

**DRAFT**

**Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup>, Claygate Village Meeting**  
**7.30pm, on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Zoom**

**Present:**

Parish Councillors: Geoff Herbert (Chairman), Janet Swift, Jo Lesser, Gil Bray, Mark Sugden,  
Parish Clerk & RFO: Sally Harman  
Surrey County Councillor: Mark Sugden  
Members of the Public: 9  
Apologies: Xingang Wang (Vice Chairman)

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

The Chairman welcomed attendees to the Village meeting and detailed the order of the agenda.

**Item 2 Minutes of the last Meeting**

The minutes of the last Annual Village Meeting held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019 were available on the Parish Council website. There was no Annual Village meeting in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Gil Bray proposed acceptance of the Minutes, seconded by Helen Maguire. Chairman to sign and drop minutes to Clerk.

**Item 3. Update from the Parish Council**

The Chairman thanked Mark Sugden (prior Chairman of CPC) and Sally Harman (Parish Clerk and RFO) in their efforts with the audit of the council accounts. He noted that they had received a very good internal audit grading from Elmbridge Borough Council. The Chairman announced the appointment of a new Parish Councillor, Gil Bray, who was selected out of a marvellous set of candidates at the CPC Annual Meeting the prior week. The Parish Council was awaiting the publication of the delayed Local Plan from Elmbridge Borough Council due later this year. There would be a Village meeting held when it arrives for residents to discuss the response.

**Item 4. Announcement of the winner of the Brian Rhodes Community Cup**

3 worthy nominations had been received from members of the community and after a majority vote Pippa Cramer was awarded the Brian Rhodes Community Cup for the tremendous amount of work she had done for the Village. Pippa Cramer sent her apologies as she could not be there to accept the award. The Chairman thanked all the candidates.

**Item 5. Speaker: Dr Sarah Ibbett MRCGP, MBBS, BSc (int), Partner at Capelfield Surgery**

Dr Ibbett gave a detailed heart tugging account of how the surgery and staff coped throughout the pandemic. She noted how staff were worried for their patients and their own families as Covid-19 took hold in March of 2020. PPE and scrubs began to arrive and the surgery, following advice from NHS England, then went about identifying high risk groups. The practice had to transform its way of working moving to phone calls, video links, texting, website, hot hubs and improved access and the LIVI ap as they tried to limit the spread of the virus by treating patients remotely where possible.

In the first Covid-19 Lockdown Claygate faired quite well but the surgery was unsure whether this was because of limited testing and so the true number of cases may have been hidden. In December 2020 and January 2021, once a far better testing regime was in place, Claygate saw its peak of 55 cases over a 10 day period.

During Lockdowns staff were worried as residents with long Covid emerged and they were also concerned about the impact lockdown has on other health symptoms such as mental health issues, speech development in children, alcohol dependency and eating disorders.

The Vaccine clinic arrived. 7 GP practices in the East Area Primary Care Network worked together as a group to be more efficient at administering the vaccine. They were supported by lots of volunteers. In the UK 75% of vaccines have been administered at GP level so far whilst the rest are via mass vaccine sites and hospitals.

Kingston is the main local hospital in the area. In the first peak they had 104 positive Covid cases. The Hospital moved quickly to increase capacity by creating a second ICU ahead of the 2<sup>nd</sup> wave. The peak came with 204 positive cases and 38 in ICU. Kingston is using private hospitals to clear the backlog. The issue they are having is finding health care professionals.

Dr Ibbett noted that there had been a lot of negative press about GPs limiting face to face appointments. This is not the case in Capelfield it is very much open for face to face appointments. Since May 2019 and May 2020 appointments are up 35%. Staff numbers have remained the same whilst they deal with the increase in appointments and all the new online formats they are now running such as LIVI.

Dr Ibbett thanked local residents for all their support in the pandemic. They have received milk deliveries, cakes, flowers, scrubs, and Friends of Capelfield paid for a deep clean.

For the future they will be carrying on the vaccine clinics and working on several projects such as access to cardiology, ultrasound, dermatology, and setting up a menopause clinic.

Those on the Zoom call noted their heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all that Dr Ibbett and her team have done over the course of the pandemic. Dr Ibbett noted that Friends of Capelfield, a charity which helps raise funds for the surgery, are always looking for new members. CPC said they could assist in spreading communications via their Facebook page when needed.

## **6. Speaker: Helen Maguire, Chairman of Claygate Recreational Ground Trust (CRGT)**

Helen Maguire gave an update on the Claygate Pavilion which, after 4.5 years since the project commenced, opened on the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021. The project involved a huge effort from numerous fundraisers and trustees with over 100 people involved. Resilience was key as they overcame challenges including COVID and the construction company falling into administration. The building is now up and running and it is already a success.

The decision to go with a larger design and rentable space means the Pavilion creates a revenue stream into the CRGT as the Elmbridge Borough Council grant does not cover what the CRGT needs to run the Recreation Ground and fund future development.

In the next few months there are a few more bits to finish off on the Pavilion itself namely an awning, water filter and automatic doors. The CRGT are hoping to complete the Family Garden and new path between the Pavilion and Dalmore Avenue at the end of summer if they can secure more funding. They have received £17,500 from Claygate Parish Council and have submitted an application to Your Fund Surrey. The CRGT are looking for residents to buy benches for the family garden to help raise funds for the project.

The Chairman thanked Helen Maguire and the CRGT for their efforts.

Cllr Sugden asked whether Claygate Pearmain trees could be included in the family garden as it was the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Helen Maguire said that was a good idea and she would inquire.

**7. Open Forum- Residents of Claygate can express their views and concerns about any aspect of life in Claygate.**

One question had been sent in advance from a local resident: -

***‘Councillors is it your intention to cease being voluntary & seek payment for your time?’***

The Chairman responded saying that he would not be seeking payment as did several Councillors at the meeting. The Chairman stated that any CPC Councillors can of course bring the suggestion to the table and it can be discussed at a Parish Council Meeting.

One question was raised by a member of the public at the meeting: -

***What did Pippa Cramer do to win the Brian Rhodes Community Cup?***

Cllr Bray responded stating that she was instrumental in starting Connections (social group for the elderly). It was so successfully that Archbishop Welby heard about it and took the idea and rolled it out across the UK. In addition, ‘The Cascade of Care’ during Covid was primarily Pippa Cramer’s initiative.

The Chairman closed the meeting, thanked those residents who had attended.

The meeting closed at 20h24

Signed:

Dated: