

# FOCUS

on Takeley and the Canfields

**Lib Dem**  
46%

**Con**  
39%

Votes cast at the last District Council elections. Labour have no councillors left here.

Only the Lib Dems can beat the Tories in Uttlesford!

**Lab just**  
5%

**Green**  
1%



**Winter**  
**2006/07**

## Stansted Airport Application Refused



Lib Dem controlled Uttlesford Council have refused Stansted Airport's application to expand beyond 25 million passengers per year, and increase the number of flights per year allowed from the existing runway.

"This is the right decision for the local community, and the right decision for the global environment," said Cllr Richard Harris. "The impact of the proposed increase in flights and passengers would have an unacceptable impact on noise levels, air quality and the overall quality of life. The Airport has also failed to produce adequate proposals to improve the rail service and show how they would deal with increased road traffic."

BAA have appealed against the refusal, but the Council will mount a robust defence of the decision it has taken.

Cllr Harris says: "All the work that has been done over the last six months, and the evidence that has been gathered, will put us in a strong position at a public inquiry."

● **Lib Dem Councillor Richard Harris says that Stansted Airport's proposals would have an unacceptable impact on the quality of life of the local community**

From your local Lib Dem Focus Team



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## Bins Boost Recycling

The Government's Audit Commission has praised Lib Dem 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 Cllr Richard Harris 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 Richard Harris says that Uttlesford's recycling has more than doubled since the introduction of the new three-bin recycling system.**

## 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

**Lib Dem Uttlesford - Standing Up For Our Community**

# Tackling Local Housing Need



● Local Lib Dem Cllr Richard Harris wants to see empty homes rented out to local people in need of housing

Local Lib Dems are committed to tackling the need for more affordable local housing. There are many people in the local area on the Council's waiting list looking for housing.

While there is a need to build some new housing to meet local needs, there is also a great need to use the housing that is already available.

In order to tackle the problem Lib Dem Uttlesford Council has launched a scheme to enable empty homes to be leased to a Housing Association who in turn could access regional housing money to renovate the property and rent it out.

Lib Dem councillor Richard Harris says: "Too many houses are standing empty. These empty homes blight communities, attract crime and devalue neighbouring properties. I am delighted Uttlesford is taking action to make empty homes available to those who need housing."

# The Lights Go Out!

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

"Local Lib Dems do not want the lights switched off where there is a threat to personal safety," said Cllr Richard Harris.

"Street lighting reduces people's fear of crime, and prevents night time injury. We want proper and meaningful consultation, including risk assessment of likely dangers, and police reports. The County Council must listen to local concerns and not press on before we have all the facts."

The proposal is supposedly aimed at cutting CO2 emissions, but a lack of lighting 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.

# Sustainable Homes

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.

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



Membership is free. You can join 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.

## Civic Amenity Site Needed Now

Local Lib Dems are calling on Conservative controlled Essex County Council to get on with providing the long promised civic amenity site for the south of Uttlesford.

"It is now over ten years since the site was first promised," said Cllr Richard

Harris. "The County Council need to resolve the concerns of residents living near the Hoblongs site, so that they can start work."

"Local residents should not have to travel over 10 miles to dispose of bulky refuse. The delay is unacceptable."

## Join us to fight climate chaos

Climate change threatens everyone, from polar bears to humans alike. We are the last generation that can stop climate chaos from reaching a catastrophic tipping point. The Liberal Democrats are determined to make sure our politicians do not let us down. Join our campaign today by returning this form.



Name/s \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Every pound you donate will help the fight to protect our planet from climate chaos

- I enclose a donation cheque to the "Liberal Democrats" for:
  - £100  £50  £25  Other: £ \_\_\_\_\_
- I can help deliver some leaflets in my area.
- I will display a poster for the Liberal Democrats at election time.

A donation of £6 or more entitles you to membership of the Lib Dems. Please tick here if you are already a member or do not wish to join:

**Return to: Liberal Democrats,  
 Freepost CL2702, Stansted  
 CM24 8BR.**



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