

# FOCUS



*The All Year Round Newsletter*

## Are Heavy Lorries Shaking Your Foundations?



Councillor Antoinette Wattebot would like to hear from you if you feel that increased numbers of 5- and 6-axle lorries on the main roads through Thaxted, Duton Hill and Little Bardfield are spoiling your quality of life.

How many do you see each day and how do they affect you personally? Please e-mail Antoinette or use the tear-off form on the back of this leaflet: no stamp is needed.

### Vicarage Mead

It is hoped that by this Autumn we will see the start of improvement work taking place at Vicarage Mead in Thaxted. The work will be carried out in two phases with tenants occupying half of the building while the other half is being improved.

This is the wish of tenants who did not want to move out of Thaxted and all the services it provides. Your local Liberal Democrat councillors Antoinette Wattebot and Martin Foley have asked that residents are fully consulted every step of the way to try to minimise disruption for them. With the Lib Dems now in control, Uttlesford District Council is actively committed to putting the needs and concerns of residents before mere administrative convenience.

## Lib Dem £££ Uttlesford is Lowest for Council Tax

Most of your Council Tax goes to Essex County Council, with the rest going to District Councils, Parish Councils and the Police. Since the Conservatives took the lead on the County Council they have put their part of your Council Tax up by a shocking 93%.

By contrast, Liberal Democrat-led Uttlesford District Council has the lowest Council Tax of any District in Essex.

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# Aircraft Noise Damages Children's Development?



*"Exposure to high levels of aircraft noise could impair the development of reading and memory in children, suggests a study published this week. ... Increased exposure to aircraft noise was associated with increased stress and reduced quality of life. The authors conclude that schools exposed to high levels of aircraft noise are not healthy educational environments."*

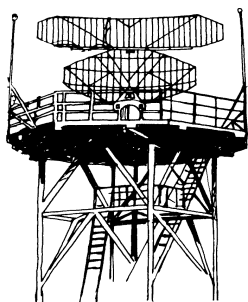
[www.thelancet.com](http://www.thelancet.com)

Commenting on the report published in renowned medical journal *The Lancet* into the effect of aircraft noise on children, Liberal Democrat District Councillor Martin Foley said "This report should be another nail in the coffin of the Labour Government plans to expand Stansted."

"We already know that aircraft emissions are causing significant climate change damage. We now have evidence the noise they are producing is damaging children's development. The Government must not allow unbridled expansion of the aviation industry."

"Unlike the Conservatives, the Liberal Democrats are implacably opposed to expansion of runways in the South East."

## Phone Masts



Liberal Democrat Councillors Antoinette Wattebot and Martin Foley are calling for local councils to be given more power to make decisions on the siting of mobile phone masts. "Currently the rules are really stacked against local people" says Councillor Martin Foley.

Your Local Lib Dem Councillors will support people's concerns. However current government planning rules prevent Uttlesford District Council refusing planning permission on health grounds alone. Liberal Democrat MP Andrew Stunnell has put forward proposals to Parliament to give councils like Uttlesford more power to say no to masts. Unfortunately there was not time for the Bill to be passed before the General Election. Lib Dem MP's will be backing plans to re-introduce the proposals.

## Aircraft Noise Hotline



**0800 243 788**

[stanstednoiseline@baa.com](mailto:stanstednoiseline@baa.com)

## Councillors' Surgeries

You can meet your Liberal Democrat district councillors Antoinette Wattebot and Martin Foley at their monthly surgery on the second Saturday of the month from 10 - 11.30 am at the Thaxted Information Centre.

The next surgeries are on Saturday 10th September, Saturday 8th October, Saturday 12th November and Saturday 10th December. If you prefer, you can of course get in touch with us by e-mail or telephone as shown on the front of this leaflet.



**Raise an issue! Have your say!**

Return to Liberal Democrats, FREEPOST CL2702, Stansted CM24 8BR.

**I can help the Lib Dems by:**

- Delivering a few leaflets
- Putting up a poster
- Making a donation of £ \_\_\_\_ (to "Liberal Democrats")

Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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