

## 30.04.2026 Report to CPC meeting

Following the publication of Claygate Business Survey report, a meeting for the businesses was held on 11 March at the Hare and Hounds to discuss how some of the recommendations could be taken forward. A summary of the meeting was compiled & circulated to the businesses. 15 businesses attended plus 9 apologies from others who want to be involved. The Shops & Businesses group hosted the evening. We also had supporting resources with

- Simon Hope, Chair of Transport & Parking as we have overlap between our groups
- Doug Perkins, EBC Economic Development Manager
- Jenny French, Community Facilitator who collated all comments & Ideas. She then sent out summary notes of the meeting to all the businesses. She also set up the requested WhatsApp group for the businesses to join.

I want to thank Cllr Burns for opening the Businesses meeting & explaining that the CPC had sponsored & paid for the Business Survey. Thank you also to the CPC for funding some light refreshments.

Each business introduced themselves & gave their main interests & the experience they can contribute.

The actions agreed included setting up a Claygate Business WhatsApp group for easier communications. The Businesses agreed to concentrate on the 3 priorities suggested in the Business survey:-

1. The production of a Village Map. I shared the research I had done about 3 potential suppliers
2. To create a proposal for a Social Media campaign brief ahead of working towards developing a website. I explained the CPC appointment of Zonkey who could create a sister website for the businesses. I suggested they look at Discover Frome as a good example of what can be achieved.
3. It was agreed that 30 minutes free parking was not sufficient. Simon Hope arranged to meet Cllr Kirsty Hewens to discuss this further & report back at the next meeting.

After a very successful & enthusiastic evening, it was agreed to have a subsequent meeting on 30.04 -tonight. Agreed there would be updates & further discussion on the actions from the last meeting including an update on Simon Hope's discussion with Elmbridge Borough Council on parking provision and the proposed development of Torrington Lodge Car Park.

It is early days for this new Business volunteer group to become established. No one was appointed to particular roles. At the beginning of the meeting the Chair of One Cobham (Gareth Davies) explained the benefits that Cobham businesses are enjoying having formed a Business Investment District. He also recognised that the Claygate business community is not currently big enough scale to become a BID but can do a lot for itself by working together & getting more businesses involved for the benefit of all.

