

FOCUS

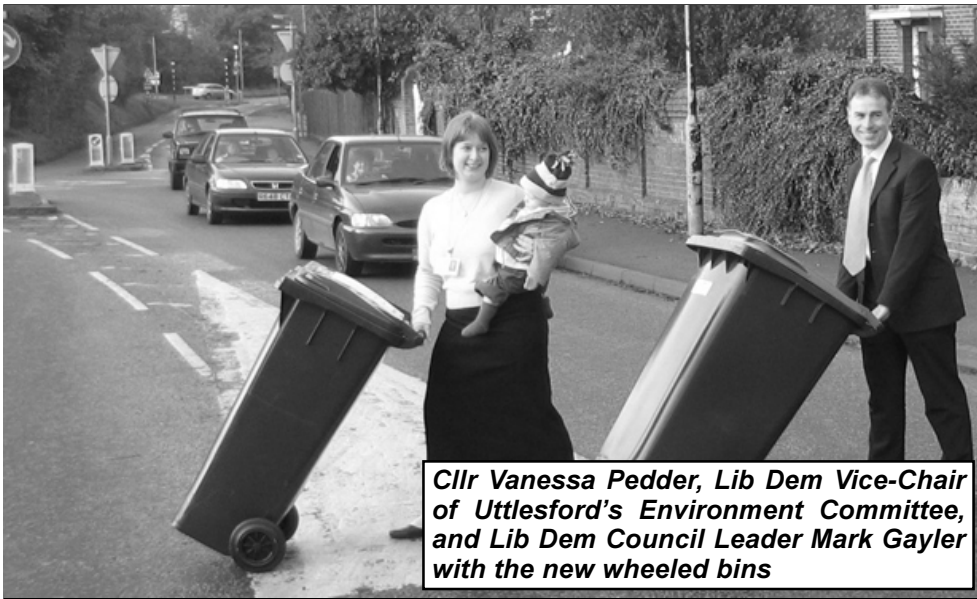


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The All Year Round Newsletter

Wheeled bins will boost recycling



Cllr Vanessa Pedder, Lib Dem Vice-Chair of Uttlesford's Environment Committee, and Lib Dem Council Leader Mark Gayler with the new wheeled bins

Uttlesford District Council is bringing in a new system of refuse collection to boost recycling rates, protect the environment, and save you money.

Cllr Vanessa Pedder said "Burying waste in the ground produces methane which in turn contributes to global warming. We need to recycle more, and the new system of wheeled bins will help us to do so."

"We know that some places in our villages are unsuitable for wheeled bins," added Cllr Catherine Dean, "We will be talking to local residents and providing alternatives where appropriate. Frail or disabled people that have difficulty with them will receive extra assistance."

Liberal Democrats care for the Environment and your pocket

Waste Plan - The Facts

- Smelly kitchen waste will be collected weekly, as now. Dry recyclable material and any remaining waste will be collected separately in alternate weeks.
- Uttlesford Council recognises that not every property is suitable for a wheeled bin. Alternatives will be available where that is the case.
- Frail and disabled people who cannot cope with moving the wheeled bins will be given extra assistance by the refuse collectors.
- The cost of burying waste in the ground is huge, both financially and environmentally.
- The council aims to increase recycling rates from 23% to 50% over the next three years.
- The current system will not achieve the 50% target. It has been shown that the use of wheeled bins makes it easier for people to recycle.
- The cost of fines imposed on Councils not achieving the targets will be much higher than the cost of the new system.

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Uttlesford bares its teeth on airport impact



The wrong type of passenger?

We are used to the old British Rail blaming train delays on the 'wrong type of snow'. Now the private operator 'one', in league with BAA Stansted and the Government, seems interested mainly in getting passengers to and from the airport. Liberal Democrats don't accept that commuters and other local rail travellers are the 'wrong type of passenger'.

The rail timetable introduced last month has cut trains at local stations, including Elsenham and Stansted Mountfitchet, and lengthened journey times to London to make way for more Stansted Express trains.

"I predicted this would happen in 1990 before the airport branch was opened," said Lib Dem councillor Alan Dean. "Since December 1 and local commuters have been lobbying 'one' and the Department for Transport to reverse the cuts. I am hopeful there will be improvements in February".

Uttlesford's new South-West Area Panel will be launched at Mountfitchet High School on 31 January at 7.30 p.m.

Cllr David Morson said: "We have invited a spokesman from 'one' to this meeting to explain the past two months' appalling rail service. This will give councillors and members of the public the opportunity to make clear that local people will not put up with being treated as second class citizens to occasional users of the airport".

Uttlesford councillors have unanimously agreed tough conditions for BAA Stansted to meet if the airport is to grow beyond 25 million passengers a year.

Said Lib Dem councillor Alan Dean, who drafted the conditions, "The council has made a clear statement to BAA that any new planning application will not be a walkover".

The Lib Dem controlled council wants BAA to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from aircraft, to stop impacting local services such as train services, so recently hit by the airport, reduce car use for passengers and workers, including cutting car parking spaces. The council has said BAA must demonstrate that the environmental impacts on those living nearby will be reduced and minimised.

Council Leader Mark Gayler added: "The council is responding to the strong community opposition to more airport growth and has asked BAA to take this opposition seriously."

Lib Dems Oppose Police Merger

Local Lib Dems have criticised Home Office plans to merge Essex Police with neighbouring forces.



Cllr Catherine Dean commented: "What we need is more and better local policing. We will support moves to provide more visible policing in our towns and villages. But if the Essex Police Force is merged with other counties in the region then they will be less likely to be listen to local opinion."



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")

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