

MEETING OF UTTLESFORD FUTURES held at 2.00 pm at the COUNCIL OFFICES SAFFRON WALDEN on 2 JULY 2007

Present:- Councillors Jan Menell and David Morson, Alaine Clarke, Maggie Cox, Jane Elsom, Steve Rhenius, Alex Stewart and Tracy Turner (UDC), Sue Sumner (CVSC) Aidan Thomas Caroline Skinner and Toni Coles (PCT), Christopher White (ECC), Hamish McLiwick (UALC), Paul Garland (Sustainable Uttlesford), Graham Fletcher (Federation of Small Businesses), David Westcott (CVSU), Amanda Montague (Learning Skills Council), Bill Seccombe (Fire Service).l

F1 APOLOGIES AND WELCOME

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Catherine Dean, Rod Chamberlain and Howard Rolfe (UDC) Graham Stubbs and Tim Newcombe (Essex Police) Alison Cowie (West Essex PCT) Yvette Wetton and Ray Gooding (Essex CC) and David Westcott (CVSU).

F2 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

AGREED that Councillor Howard Rolfe be elected Chairman of the Local Strategic Partnership for the ensuing year

Councillor Menell thanked the previous Chairman, Councillor Morson for his work in chairing the meeting for the past year.

F3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRMAN

AGREED that Councillor Jan Menell be appointed Vice Chairman of the Local Strategic Partnership for the ensuing year.

F4 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Management Team held on 8 May 2007 and of the Board Meeting held on 19 February 2007 were agreed as correct records.

Caroline Skinner said that the post of Sexual Health Worker had now been made permanent. She thanked the Board for supporting the post during the interim period.

In relation to the Compact, Sue Sumner said that a Stakeholder meeting had now been held and Codes of Practice had been drafted. The document would be put out to consultation and a draft would be presented to the next meeting.

F5 WEST ESSEX PCT STRATEGY

Aidan Thomas, Chief Executive of the West Essex Primary Care Trust gave a detailed presentation on the proposed Strategy for Healthcare in West Essex. He explained that the strategy was not designed to change services but was intended to be a framework which would assist future decision making. The

official consultation period had now closed but comments would still be accepted from stakeholders.

The Board commented on local issues that should be taken into account in the strategy, in particular gaining access to health services in a rural district and the increasing number of migrant workers entering the district.

F6

UPDATES FROM WORKING GROUPS

(i) Healthier Communities Older People's Group

Sue Sumner said the group had had a productive meeting and the action plan had been formalised with roles and timescales allocated. It was looking at ways to engage with the voluntary sector and had allocated £7,500 grant money to various organisations

(ii) Environment Working Group

Paul Garland said the group was in the process of finalising its action plan. It had responded to the LDF consultation and supported the creation of a dedicated eco settlement. The group was supporting various schemes including a Green Doctor scheme, green travel plan and promoting paperless meetings.

(iii) Economic Development Working Group

The group had discussed a number of issues including the West Essex Partnership, working with adjacent authorities and the skills agenda.

(iv) Safer, Stronger Communities Working Group

The board received the notes of the latest meeting. It was noted that there was a 5% shortfall in funding from Essex County Council.

(v) Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership

The Board received a report from the group which set out details of its structure and membership.

F7

ESSEX PARTNERSHIP SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY/UTTLESFORD SCS

Chris White explained that the Essex Partnership was developing a new sustainable communities strategy for Essex, building on the Essex Local Area Agreements and District Sustainable Community Strategies and Local Development Frameworks. There would be a detailed consultation process, the first stage of which would be to seek on what the partners felt were the key issues for Essex in the next ten years. He suggested that a facilitated workshop be held to obtain the views of the Board.

Alex Stewart then reported the progress of the Uttlesford Futures Sustainable Futures Strategy and outlined progress on the project plan to date. It was felt

that more work was required in relation to the Uttlesford Strategy before an input could be made to the Essex Partnership Strategy.

Alaine Clarke said that part of the requirements for developing a Sustainable Community strategy was to consult and seek participation of the local community. In order to undertake this more effectively UDC had developed a joint consultation strategy which it hoped that the partners would sign up to

AGREED that the Board agree to act as project sponsor for the Sustainable Community Strategy and agree the project Plan and Communication Strategy.

F8 **LAA UPDATE REPORT DOCUMENT**

Steve Rhenius updated progress on obtaining base line data for the 14 priorities. He explained that the information was not always broken down in sufficient detail to be specific to Uttlesford.

F9 **NORTH WEST ESSEX AND EAST HERTS DIVERSITY FORUM**

The Board was advised that a diversity forum had been set up with the aim of providing organisations concerned with diversity issues the opportunity to share information and best practice. The forum covered Uttlesford, East Herts and Braintree. An electronic Community of Practice had been set up and individuals could register at www.communities.idea.gov.uk

F10 **MIGRANT WORKERS**

Tracy Turner informed the Board that a migrant worker project between Uttlesford, Braintree and East Herts District Councils had been successful in a bid for 1 year funding from Building Capacity East. The project would support three migrant community development officers and administrative support. The officers would be holding advice surgeries and carrying out community development activities throughout the district. The project would be led by UDC and hoped to address wider issues of migration and take on board the recommendations of the Commission on Integration and Cohesion. It was hoped that the Community Development Officers would identify community leaders so the communities could be self supporting when the project ended.

AGREED

- 1 Partner organisations and themed groups to consider how migrant worker issues impact on their own organisations/sectors, and bring forward actions to contribute to the migrant worker project at the next meeting
- 2 that the Futures Sustainable Community Strategy needs to take account of cohesion issues.
- 3 Futures to press for integration and cohesion issues to be taken account of in the Essex Partnership Sustainable Strategy, and the refreshed Local Area Agreement

F11 UDC CORPORATE PLAN

Alaine Clarke explained that the council was now consulting on the four goals and priorities for the new Corporate Plan. The consultation included Area Panels, an article in Uttlesford Life, all parish councils, the Local Strategic Partnership and local businesses. The Panel members were asked to forward any comments.

F12 UTTLESFORD VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR DATABASE

Sue Sumner reported progress in updating the voluntary sector database. There were now over 1000 entries with 75 different categories. She intended it to be a useful tool for other agencies and hoped that it would be kept up to date.

F13 BUDGET

Details of the current budgetary position were submitted. The management team was asked to establish whether there were projects requiring funding and bring details to the next meeting.

F14 NEXT MEETING

28 August 2007 at 2.00 pm.

The meeting ended at 4.00pm