Town & Parish Council Conference

13\textsuperscript{th} January 2011
Welcome

Councillor Tricia Turner MBE
Leader of the Council
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Date / Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cranfield, Marston and Woburn</td>
<td>17 January 2011</td>
<td>Holywell School, Red Lion Close, Cranfield, Beds. MK43 0JA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandy and Biggleswade</td>
<td>24 January 2011</td>
<td>Biggleswade Fire Station, Chestnut Avenue, Biggleswade, Beds. SG18 0LL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shefford, Stotfold and Arlesey</td>
<td>1 February 2011</td>
<td>Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford, Beds. SG17 5TQ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leighton Buzzard and Linslade</td>
<td>15 February 2011</td>
<td>Leighton Buzzard Day Centre, Duncombe Drive, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. LU7 1SD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunstable, Houghton Regis and Rural</td>
<td>28 February 2011</td>
<td>Bedford Square Community Centre, Tithe Farm Road, Houghton Regis, Beds. LU5 5JF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ampthill and Flitwick</td>
<td>8 March 2011</td>
<td>Redborne Upper School and Community College, Flitwick Road, Ampthill, Beds. MK45 2NU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leighton Rural</td>
<td>22 March 2011</td>
<td>Toddington Fire Station, Dunstable Road, Toddington, Beds. LU5 6DR</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Impact of “Localism” in Central Bedfordshire

Councillor Richard Stay
Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder
Policy & Performance
Localism Bill

• Shift of power from the Centralised state to local communities
  • Lift the burden of bureaucracy
  • Empower communities to do things their way
  • Increase local control of public finance
  • Diversify the supply of public services
  • Open up the Government to public scrutiny
  • Strengthen accountability to local people

“The job of government is not to run people’s lives. It is to help people run their own”
Nick Clegg
Localism Bill – key elements:

- Community empowerment
- Strengthening local democracy
- Planning reform
Community Empowerment

- Right to challenge
- Right to buy
- Local referendums
- Right to veto excessive Council Tax rises

“Citizens: the new Super heroes”
Strengthening local democracy

- General power of competence
- Local Authority governance
- Predetermination
- Standards Board abolished
- Transparency
Planning Reform

- Neighbourhood planning
- Changes to Section 106 funding
- Community right to build
- A duty for developers to consult before submitting planning applications
Opportunities of the Future – Realities of the Present
Value for Money

Total Cost of Services 2010/11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authority</th>
<th>Total Cost of Services 2010/11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luton</td>
<td>£1,820.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milton Keynes</td>
<td>£1,797.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bedford</td>
<td>£1,694.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Bedfordshire</td>
<td>£1,485.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comparative Performance - Value for Money
### Comparative Performance - Overall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Central Bedfordshire Council compared to CIPFA Nearest Neighbours</th>
<th>Overall Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Bedfordshire, Stockport, South Gloucestershire, Warrington, West Berkshire, Bath &amp; North East Somerset, Cheshire East, Milton Keynes</td>
<td>Top quartile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiltshire, Swindon, Cheshire West and Chester, Solihull, Bedford, Bury</td>
<td>Second quartile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medway, Calderdale</td>
<td>Bottom quartile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Draft Budget Headlines:

- 0% Council Tax increase
- Investment of £180m in local services next year
- Additional funding for children’s services and social care for older people
- £20m savings to bridge the gap
- £12.7 – from back office
- £6.7 – from service reductions, reconfigurations or closures.
Big Society in Central Bedfordshire

Devolvement of Services

Big Litter pickup
Roundtable Discussions

In partnership with Central Bedfordshire Council:

• What role can Town & Parish Councils play in helping communities to do more for themselves?

• What actions can Town & Parish Councils take to help manage the impact of budget cuts?
Roundtable Discussions

Feedback
In the spotlight

Cllr Ken Crossett
Chairman, Slip End Parish Council
In the spotlight

Cllr Adrian Besant
Chairman, Tempsford Parish Council
TEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

ALL OUR OWN WORK!
Parish Council news
Salt bins have been ordered from Central Beds Council in late summer, the Parish council has been following up on the order to have them installed as a matter of urgency.
• The swings in the Church End play area have been moved and the slide rebuilt.
• The landscaping maintenance work in the churchyard is complete.
• BT have disconnected and removed the public telephone in Church End. The Parish Council voted to adopt the telephone box itself, so the structure will remain in place (the phone box has only been used 28 times in the last 12 months).
• The noticeboard in Station Road has been moved making it more visible.
In this issue:

- Salt bins are on their way! (p.19)
- Millennium Garden celebrates 10 years (p. 12)
- More Tempford Archive material found (p. 14)
- The year’s weather in summary (p. 4)

plus all your local news and info
Policing in Bedfordshire

Chief Constable Alf Hitchcock
Question Time
Closing remarks
Thank you