Uttlesford Locality Board: Minutes

Uttlesford District Council, 22 January 2018

Attendees: Cllr Susan Barker (UDC/ECC), Alistair Bochel (UDC), Monica Bird (ECC),

Peter Fairley (ECC), Dawn French (UDC), Blaise Gammie (ECC), Fiona Gardiner (UDC), Mike Gogarty (ECC), Cllr Ray Gooding (ECC), Roger Harborough (UDC), Cllr S Howell (UDC), Cllr J Moran (ECC), Cllr V Ranger (UDC), Cllr Howard Rolfe – Chair (UDC), Cllr Howard Ryles (UDC), Adrian

Webb (UDC)

Apologies: Cllr Julie Redfern and Cllr Simon Walsh

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 18 September 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

A 'point of contact' list for parish transport representatives had not been circulated. ECC found it difficult to keep track of these representatives because they changed on a very regular basis. It was agreed that UDC should write to parish clerks in the first instance for the contact details of their transport representatives.

Action: UDC to write to parish councils to request contact details for transport representatives.

Mike Gogarty clarified the number of road deaths was determined by the number of Uttlesford residents killed on the road (anywhere), rather than the number of people killed on the road in Uttlesford. Whilst it may be assumed this is linked to fast roads such as the M11, more deaths occur on rural roads.

Action: To circulate statistics relating to the locations of road accidents in the minutes of the meeting.

3. ECC and UDC budget updates

Cllr Gooding said ECC's cabinet was due to meet the following day to vote on the 2018/19 budget proposals. This included more than £300 million for schools, new homes, roads and support for the economy. Council Tax would rise by 2% through the governments' social care precept and 2.99% to support the delivery of services.

UDC confirmed it would also be discussing a 2.99% increase in Council Tax.

4. Public health profile

Mike Gogarty gave an overview of public health across Uttlesford. He said problematic profiles for Uttlesford include:

- barriers to housing and services
- drug-related crime
- excess winter deaths

- hip fractures in people aged over 65
- number of those killed and seriously injured on roads
- under 75 mortality rate: cancer
- admission episodes for alcohol specific conditions (under 18s)

Some of these issues were hard to control because they were affected by the high cost of properties in the area and Uttlesford's rural location.

Action: To further investigate potential ways of mitigating these issues.

5. Local Plan update

Dawn French said the Council had now completed its Regulation 18 consultation and was in the process of preparing its Regulation 19 plan. It was important for UDC to maintain dialogue with ECC, in order to build a focus on health and wellbeing into the proposed developments. Mike Gogarty suggested that UDC liaise with David Hill, Director, Strategic Commissioning & Policy.

6. School place planning

Monica Bird and Blaise Gammie gave an overview of planning for school places. High level testing was continuing, and the results of this testing would change over time.

Monica Bird presented estimates of the forecast surplus/deficit number of school places in each primary and secondary group, with and without predicted local plan housing.

Blaise Gammie gave an overview of the scenario testing that had been carried out regarding school places. Issues raised included:

- the Hall Road site would be key to the expansion of Elsenham Primary School.
- there could be problems expanding Newport Primary School on a tight site.
- there would be insufficient demand during the Plan period to establish a new school at North Uttlesford Garden Suburb, but growth could not be accommodated at Saffron Walden County High in addition to Saffron Walden's own growth.

Concerns were expressed about front-loading Local Plan development to ensure there was enough demand for a new school at the North Uttlesford Garden Suburb, without creating problems constructing a balanced community.

Councillor Gooding said schools were bid for by providers through the Department of Education. ECC had built good contacts within the UDC Planning Team to discuss this.

Dawn French said it would be reassuring to distil information about the work being done and the process that was in place to ensure it would reflect concerns to put into the public domain.

Action point: ECC to distil key information into a media release regarding the work going on to plan school places.

7. Adult social care restructure update

Peter Fairley said ECC were restructuring adult social care, and was working with GPs and other medical professionals on a range of preventative measures.

8. Future agenda items

It was agreed that discussion points for the next meeting would include

- highways and gritting
- flooding prevention in proposed developments
- police and drugs

The meeting finished at 6.20pm