

# Report of Alan Storah to The Sampfords Parish Council

16<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## 1. Local Plan

The Inspectors have recently issued a letter following the Stage 1 hearing sessions into the draft Uttlesford Local Plan. The Council had progressed the plan because, whilst it was flawed, successful progression to adoption would have resulted in the district having a 5 year housing land supply thus ending the current developer 'free-for-all'. However, the Inspectors found the plan to be 'unsound' concluding, at para. 128, that ".....we are of the view that withdrawal of the plan from examination is likely to be the most appropriate option." Nevertheless, the council will carefully consider the options available to it, together with the potential implications of each, before determining how to proceed in order to best benefit the district and its residents.

The Inspectors found fault with the evidence substantiating transport and infrastructure provision, financial viability, control over the delivery of new settlements, the locations of proposed new homes and the proposals to build 3 new settlements all at the same time. With regard to the proposed new settlements at Great Chesterford and Easton Park, the Inspectors had additional specific concerns about impact to the historic environment. They concluded their report with "The Garden Communities are insufficiently justified and have not been shown to have a reasonable prospect of being delivered as submitted."

The letter can be viewed at [https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/media/10107/ED-82-Inspectors-letter-to-UDC-following-the-stage-1-hearing-sessions/pdf/ED82\\_Post\\_stage\\_1\\_hearings\\_letter\\_to\\_the\\_Council\\_-\\_Final\\_10.1.20\\_.pdf?m=637146018196430000](https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/media/10107/ED-82-Inspectors-letter-to-UDC-following-the-stage-1-hearing-sessions/pdf/ED82_Post_stage_1_hearings_letter_to_the_Council_-_Final_10.1.20_.pdf?m=637146018196430000).

## 2. Stansted Airport

The dates have been announced as to when Uttlesford District Council's Planning Committee will meet to consider the adequacy of the S106 Agreement as well as any potential new material considerations since the committee resolved to grant the planning application for:-

'Airfield works comprising two new taxiway links to the existing runway (a Rapid Access Taxiway and a Rapid Exit Taxiway), six additional remote aircraft stands (adjacent Yankee taxiway); and three additional aircraft stands (extension of the Echo Apron) to enable combined airfield operations of 274,000 aircraft movements (of which not more than 16,000 movements would be Cargo Air Transport Movements (CATM)) and a throughput of 43 million terminal passengers, in a 12-month calendar period.'

The meeting will be spread across two days - Friday 17 January and Friday 24 January. The first day (17 January, from 10am) will be dedicated as the formal public speaking part of the meeting, including representations from town and parish councils. Following the public speaking on 17 January, the meeting will be adjourned until 11am on 24 January when the Planning Committee will consider the recommendations and the representations before

determining whether to authorise the release of a decision notice formally approving the application.

The report to the committee is available at:-

<https://uttlesford.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s16186/Planning%20Committee%20report%2017-24%20January%202020.pdf>

### **3. Councillor initiative**

You will recall that all District Councillors are each allocated £2,000 to spend on good causes within their ward and that, given that there are 4 parish councils in the ward, each parish has agreed that that sum should be shared, such that there is £500 available for each. I am now being reminded that time in this current financial year is passing and would therefore be most grateful if the council could determine how it would like to spend this money.

As a reminder, potentially suitable community projects and/or causes include, for example:

- Grant to the town/parish council for a specific project/activity
- Grant to a voluntary organisation or local charity
- Grant to a community organisation e.g. village hall
- Grant to a sports or social club (subject to appropriate rules on membership)
- Grant to a local school, church, doctors' surgery, hospital etc
- Grant to local scouts, cubs or guides etc
- Funding a community event or celebration.

I would therefore be pleased to know if this council has any suggestions as to how this money could, and should, be spend, so that I can progress a bid to UDC as soon as possible.

### **4. Complaint re road condition**

In response to a complaint from a resident, I am seeking to bring about improvements to the condition of the road surface at Sparepenny Lane North, the condition of which has apparently deteriorated over the years. The complainant has approached County Cllr. Walsh, a member of the local highway authority, but has had no satisfaction. I am, therefore, approaching the issue through different avenues and will advise you as to the eventual outcome in due course.