

Uttlesford Locality Board: Minutes

Uttlesford District Council, 18 September 2017

Attendees: Cllr Susan Barker (UDC/ECC), Alistair Bochel (UDC), Peter Fairley (ECC), Dawn French (UDC), Fiona Gardiner (UDC), Cllr Ray Gooding (ECC), Roger Harborough (UDC), Cllr Alan Mills (UDC), Cllr Julie Redfern (UDC), Cllr Howard Rolfe – Chair (UDC), Cllr Howard Ryles (UDC), Adrian Webb (UDC)

Apologies: Cllr Simon Howell and Cllr Vic Ranger

- 1. Welcome and introductions** Cllr Rolfe welcomed all present and introductions were made.
- 2. Minutes of previous meeting** The minutes of the meeting held on 26 June 2017 were agreed as a correct record.
- 3. Action points from the last meeting**

A 'point of contact' list for parish/transport representatives had not been circulated to members. ECC would look into this further.

Cllr Gooding said the UDC member briefing and presentation to the Locality Board regarding the impact of the Local Plan on school places had yet been scheduled, but they were in the process of being organised.

Sixth form/college places and public health profiles had been included on the agenda for this meeting.

Action: To circulate to members a 'point of contact' list for parish/transport representatives.

Action: For a continued dialogue between ECC and UDC regarding education and transport within the Local Plan.
- 4. Public health profile**

Peter Fairley said that Uttlesford did well in most aspects of the public health profile. However, the number of hip fractures, of those killed and injured on roads, and winter deaths, were notably higher than the national average. It was important that ECC and UDC work together, along with their health partners, to realise place-based strategies to tackle these and other issues.

Action: Substantive item for discussion at the next locality board meeting on public health. Dr Mike Gogarty to be invited and the item to be developed jointly between UDC and ECC

Action: CSP to find out where road accidents are taking place, working with ECC. If possible provide a map of these incidents at ward level.

Action: Peter Fairley to clarify whether the number of road deaths was determined by the number of deaths on roads in Uttlesford or the

number of Uttlesford residents killed on roads.

5. Education outcomes and sixth form places

Peter Fairley said the grading system for GCSEs had now changed. Instead of being ranked A* to E, grades now ranged from 9 to 1. The results of four schools in Uttlesford had all been good. Councillor Gooding said it was difficult to compare the new results to last year, because a new grade did not entirely equate to an old grade.

Peter Fairley said that three of four schools had sixth form provision, and there was no foreseeable need for additional capacity in the district. About 61% of children of sixth form age attended school in the district, while 10% attended sixth form outside the district.

Councillor Rolfe asked if there was a need for sixth form capacity in the south of the district. Councillor Gooding said the greater problem was more that schools needed to expand their courses to include those that were less academic. Schools needed to better understand the needs of industry within the area, and that university was not the only destination. Schools with a slightly selective process also had a greater problem with oversubscription.

Councillor Mills said there needed to be a simple answer to the question of how far into the Local Plan it would be before building new schools needed to happen. This should be done for the Regulation 19 consultation.

Action: Substantive discussion at the next locality board meeting on school place planning, including for sixth form

Action: Investigate destination of leaver figures to see what sort of courses sixth forms should be focusing on providing.

6. Social Isolation Project Update

Fiona Gardiner said the Communities Team were not yet aware of feedback from the project provided to the Young Foundation. There had been a range of opinions encountered. The Little Bardfield community felt that it did not need intervention, whereas Takeley and Little Canfield felt like separate communities, and Usterdale felt connected as an estate, but not to the rest of Saffron Walden. This project had been a project and had worked well here. Methods used here could be rolled out elsewhere.

Dawn French said it would be important to recognise why results had been so positive in Little Bardfield. Fiona Gardiner agreed and said the point of the project was to empower communities. Current projects would be the priority and the team would not move on until they had been completed.

7. ECC Budget Update

Peter Fairley said that despite ECC receiving £50m for social care over the next three years, there are still significant financial gaps to address, including a £71 million gap to fill for 2018/19. The budget process is underway and it may be that consultations will take place as appropriate over the next few months. A strategy had been published

which focused on economic growth, living well, improving communication and doing more for less. On healthcare, there was a big emphasis on prevention, early intervention and self-care. Ray Gooding said there were areas where different thinking was needed.

Councillor Barker said social care for the elderly was not as costly per person as for adults with disabilities.

Dawn French said there were some very good social care facilities for the elderly in Uttlesford, but it was important for care agencies to have a single point of contact at UDC. Many were operating out of sheltered housing organisations, and there was the potential to work differently with them for a more cohesive approach.

Action: To arrange further discussions on this subject at a later date.

8. ECC Response to the Uttlesford Reg 18 Local Plan

Dawn French said she had had a conversation with colleagues at ECC and had resolved to plan more Duty to Cooperate meetings, to ensure a better structure in communication between councils. In the past, officers had not been very good at keeping records of such meetings. It had also been implied that Duty to Cooperate meetings had only discussed traffic and roads, rather than the greater range of items that had actually been on the agendas. However, there had been no problem with ECC's response to UDC's Reg 18 local plan.

Action: To formalise the Duty to Cooperate approach, revising the project plan and composing a list of issues that Essex felt should be discussed more thoroughly.

9 Felsted Gypsy Traveller Site

The question was raised as to whether anything could be done about fly tipping onsite. There had been issues raised about the management of the site. It was important for teams in both councils to work together to determine the root of the problem, and if a resolution was not found, to escalate this.

10. Future Meeting Agenda Items

The next meeting was to be held in November 2017 at the UDC offices – date TBC.

The following subjects were suggested for the agenda:

- Public Health
- School Places

11. Any Other Business

The subject of fly-posting was raised. It was a sensitive issue due to the anti-housing posters protesting the Regulation 18 local plan. The issue would be left with officers.

The meeting finished at 5.20pm.

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