstly would the LSP want to be involved in the targets set for the county; and secondly would the LSP want to be involved in the government's targets.

He said that comments had been received from 10 LSPs.

The Chairman addressed the issue of following a tight time scale and asked if deadlines were not met, would Uttlesford Futures loose out. Paul Raynes said that there was a long time to go and there was still time for these views to be aired.

The issue of finance was raised by Paul Bowers (Essex Fire Service), to which Dale Aitkin (Uttlesford PCT) asked how the funds would be allocated. Paul Raynes (Essex LAA) said that this would be discussed. The Chairman voiced a concern that the areas most in need might receive more funds, disadvantaging others.

Dale Aitkins (Uttlesford PCT) asked how much time was being spent with the individual organisations present at the meeting. What was the added value of having this Uttlesford Futures Partnership? To which, Paul Bowers (Essex Fire Service) suggested that individual priorities should be looked at. All organisations had their objectives, but they needed to be shared more with the Committee. Paul Raynes (Essex LAA) said that synergies were being looked at because they were of importance.

The Chairman said that the agreement needed to be signed by 24 February 2006 and the committee was currently a long way off agreeing. A special

board meeting would possibly be called. The committee should not sign anything until the options had been fully discussed.

2 POLICING AND FORCE STRUCTURE

Peter Coltman (Essex Police) discussed with the committee the current restructuring of the Police force. In 2004/05 Essex Police Authority agreed a three year Best Value programme. He said the basic principle is getting troops back to the front line. There were too many people in support roles. By 23 December 2005 the Chief Constabulary was to decide what option would be best for the area of Uttlesford ready for the national restructuring.

Paul Bowers (Essex Fire Service) asked how far into the restructure the fire service were. To which Peter Coltman (Essex Police) said that they were almost there. There were economies to be made with this change.

Graham Fletcher (Fed. Of Small Businesses) asked whether the response time would improve. To which Peter Coltman (Essex Police) said that with more officers on the front line the response time should improve. There were currently three options being reviewed and he said that of the options, option B would be the most suitable for Uttlesford. This option would reduce the number of BCUs to five. One BCU would encompass four CDRPs each, two BCUs would encompass three CDRPs each and two BCUs would encompass two CDRPs each. The geographical layout would combine Uttlesford with Braintree, Chelmsford and Mauldon. He stated that Mauldon and Uttlesford have a commonality.

2 MINUTES AND MATTER ARISING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 March 2005 were approved as a correct record.

The Updated Terms of Reference were agreed to be no longer seen as a funding body.

3 FINANCE REPORT

The balance had been carried forward. Payment was being awaited from the PCT. There was a spending balance of £29,600. A budget of £12,000 for salaries.

Trish Bugg (LSC) suggested that future funding be placed with organisations that currently had a contract.

4 UPDATED TERMS OF REFERENCE

Alex Stewart (Community & Development Manager) addressed the committee with this item.

In the report it was recommended that a change be made so that *the committee makes recommendations to the board.*

5 **ACTION PLAN UPDATES**

Tracy Turner discussed the communication strategy. She said that there was a lot more work to do, and in doing so creative thinking was needed.

6 **ECC CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE PLAN CONSULTATION**

Christopher White (CYPSP) discussed the draft ECC Children & Young Peoples Plan Consultation. The approach as part of Essex County Council and Uttlesford Futures was to prepare a strategic plan, which would summarise the issues most in need of being dealt with to improve lives.

The aim was to share information currently held about what was happening to children and young people with as many organisations and individuals as possible to enable priorities to be addressed quickly and efficiently. He informed the Committee that the closing date for comments to the consultation board was 4 November 2005.

7 **COMMUNITY INITIATIVE FUND**

Christopher White (ECC) informed the Committee that Essex County Council would provide support for communities throughout Essex to deliver improvements that matter to local residents. He said that advise on how best to co-ordinate the funding would be needed.

Ray Gooding (ECC) also stated that funding would be available to the local community and there was money available. It was the intention to not top down dominate the funds.

Councillor Menell voiced concern that in the past people in the community had been encouraged to set up ventures with the Community Initiatives Fund and recieved no help afterwards. To which Ray Gooding (ECC) said that simply the funding was limited.

Paul Bowers (Essex Fire Service) asked when the money would be distributed, to which Christopher White (ECC) said that it had already been done. Details of funding distribution would be distributed to members.

8 **LOCAL CARE FOR UTTLESFORD ACTION PLAN**

Dale Aitkins (Uttlesford PCT) gave a brief description of the draft action plan to the committee. This was circulated to board members, as well as the PCT

newsletter regarding the LCU (Local Care for Uttlesford) and a copy of the presentation given at the previous Futures board.

Board Members were to inform their own organisations about LCU and what their organisations could contribute.

Board Members were asked to give feedback to Dale Aitkins to comment on the tabled Action Plan regarding the suggested additions and amendments.

Dale Aitkins (Uttlesford PCT) said he would revise the LCU Action Plan for the next meeting of the Futures Management Team on 29 November 2005. He also stated that responsibilities had been allocated to certain organisations.

Councillor Murphy said he thought that there were a lot of good ideas on the Action Plan and suggested a day where interested parties could come and ask questions. Dale Aitkins (Uttlesford PCT) thought this was a good idea and would take it into consideration.

9 **AGENDA FOR CHANGE-UPDATE FROM LSC**

Trish Bugg (LSC) gave an update to the Committee on the change update from LSC, who aim to build excellence within their sector. She indicated that more could be learnt from the dynamics of Uttlesford Futures.

10 **AGENDA FOR FUTURES ASSEMBLY**

Tracy Turner informed the Committee that the work groups would re-vitalise the community strategy. She asked the Committee if there were any other items that should be addressed. To which there were none.

11 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The next meeting of Uttlesford Futures would be held 31 January 2006.

The meeting ended at 4.30pm.