

Chairman's Report

We are pleased to confirm that we have had initial discussions with the CAB who are looking to work in partnership with us to provide a service to our community – having identified the issues of access to their services for a number of reasons from Stansted and surrounding villages.

It is hoped that we will also continue to have constructive dialogue with them in relation to the access to the library service as they confirmed that they were one of the Expressions of Interest quoted by ECC.

The library Working Group were positive about their proposed involvement in making the library more accessible in relation to opening hours.

In relation to my emails concerning clarification and more detail around the running and management of our library service ongoing- I have had no response from Cllr Barker or Cllr Gooding. This is not acceptable and will continue to be challenged.

We are pleased that ECC will be honouring their initial financial agreement with us and funding the use of the building for ten years in total at £13,000 pa plus a proportionate share of the running costs.

The working group has devised an electronic survey which can be accessed via our website. Click on www.stansted.net, News and see the Library article. It will also be available via social media.

The Youth Council Working Group also had a very successful visit to Billericay Town Council Youth Group- which gave us more incentive to promote the initiative here – the Council have also met with District Cllr Fairhurst to discuss the experience of setting up the District wide group. Our next step will be to agree the purpose of the group and the structures and processes to support and promote its growth and development within our local government remit.

Following initial discussions with ECC, it was brought to our attention that the Youth Club service, jointly funded by UDC and ourselves – with the building and practice support from ECC – was providing a service to young people outside of the agreed age group. The service to this group (Under 13's) has been suspended, pending further discussion with the Youth Services Commissioner and lead for Youth Strategy.

Grove Hill continues to cause disruption and distress by HGV's using this route to Elsenham and vehicles not understanding the rules of how many vehicles can stop at the lights without obstructing oncoming traffic. An around the table discussion of all stakeholders should be held as soon as possible to agree how this situation is managed for the future. I urge Cllr Gooding to move this proposal forward.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan will be available for Public Consultation on:

- Monday 4th November
- Tuesday 12th 4-6pm – officers and statutory consultees to be invited. David Coleman in attendance
- Saturday 16th 9-1pm
- Thursday 21st
- Wednesday 27th
- Saturday 30th 9-1pm
- Friday 6th December.

Proposals can be viewed at The Mountfitchet Exchange on the above dates and times. If we have not occupied the building in time, alternative arrangements will be notified.

Work continues on the provision of a 2nd pharmacy in the village. A recent meeting with ECC Health and Wellbeing members confirmed that information on how to choose where and how patients wish to collect their prescriptions should be communicated more widely. Our representative from the PPG is addressing this; and we shall keep you updated with further information as it is available.

Mountfitchet Exchange - We don't yet have a formal completion date but there has been progress on the remaining completion of the health and safety manuals.

Firework Night – Sat 2 November – anyone available to help on the gate with collecting money – please let Trevor know as soon as possible.