



UTTLESFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Felsted & Stebbing Ward

District Councillors Sandi Merifield & John Evans



DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT: MAY 2021

Cllrs Sandi Merifield and John Evans are pleased to present their Monthly Report to the Parish Council. This month's Report is rather "lighter" than usual given the period when fewer meetings take place during because of the "purdah", leading up to the County Council Elections on 6 May.

CORONAVIRUS

We have of course noted the outcome of the Court case regarding the holding of virtual Council meetings etc and Uttlesford are taking active measures to be able to resume full Council meetings in the Chamber (using the balcony too) in a socially distanced way. Working groups and sub-committee meetings can be held virtually and we anticipate that use of that means will continue. We have found it to be very convenient and enabled us on occasion to attend more than one meeting of an evening which would not have been possible had our physical presence in locations distanced one from the other been required. We shall of course be pleased to attend you in whatever venue/means is determined by you.

There is still information available on Covid -19 Business Support Grants available at

<https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/covid-business-support-grants>

If any resident's income is affected by coronavirus they may be able to claim benefits to support them through this period. Information can be found at

<https://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/counciltaxandbenefits>

LOCAL PLAN & POLICY MATTERS

The early Issues and Options process of consultation has now ended on 21 April and we will report further as to the next steps over the following months which will involve the drawing together of some initial thoughts by the Local Plan Leadership Group as to the topics and evidence to be considered.

This has coincided with conclusion of the Call for Sites exercise and an initial sift of these will be undertaken by the UDC officers to identify those which are on their face "available and achievable" (as required by national policy) and to segregate them from those which are not and of course identifying

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the applicable constraints. This will take place over the next few months. This process and, also, the latest work programme for the LPLG is included here by way of a copy of the Agenda papers for the LPLG Meeting (attended of course as usual by Sandi and John) which was held on 29 April.

The work timetable lying ahead for the LPLG is contained in the pack at pp 12-14.

[\(Public Pack\)Agenda Document for Local Plan Leadership Group, 29/04/2021 19:00 \(moderngov.co.uk\)](#)

Finally, as before, while we are still unable to hold face to face councillor surgeries, we would be very happy to hear from any parish councillors or residents by email or phone should there be anything they think we can help with or answer any questions you may have on our report.

Cllr Sandi Merifield

Cllr John Evans

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