

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR FULL COUNCIL, 31 JULY 2019

- Parish Councils are the first tier of Local Government and were created by statute in 1894 – thus it is a 125 year's celebration of the Local Council Sector. Ideas on how to celebrate this important milestone would be welcomed. Some councils are holding exhibitions and specific events – please send any ideas to the Clerk.

- A cross-party motion was put to Uttlesford District Council last night that

“(1) all libraries in Uttlesford get continued access to Essex Library Service computer and management systems, inter-library lending and stock rotation and paid staff for the foreseeable future, and (2) Uttlesford DC works with Essex County Council, Parish Councils and the wider Uttlesford community to achieve this goal”.

Both Cllr Brett and myself spoke to urge Essex County Council to reconsider an ill thought through second proposal on community-run libraries and to uphold their initial agreement with this Parish Council to lease and fund the library in the new hub with paid staff and appropriate resources.

The motion was carried with 2 councillors voting against and one abstention.

- The funding negotiations spearheaded by the Pharmaceutical Services Negotiating Committee, amongst others, and the Government has resulted in a 5-year funding deal which sets out what pharmacies will be expected to deliver through the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework from October 2019 to 2023/24. It includes a clear vision for the piloting and introduction of new pharmacy services such as the NHS Community Pharmacist Consultation Service to be introduced for the coming winter – to bring pharmacies into a more integrated central role within primary care. It promotes a lead role in managing people with minor conditions. I will be using this development to further promote and pursue, with our working group, our need for a dispensing pharmacy in the South ward.
- The Mountfitchet Exchange – all the Openreach infrastructure is in place for the broadband with just some internal connections to be undertaken by our IT team. We believe that the connection should go live by the end of this week. That leaves final occupation date to be agreed once the O&M and H&S manuals are completed and signed off.
- Finally, a request for your support and physical presence at two forthcoming events. Firstly, the Windmill Fete on Bank Holiday Monday 26 August, 1-5pm at Windmill Fields and the Rec. You have already received an email seeking support in terms of cakes, bric-a-brac and crockery for smashing, but your presence to assist Trevor with responding to general enquiries etc would be good.

Secondly, the Skatepark Jam on Sunday 1 September, 10am – 4pm. It is essential that Trevor has support at this one to help set up and steward the event.

For either of the above events please contact Trevor direct so that a rota can be drawn up.