

# **Annual Reports from Councillors Appointed to Outside Bodies 2018/19**

## **1 Active Harlow Partnership – Eugenie Harvey**

The Partnership has not met so far this year.

## **2 Age Concern – Bob Davis**

I have visited Age Concern based in Park Lane on several occasions during 2018/2019 as the representative for this body. Access to what Age Concern provide can be by typing in Age Concern Harlow on the web. They provide lunch clubs and line dancing and are currently working on an IT project in conjunction with Rainbow Services.

They also provide Support and Advocacy, information, referrals and sign posting. A trip to Southend is currently being arranged and a trip on a canal boat has been arranged in June. Their AGM is on the 16th May in between 1 and 2pm.

## **3 Essex Police, Fire and Crime Panel – Chris Vince**

The role of the Police, Fire and Crime Panel is to provide scrutiny of the decisions made by the PFCC for Essex. The first job was to appoint the new Chief Constable and I am delighted that BJ Harrington has taken up the post vacated by Stephen Kavanagh last year. Harrington was previously Temporary Deputy Chief Constable since March 2017.

One of the key decisions made was to increase the precept for both Essex Police and Fire. This was agreed, although not unanimously, by the board. Like many areas of Essex, Harlow has been hit by a fall in policing numbers so I am pleased that we will see an increase of officers in the town even if this increase does not fully replace those which were lost. It is a shame that it must be funded by an increase in council tax precept but I understand the PFCC's decision.

As the Harlow representative on the board I raised members concerns about anti-social behaviour in the town centre with the PFCC as well as discussing his ongoing plans to increase the number of special constables across the county. Something he has had some success with. I have also been proactive at meeting with one of the independent members of the board to find out about Harlow Police department's plans to better engage with the community.

## **4 Essex Health Scrutiny and Overview Committee – Tony Edwards**

Reviews and scrutinises matters relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services in the County of Essex. Including primary, secondary, tertiary care, and public health, and may involve reviewing the work of commissioners

(such as local clinical commissioning groups), providers of health services (such as hospitals) and other organisations in the health sector.

Have attended three Committee Meetings and undertaken training.

Items discussed have included re provision of PAH and performance of CCGroups.

## **5 Fawbert and Bernard's Educational Foundation – Joel Charles**

The foundation has continued to help fund a range of opportunities that directly support the educational ambitions of local schools and students. It is incredibly rewarding to sit on the board of a foundation committed to enhancing the education of young people in Harlow. Last year, the foundation was able to fund several small projects that offer students different educational experiences.

Because of careful financial management, the board was able to distribute grants at the same level as previous years. In 2018, the foundation received a total income of £1,733 and spent £1,245.

As a board member, I took part in discussions and approved a series of grants. The foundation awarded funds to Fawbert and Barnard's Primary School to improve planting beds and an adjacent garden area that students had been working on. Trustees also recently part funded an opportunity for the Young Shakespeare Company to come and perform for students at the primary school. I am keen in future years for the foundation to encourage more students from the town to apply for educational support to enhance their learning.

As part of regular board business, Trustees receive an update at every board meeting about the Templefields Multi-Academy Trust which Fawbert and Barnard's Primary School belongs to. The board was informed that the three Headteachers that make up the trust hold regular meetings and are cooperating over several areas of individual school developments, including peer reviews, assessment work and recruitment.

Trustees were also kept informed about the appointment of a new Headteacher at Fawbert and Barnard's Primary School. Sue Spearman joined the foundation board last year in her capacity as the new Headteacher. The board was delighted to welcome Sue.

Last year the foundation took the decision to update its safeguarding policy in line with Charity Commission rules. Using my experience in the charitable sector, I worked with the board to agree what safeguarding measures would be most appropriate for the foundation. It was then agreed by the board to adopt the Fawbert and Barnard's Primary School policy alongside a safeguarding statement specifically tailored for the foundation.

Overall, the foundation has had a very successful year. It has been very rewarding to work closely with the other Trustees on the board and help

contribute to the educational success of local students. I look forward to supporting more projects this year.

## **6 Great Parndon Community Association – Tony Edwards**

I have met with the secretary and attended one meeting of the board.

Items raised include:

- A request for Voluntary Sector pages in Harlow Times to promote activities.
- Need for someone within Council to act as a link officer for voluntary groups – to provide a liaison role, expertise and support.
- Need for greater clarity with regards to maintenance and upkeep for buildings leased from the council.

## **7 Harlow Arts Council – Jean Clark**

Members were very disappointed at the rejection of our funding bid by Arts Council England. As a result, we had to abandon ambitious plans for a month-long Festival of Arts. The good news was that small funding bids to support the Art of the Garden Party were successful.

The Art of the Garden Party took place at the museum. This was an excellent day and very well-attended. The weather and sound equipment (funded by Harlow Council) were superb; the venue and staff of the museum regarded as fantastic. There were many diverse and new performers, enjoyed by all.

More recently, members were concerned about the museum, which the council had taken over. They were re-assured by plans for its long-term sustainability. It was assured of a secure future, incorporated within the budget.

Our future plans include the preparation of a large bid for Arts Council England to fund a Harlow Festival. Collaborative work would be the linking theme. We are working with Rainbow Services and hoping to widen our potential base. The theme for '19 overall will be well-being/loneliness and ways to tackle these through the arts.

There is still a need for a full-time co-ordinator/fund-seeker/organiser to enable the arts to flourish even more strongly throughout Harlow.

## **8 Harlow Arts Trust – Tony Edwards**

Met with Chris Snow and attended one Committee meeting.

Had discussions re Gibberd Gallery – need to raise profile and promote Art in an accessible way – and ensure a secure funding base  
Attended a number of exhibitions. Lobbied for increased core funding which was recently agreed.

## **9 Harlow-Stansted Gateway Transportation Board – Danny Purton**

The Board has not met during the current year.

## **10 PATROL Adjudication Joint Committee – Danny Purton**

The Joint Committee has not met during the current year.

## **11 Safer Harlow Partnership – Eugenie Harvey**

I have been unable to attend any meetings this year.

## **12 Stansted Airport Community Trust – Eugenie Harvey**

I have attended one meeting and contributed to another via email. I have encouraged Herts and Essex Farm, Churchgate Street Residents' Association and Leah Manning Centre to apply for grants and all have been successful. I will attend the June meeting and will be personally encouraging local sports and community clubs to apply for grants.

## **13 Stansted Airport Consultative Committee – Danny Purton**

Continued to represent Harlow in discussions with MAG, owner and operator of London Stansted Airport which continues to grow in Passenger Numbers, Carrier companies and Destinations.

Main issues during the year include \* New Arrivals Terminal \* Noise reduction policies \* New flight paths \* Landside sustainable travel \* Airport as a Transportation Hub.

Building on the Jobs Fair it is important that the potential of the Airport to offer quality jobs & prospects for our young people is fully realised.

## **14 Veolia Partnership Board – Danny Purton**

This Board has not met during the current year

## **15 Waste Membership Partnership Board – Tony Edwards and Danny Purton**

Represented Harlow on this Essex Wide group which functions as the partnership body between the District Waste Collection Authorities and County as the Waste Disposal Authority.

Items discussed include County wide litter campaign \* Basildon ECO Plant \* Recycling rates \* Government Consultation on Waste Policies.