

FOCUS

Best Wishes for 2007

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%



January 2007

Edited by Councillor Peter Wilcock and Councillor Andrew Yarwood

www.saffronwaldenlibdems.org.uk

Stansted Airport Application Refused



● Liberal Democrat Councillors voted against BAA's application for more flights at Stansted Airport. Lib Dem Councillor Andrew Yarwood comments "More flights will speed up climate change and spoil the local environment. It is a shame that local Conservatives are so divided on this vital issue for our area."



● Hatfield Forest - threatened by Stansted Airport expansion.

Liberal Democrat-controlled Uttlesford District Council has 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 local Liberal Democrat Councillor Peter Wilcock.

Unacceptable Impact

"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 has already appealed against the refusal, but the Council will mount a robust defence of the decision it has taken. Cllr Andrew Yarwood added: "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."

Conservative Flip-Flop

In contrast, Lord Hanningfield, the Conservative Leader of Essex County Council, says that Uttlesford District Council has made a mistake in voting against expansion.

Lib Dems Fight Expansion

Liberal Democrat Councillor Peter Wilcock commented "I am deeply disappointed that Essex Conservatives have not been totally on board with this. Liberal Democrats are sticking to their guns and are going to fight Stansted expansion all the way."

Lib Dem MPs Back Airport Refusal

Lib Dem Shadow Transport and Environment Secretaries, Alistair Carmichael MP and Chris Huhne MP have both backed Uttlesford District Council for making the right decision on airport expansion.

Alistair Carmichael said: "The Government's White Paper on aviation was fundamentally flawed. In the light of the Stern review it is clear that the Government's plans for expansion of aviation need to be completely revised."

"Until this takes place it would be absolute folly to make any plans to allow rapid expansion of airports in the overheated south east of Britain."

"The Stern review should be a wake up call to the Government. A new approach is needed to planning airport expansion, as the Uttlesford Liberal Democrats rightly recognise."

"But I have to explain to people why the county is not simply opposed to any expansion"

- This area's Conservative County Councillor Ray Gooding, writing in Cllr magazine, November 2006

● Conservative-controlled Essex County Council is in favour of caving in to BAA's demand for Stansted Airport expansion - in the vain hope that the Airport will offer some small concessions to the local community.

Lib Dem Uttlesford - Standing Up For Our Community

Tackling Local Housing Need



Local Lib Dem Councillors Peter Wilcock and Andrew Yarwood want 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 on the Council's waiting list looking for housing. Whilst 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, Liberal Democrat-controlled 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.

Liberal Democrat Councillor Peter Wilcock says: "Too many houses are standing empty. They blight communities, attract crime and devalue neighbouring properties. I am delighted that Uttlesford is taking action to make empty homes available to those who need housing."

Here to help



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Save Money And Help Save The Planet



Liberal Democrats are working hard to promote energy conservation in order to cut CO2 emissions. There are many simple things that you can do, which will save you money, and help to reduce global warming.

- Replace your old boiler. It could reduce your water heating bills by 20-40% or between £190-£240 per year. It could also reduce your carbon emissions by as much as a tonne.
 - Insulate your hot water tank with a jacket at least 75mm (3 inches) thick. Doing so could save you between £10-£20 a year, and reduce your carbon emissions by 150 kg a year.
 - Fill your cavity walls with insulation. It could save you between £70-£120 per year, and reduce your carbon emissions by up to a tonne.
- A British Gas-funded scheme offers Council Tax rebates worth up to £75 each to local residents who install energy-efficient measures in their homes. Call Uttlesford District Council on 01799 510510 for more details. The Council has been declared a highly commended runner-up in the prestigious National Energy Efficiency Awards and has offered local residents a DVD on home energy conservation.



Aircraft Noise - Don't Suffer In Silence!

If you have a complaint about aircraft noise, then tell BAA by ringing the 24 hour Freephone number:

0800 243 788

E-mail: stanstednoise@baa.com

Or write to:
 Flight Evaluation Unit
 Stansted Airport Limited
 Enterprise House
 Stansted Airport
 Essex CM24 1QW

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 that our politicians do not let us down. Join our campaign today by returning this form.



Name/s _____
 Address _____
 Postcode _____ Phone _____
 Email _____

Help us 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.**

