

**DRAFT**

**Minutes of the 19<sup>th</sup>, Claygate Village Meeting**

**7.45pm, on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019, at Ministry Centre, Church Road, Claygate**

**Present:**

Parish Councillors: Mark Sugden (Chairman), Jo Collon (Vice Chairman), Geoff Herbert, Xingang Wang, Janet Swift, Brian Rawson

Parish Clerk: Shirley Round

Elmbridge Borough Councillors: Mary Marshall and Mike Rollings

Members of the Public: 29

Apologies: Elmbridge Councillor Alex Coombes, Parish Councillors Anthony Marques and Michelle Woodward

**Item 1. Welcome from the Chairman of Claygate Parish Council (CPC)**

Clr Sugden, the Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the new members of the Parish Council. He also introduced Ted Burke, from Friends of the Earth, who was the speaker for the evening, his subject being 'Getting drastic on plastic'. He thanked retiring Councillors Tony Shearman, Bernadette Pearce, Ken Huddart, Bill Chilcott and John Bamford for their commitment to the Council in the previous 4 years. He was especially grateful for the work undertaken by Ken Huddart who had been one of the founding residents of the Parish Council.

The Chairman explained that every Parish Council has a Village Meeting which takes place between 1st March and 30<sup>th</sup> June. This is not a Parish Council Meeting but is one for residents, for the Parish Council to report on the previous year and for residents to pose questions.

Earlier in the month the Parish Council elections were held. Due to lack of nominees the election was uncontested which meant that the 7 residents who had put their names forward automatically become Councillors. Unfortunately one of those residents didn't feel he could undertake the responsibility and resigned at the first Council meeting. Following the Election 2 residents indicated they wished to be considered for co-option and it was unanimously agreed they should become Councillors at the May meeting. However, to date, there are 2 vacancies to fill by co-option.

The Parish Council precept, raised with the Council tax on Claygate properties, had remained flat for 4 years only being increased by the increased number of properties in the village. In addition to the precept the Parish Council received a portion of the Community Infrastructure Levy collect by EBC. This has enabled the Parish Council to finance the new pedestrian crossing lights in Hare Lane, give grants to the Youth Club, Emanuel Hall and to the Claygate Recreation Ground Trust to help finance the hire of bailiffs to remove the traveller incursion. The Parish Council has formed a Poppy Appeal working party to assist with the collections plus helping to organise the Remembrance Day Parade in the village using the Parish Council's public liability insurance.

**Item 2 Minutes of the last Meeting**

The minutes of the last Annual Village Meeting held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2018 were available at the meeting. John Bamford proposed acceptance of the Minutes, seconded by Veronica Bamford and these were duly signed by the Chairman.

**Item 3. Committee Reports of the Parish Councils.**

As the chairs of the Highways & Transportation, Planning and Environment & Leisure committees had not sort re-election the Chairman gave an overview of the work of these committees.

The draft Local Plan developed by Elmbridge Borough Council, is expected later in the year. This Plan will indicate the proposed location of land available for development and will be available for consultation. Residents are encouraged to take part in the consultation making their views known. The Parish Council has stated that it is against any development on the Green Belt.

The Chairman thanked County Cllr Mike Bennison for arranging for road repairs in the village and for dealing with bus diversions during this period. Trying to provide up to date information on when and where bus diversions would take place had been a frustrating business. The improvements to safety on the Hare Lane pedestrian crossing, financed by the Parish Council, with new Belisha beacons and down lights were due for installation later in the month. At a meeting with the Surrey County Council Highways Officer the Parish Council highlighted improvements to street signage, especially for equestrians.

The Environment & Leisure committee had been engaged in arranging for extra watering of Highway Garden Sites during the extremely hot weather but had been extremely disappointed in the quality of the hanging baskets provided by EBC but paid for by the Parish Council. The contractor employed to water the baskets had failed to fulfil their obligation and the baskets had failed miserably. If necessary, the Parish Council will seek an alternative supplier next summer. Flytipping in Woodstock Lane is a continuing problem which has been highlighted on many occasions.

Elmbridge Cllr Mary Marshall, portfolio holder for the Environment, gave a presentation on her local keep Claygate/Elmbridge tidy initiative called 'Commit to your Street', a plan to encourage local residents to de-litter their road. Mary has a street map of Claygate and adopted roads will be marked red. Her aim is to have all roads in Claygate adopted. She is also encouraging a 'plastic-free Parade' and hopes to work in tandem with local businesses to discourage the use plastic packaging.

#### **Item 4. Presentation of the Brian Rhodes Community Cup**

Two worthy nominations had been received from members of the community and after 2 rounds of balloting at the May Parish Council meeting it was unanimously agreed that both of them should be the recipients of the Brian Rhodes Community Cup for the tremendous amount of work they had done for the Village. The winners in 2019 are:

Carol Shorter – retiring Chairman of Claygate Village Association, and  
Jamie Blake – for his work with Claygate Youth Club.

#### **Item 5. Talk by Ted Burke of Friends of the Earth.**

Ted gave a thought-provoking talk entitled 'Getting drastic on plastic – ending plastic pollution'. He highlighted the current Friends of the Earth campaign to reduce plastic pollution and the effects on wildlife and on ourselves. Initiatives all over the country are encouraging people to be aware of the problem by using re-useable bags, lobbying supermarkets, working with schools to raise awareness among young people.

Cllr Marshall asked Mr. Burke if he would speak to local Elmbridge Councillors and mentioned the use of re-useable Boomerang bags (which had been a project supported by the Parish Council) in the village and the project to be able to refill water bottles in local shops.

#### **Item 6. Open Forum**

In response to resident questions:

**Collection/recycling from on-street rubbish bins**

There was public concern that litter and rubbish collect from on-street bins was not recycled. The bins in the Parade have separate sections but other on-street bins do not. It was also noted that there are only general purpose rubbish bins on the recreation ground.  
Cllr Mary Marshall will enquire if on-street bins are sorted for recycling.

### **Welcome Pack**

Could the Welcome Pack for new residents be re-instated? This had been a Claygate Village Association initiative not the Parish Council.

### **Claygate Life**

The annual 'glossy' Claygate Life produced up to a few years ago was considered to be an interesting magazine but unfortunately at the present time there were no volunteers willing to take on the work involved in producing it.

### **Painting yellow lines**

The double yellow lines in Church Road need repainting and the bus stop near Dalmore Avenue needs a 'no parking' sign. The double yellow lines have already been reported to SCC Highways. Parking issues can be logged with SCC before the end of June which will then be discussed at the Local Committee.

### **Rotary Club**

Kingston Rotary Club have been raising funds for local organisations. Would a Rotary Club in Claygate help or hinder? Residents are asked to contact the Clerk who will put them in touch with local groups.

### **CCTV at the Youth Club**

It was suggested the Youth Club committee could apply a Parish Council grant. SC Councillor Mike Bennison offered £250 towards the project.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

The Chairman is working with the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator to produce a leaflet for distribution in Claygate.

The Chairman closed the meeting, thanked those residents who had attended for raising a considerable number of issues and hoped they would spread the word and encourage more people to attend next year. The date of the meeting will be publicised well in advance.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed:

Dated: