

Someone needs to be held accountable for the debacle that became the Garden Communities project and commensurate waste of £8m, a large part of which came from Braintree residents Council tax.

This was not a tactical error but a strategic one. In virtually all walks of life, from corporate to football, the person held accountable under such circumstances is, invariably, residing at the top. The one who was ostensibly responsible for leadership.

That no-one is held to account is not acceptable.

Though it may be easy to say “Braintree voters put us in power and thereby gave us a mandate” it would be foolish to presume this was a broad enough agenda to include wasting such sums of money. Though never popular, any Council tax rises in coming years will be seen through the lens of this vast wastage.

There is a debt of trust that Braintree District councillors need to begin to repay.

Though the next District elections may seem in the distant future we, the voting residents, won't forget these and other decisions.

If you wish to retain the support of Braintree residents, now is the time to start regaining trust or many Conservative councillors WILL lose their seats.

I'm sure the ruling councillors in Uttlesford thought their positions were immutable.....

The starting point for this journey of rebuilding is to show Braintree residents that no one can make such a colossal error of judgement and still keep their position. They deserve a new leader, heralding a new era of stakeholder engagement. They deserve to be listened to.

Cllr Butland must go.

Mr Mike Moser