

CABINET held at COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNCIL OFFICES, LONDON ROAD, SAFFRON WALDEN, CB11 4ER, on THURSDAY, 27 MAY 2021 at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillor J Lodge (Chair)
Councillors A Armstrong, C Day, J Evans, R Freeman,
N Hargreaves, P Lees, L Pepper and N Reeve

Officers in attendance: D French (Chief Executive), B Ferguson (Democratic Services Manager), R Harborough (Director - Public Services), A Webb (Director - Finance and Corporate Services) and C Gibson (Democratic Services Officer)

Also Present: Councillors M Caton (Liberal Democrat Party Group Leader), N Gregory (Chair of the Scrutiny Committee), P Fairhurst (Green Party Group Leader) and R Pavitt (Uttlesford Independent Party Group Leader).

CAB1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Leader announced that Councillor Eke was unwell and would be standing down from his duties on the Cabinet for the time being.

CAB2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2021 were approved as a true and correct record.

CAB3 QUESTIONS OR STATEMENTS FROM NON-EXECUTIVE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL (STANDING ITEM)

Councillor Caton requested information as to what budget would be available to support Stansted Day Centre, following on from possible initiatives with Touchpoint.

Councillor Freeman, as Chair of CSRWG, said that he had been working with Councillor Khan on this matter and that it was for each body to come forward with any proposals for funding. The Director – Finance and Corporate Services confirmed this and said that monies were available.

Councillor Pavitt referred to the Local Plan Strategic Objectives item on the agenda and asked whether there had been any progress made in challenging the application of the maximum level of affordability uplift in Uttlesford.

Councillor Evans said that work was currently being undertaken by officers who were looking at the appropriateness of excluding self-employment levels from calculations.

CAB4 MATTERS REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE BY THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE OR BY THE COUNCIL (STANDING ITEM)

No matters had been referred.

CAB5 CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES (STANDING ITEM)

Councillor Gregory, as Chair of Scrutiny, referred to the Scrutiny Committee meeting on 7 April and the call-in of the Corporate Plan Delivery Plan (CPDP). He thanked Councillor Reeve for his engagement and detailed discussion and said he was looking forward to receiving interim progress reports. He said he considered there were still some shortcomings in the document, particularly in that Scrutiny looked for details and for some degree of measurement within the CPDP.

Councillor Gregory then provided an update on the work of the Task and Finish Group on Planning Obligations. He said that their report had been passed by the Scrutiny Committee and would be brought to Cabinet. He read out the five recommendations and particularly thanked Councillors Jones and Criscione for their contributions, alongside Nigel Brown (Development Manager).

CAB6 REPORT OF DELEGATED DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET MEMBERS (STANDING ITEM)

The Leader read out the list of delegated decisions taken by Cabinet Members since the previous Cabinet meeting. There were no comments made.

CAB7 REPORT ON ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE DETERMINED BY THE ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE AND LOCAL HERITAGE LIST COMMITTEE (STANDING ITEM)

Councillor Day reported that he had chaired the Local Heritage List Committee on 22 April and commended Bruce Tice (Principal Website Officer) for his contribution as lead officer. He said that 60 assets had been added to the second edition of the list with one put back requiring further information. He expressed concerns about the condition of old iron signposts and said that he had written to Essex Highways on the matter. He said that he had also written to the Assistant Director – Planning in respect of the limited protection on the properties on the list. He had suggested that some properties should be looked at under Article 4 Directions of the Town and Country Planning Orders.

Councillor Day also reported that the Assets of Community Value were currently undergoing a review and that the possibility of delegating less complicated matters to officers was being examined with a report being brought back to Cabinet.

Councillors Hargreaves and Evans both welcomed the initiative in respect of Article 4 Directions. Councillor Hargreaves said that Conservation Area reports needed to be updated. Councillor Evans welcomed the contact made with Essex Highways in respect of the condition of iron works.

The report was received.

