


FOCUS

on Elsenham & Henham

Lib Dem 46%	Con 39%	Only the Lib Dems can beat the Tories in Uttlesford!	 <p>LIBERAL DEMOCRATS www.libdems.org.uk</p>
<p>Votes cast at the last District Council elections. Labour have no councillors left here.</p>		<p>Lab just 5%</p> <p>Green 1%</p>	

Autumn 2006

Stansted Airport News



The Liberal Democrat conference voted to increase tax on air travel, which is the most environmentally damaging form of transport. The Conservative Party conference voted for cheap flights to continue.

Uttlesford Council will not decide whether or not to lift the restrictions on the use of Stansted Airport's current runway until the end of November. The delay has arisen because BAA, the Highways Agency and railway companies didn't supply all the required information in time to allow the Council to make a decision on 27th September. Council Leader, Liberal Democrat Mark Gayler, says "I am extremely disappointed that the decision has been delayed. Had BAA done its homework properly before submitting the application, and had highways and rail agencies done their jobs properly, this delay would not have occurred."

Elsenham Crossing



Since the tragic accident at Elsenham railway station last December, Councillors David Morson and Catherine Dean have urged Network Rail to implement measures to improve the safety of the pedestrian crossing as soon as possible.

Following a meeting they requested with Network Rail in July, David Morson said "We expressed our concern that Network Rail was not keeping us informed and had still not introduced any safety measures. They now seem to have got the message, and are promising some action." Both councillors are now delighted that Network Rail has agreed to lock the pedestrian gates (which will be supervised by the crossing keeper) and to install a footbridge. Catherine Dean said, "I welcome this decision, which along with the safety measures already implemented, should mean that the crossing will be very safe, and there will hopefully be no more terrible accidents."

David and Catherine will be holding Network Rail to their commitment to hold a public meeting in Elsenham in the New Year.

Bins Boost Recycling

The government's Audit Commission has praised Liberal Democrat-led Uttlesford District Council for introducing the new three-bin recycling system and for taking difficult decisions and 'bold steps'.

They said that the previous recycling system inherited from the last Tory administration was not good enough, with too much household rubbish being sent to landfill.

Lib Dem councillor David Morson said: "The new system is already producing results, with a major reduction in the amount of refuse we send to landfill and a huge improvement in our recycling performance. I am delighted that the hard work of the Council in planning the new service has been recognised by the report."



Lib Dem councillor Catherine Dean says the new bins have helped local residents recycle more.

Green Tax Switch

Liberal Democrats want to give the average family a £1,000 income tax cut to help save the planet.

The Lib Dems want to radically change the way Britain pays tax. Taxing good things - like income - less, and switching to taxing bad things - like pollution - instead.

The more you choose to switch to greener living, the less tax you pay.

While other politicians just talk about the environment, Lib Dem leader, Sir Menzies Campbell, has won praise for his green tax switch plan to actually do something to tackle growing climate chaos.

"The proposals include:

- Increase road tax on the most polluting cars to £2,000
- Increase tax on air travel
- Extend the Climate Change Levy across the whole economy
- Take low earners out of the tax system
- Cut taxes on middle income earners"

- BBC News Website

Liberal Democrats - First For The Environment

Tories Leave Us In The Dark Here to help

Conservative-run Essex County Council is proposing to turn off most street lights in this area from 12.00 midnight until 5.00 AM.

"The Liberal Democrats are in favour of cutting carbon emissions but do not want the lights switched off where there is a possible threat to personal safety," said Lib Dem Cllr. David Morson.

Conservative County Councillors decided to turn the lights off without consulting Uttlesford District Council or local parish councils.

Whilst some will welcome the switch-off, others will be afraid to come home in the dark. This is likely to encourage greater car use as people will not want to walk around in the dark, causing more damage to the environment than the lighting.

"This proposal has not been properly thought out. The County Council should carry out a proper consultation before taking any action." said Cllr. Catherine Dean.



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● *Lib Dem councillors Catherine Dean and David Morson inspect one of the lights that will be switched off under the Conservative proposals.*



Following the successful establishment of a Teen Shelter in Birchanger, Cllrs David Morson and Catherine Dean have worked with Darren Godfrey (Essex County Council Youth Worker) and 19 young people from Elsenham to provide one for Elsenham. The young people have formed themselves into a Management Committee for the shelter and funding will come from the Home Office who wish to see such facilities in villages. Cllr David Morson said, "I cannot praise these young people enough for the responsible manner in which they have organised themselves. Their commitment has been consistent and credible". Cllr Catherine Dean added, "Sadly, the adverse publicity caused by a minority can spoil things for the majority. These young people are determined that this should not happen and I applaud their constructive and positive attitudes." The young people themselves want the Teen Shelter to be named in memory of their friends Charlotte and Olivia.

Sustainable Homes

● *The Sustainable Homes Network can give you information about solar panels for your home.*



Liberal Democrat-led Uttlesford District Council is supporting the Sustainable Homes Network, which is a community initiative that provides practical information to help householders reduce the environmental impact of their homes and gardens.

Membership is free. You can join on line at www.saffireweb.net/sustainablehomes or by writing to Sustainable Homes Network, c/o Uttlesford District Council, London Road, Saffron Walden CB11 4ER.

Money Off Your Council Tax

Uttlesford District Council has signed up to an innovative British Gas-funded scheme that offers Council Tax rebates worth up to £75 each to local residents who install energy-efficient measures in their homes. Call the Council on 01799 510510 for more details.

It matters what you think...

We need to know your problems/comments on local issues. Please write them down in the space provided below.



We may write to you from time to time to keep you informed on issues we think you may find of interest. Please let us know if you do not wish to be contacted for this purpose

Name.....
Address.....
Phone.....
E-mail.....@.....

Help us to help you

- I will display a poster for the Lib Dems at election time.
- I can deliver a few leaflets from time to time in my area.
- I'd like to join the Lib Dems. Please call on me.
- I enclose a donation for Focus to the "Liberal Democrats" for £ _____

A donation of £12 or more entitles you to membership of the Liberal Democrats. Please tick if you don't wish to be enrolled