CAB8 APPOINTMENTS TO CABINET COMMITTEES

Councillor Lees proposed and Councillor Day seconded the proposed appointments.

RESOLVED to approve the membership of Cabinet committees as follows:

ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE AND LOCAL HERITAGE LIST COMMITTEE:

Councillors C Day, J Evans, R Freeman, P Lees and L Pepper.

VOLUNTARY SUPPORT GRANTS COMMITTEE:

Councillors N Hargreaves, P Lees, C Day and J Lodge.

CAB9 CABINET WORKING GROUPS - TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Leader proposed and Councillor Pepper seconded the proposed terms of reference.

RESOLVED to approve the terms of references for Cabinet working groups as set out in the report.

CAB10 CABINET WORKING GROUPS - APPOINTMENTS

The Leader stated that there were amendments to the published list in that Councillor Foley would chair the Stansted Airport Advisory Panel (STAAP) and Councillor Sutton would replace Councillor Eke on the same panel.

The Leader proposed and Councillor Hargreaves seconded the proposed appointments.

RESOLVED to approve Cabinet working group membership as set out in the report, with the exception of Councillor Sutton replacing Councillor Eke on STAAP and Councillor Foley being appointed as Chair of STAAP.

CAB11 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The Leader proposed and Councillor Pepper seconded the listed representatives together with the additional appointment of Councillor Day to the Community Safety Partnership (CSP)

RESOLVED to approve appointments for Outside Bodies for 2021-22 as set out in the report.

CAB12 APPOINTMENTS TO NORTH ESSEX PARKING PARTNERSHIP AND THE WEST ESSEX WELLBEING JOINT COMMITTEE

The Leader proposed and Councillor Hargreaves seconded the proposed appointments.

RESOLVED to make the following Joint Committee appointments:

NORTH ESSEX PARKING PARTNERSHIP:

Councillor R Freeman

Substitute Member: Councillor A Armstrong.

WEST ESSEX WELLBEING JOINT COMMITTEE:

Councillors P Lees and M Tayler.

CAB13 LOCAL PLAN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Councillor Evans, as Portfolio Holder for Planning and the Local Plan, outlined the report and the Supplementary Paper. He commended Stephen Miles (Local Plans and New Communities Manager) for the quick turnaround of his reports and thanked other officers for their contributions. He referred to the draft vision and objectives within the documents and said that this product had been the result of harmonious working within LPLG and that best practice had been followed.

He said that the language of the plan needed to be clear and he encouraged everyone to review the information outlined in the Supplementary Paper. He said that LPLG would come back to Cabinet in July with further ideas, particularly in respect of potential development locations.

Councillor Reeve said that he supported the content and the vision and recognised that the process would evolve.

Councillor Lees said that Members would have the opportunity to refine wording over time.

Councillor Caton referred to Paragraph 1.2.5 of the Supplementary Paper which included reference to “the local benefits of Stansted Airport”; he asked whether the Administration had any plans as to how to respond in light of the recent Planning Appeal decision.

The Leader said that it was far too early to look at next steps and that he was disappointed that no advance notification of the decision had been given to the Council. He said next steps were under consideration.

Councillor Evans proposed and Councillor Armstrong seconded the recommendation in the report.

RESOLVED to approve the draft vision and objectives for the new Local Plan as recommended by the LPLG.

The meeting ended at 7.40pm.

COMMITTEES OF CABINET

ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE AND LOCAL HERITAGE LIST COMMITTEE:

Cllrs C Day, J Evans, R Freeman, P Lees and L Pepper

VOLUNTARY SUPPORT GRANTS COMMITTEE:

Cllrs N Hargreaves, P Lees, C Day and J Lodge

JOINT COMMITTEES

NORTH ESSEX PARKING PARTNERSHIP:

Cllr R Freeman

Substitute Member: Cllr A Armstrong

WEST ESSEX WELLBEING JOINT COMMITTEE:

Cllrs P Lees and M Tayler

WORKING GROUPS OF THE CABINET

Name of Group	No of Members	Membership	
Community Achievement Panel	5	H Asker M Caton P Lees (C)	M Sutton Vacancy
Community Services Review Working Group	6	A Coote C Day R Freeman (C)	P Lavelle M Tayler A Khan
Energy and Climate Change and Working Group	7	M Caton C Criscione G Driscoll R Freeman	B Light L Pepper (C) R Pavitt
Highways Panel	4 + 4 ECC members	<u>UDC Members</u> G Driscoll G LeCount R Jones G Sell	<u>ECC Members</u> S Barker R Gooding P Gadd M Foley
Housing Board	10 + 2 tenant reps	A Armstrong A Coote A Dean A Khan P Lees (C)	M Lemon S Merifield N Reeve G Driscoll M Foley
Investment Board	12 + 2 independent members	G Bagnall C Criscione N Hargreaves A Khan P Lavelle G LeCount	J Lodge R Pavitt N Reeve G Sell J de Vries Vacancy
Local Plan Leadership Group	12	G Bagnall (C) M Caton R Freeman P Lees B Light M Lemon	S Merifield R Pavitt N Reeve Vacancy M Sutton M Tayler
Museum Management Working Group	5 + 5 Board Members	A Armstrong N Gregory B Light	G Sell (C) R Freeman
Stansted Airport Advisory Panel	10	M Caton A Dean M Sutton P Fairhurst M Foley (C)	V Isham G LeCount M Lemon S Luck N Reeve
Strategic Infrastructure Delivery Group	7 + external reps	M Caton C Criscione G Driscoll J Evans (C)	N Gregory L Pepper M Tayler

REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Organisation	Number	Representative (s)
Armed Forces and Community Covenant	1	Rod Jones
Board of Turpins Indoor Bowling Club	1	Paul Fairhurst
Campaign to Protect Rural Essex	1	Martin Foley
Committee of the Friends of the Maltings	1	Patrick Lavelle
Community Safety Partnership	1	Colin Day
Cooperation for Sustainable Development Board	1	John Evans
Council for Voluntary Services – Uttlesford	1	Sandi Merifield
Crawley Prize Endowment	2	Colin Day & John Lodge
Dunmow Day Centre Management Cttee	1	Patrick Lavelle
Dunmow Museum Management Cttee	1	Rod Jones
Essex County Traveller Unit	1	Colin Day
Essex Flood Partnership Board	1	Richard Pavitt
Essex Waste Partnership Board	1	Patrick Lavelle
Friends of Bridge End Gardens	1	Richard Freeman
Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Board	1	John Evans
Historic England Heritage Champion	1	Geoffrey Sell
Local Government Association - General Assembly	1	John Lodge
LGA – SPARSE Rural Assembly	1	John Evans
Local Strategic Partnership	1	Colin Day
London Stansted Cambridge Consortium	1	John Lodge
Parking and Traffic Regulation outside London Adjudication Committee	1	Geof Driscoll
Saffron Walden Arts Trust	1	Paul Fairhurst
Saffron Walden Business Improvement District (SW BID)	1	Neil Reeve
Saffron Walden Museum Society	1	Barbara Light
Stansted Airport Community Trust	1	Garry LeCount
Stansted Airport Consultative Committee	1	Sandi Merifield
Stansted Day Centre Management Committee	1	Geoffrey Sell
Strategic Aviation Special Interest Group	1	Louise Pepper
Thaxted Guildhall Management Cttee	1	Mike Tayler
Uttlesford Association of Local Councils	1	Christian Criscione
Uttlesford Citizens' Advice Bureau	1	Richard Freeman
Uttlesford Community Travel	1	Geoffrey Sell
Uttlesford Transport Forum	4	Richard Freeman, Geof Driscoll, Mark Lemon & Garry LeCount
West Essex Transportation Board	1	Geof Driscoll