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SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES CONSULTATIONS: HAVE YOUR SAY!

Two Separate Secondary School Consultations on Admissions for 2015

■ Providing local accessible secondary school places for Claygate children is a key concern to residents. Dominic Raab, MP, Surrey County Councillor Mike Bennison and Mark Sugden, Conservative Candidate for Elmbridge Borough Council in May 2014, have been pressing for action. Claygate Class Action and many other concerned residents have been fighting this cause.

The Esher High catchment area covers half of Claygate and Hinchley Wood School the other half. While children in the Esher High catchment are quite likely to be offered a place, those in the Hinchley Wood School catchment are highly unlikely to gain a place there. New proposals could significantly improve the opportunity for Claygate children to attend these great local secondary schools.

Extending the Catchment Areas of Both Schools to Cover the Whole of Claygate

Esher C of E High School and Hinchley Wood School are consulting separately on proposals to extend their catchment areas to the whole of Claygate from 2015.

In addition:

- Esher High plans to admit 240 children from September 2015, an increase of one extra class.
- Hinchley Wood School proposes feeder links with four partnership junior/primary schools, including Claygate Primary School. This is likely to help Claygate children from Claygate Primary School to be considered for a place at Hinchley Wood School.

HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY!

Details of the consultations, proposed admissions arrangements, catchment area maps and response forms can be found at:

- **Esher High School:** www.surreysays.co.uk Please ensure that you open the Esher C of E High School consultation that ends on 5/02/2014 (any document that ends earlier is out of date).



Mike and Mark want more places for Claygate Children at Hinchley Wood School.

- **Hinchley Wood School:** www.hinchleywood.surrey.sch.uk - click on "information".

If you would prefer to respond in writing:

- **Esher High School:** Telephone Surrey Schools and Childcare Service on 0300 200 1004 for a form. Only response forms fully completed with the respondent's name and address will be accepted.
- **Hinchley Wood School:** Write to: Clerk to Governors, Hinchley Wood School, Claygate Lane, Hinchley Wood, Esher, Surrey, KT10 0AQ.

CLOSING DATE FOR CONSULTATIONS:

Esher High School: 5th FEBRUARY 2014

Hinchley Wood School: 21st FEBRUARY 2014

(Note: Esher High School is a voluntary controlled school, but is expected to convert to an academy in February 2014. The school, not SCC, would then determine admission arrangements for 2015).

While there are no guarantees of a place at either school, these proposals should give Claygate children a far better chance of a place at one of them. We urge everyone to comment on both proposals - they will be considered separately.



Mike and Mark are pleased at the extra class planned for Esher High

Continued Focus on Getting Roads Repaired

Common Road Repaired

Mike Bennison partnered with Mark Sugden and Geoff Herbert to get many Claygate roads into SCC's new £120 million local road repair plan. Common Road was included, but initially only from St. Leonards Road to The Causeway and not until 2014/2015. Local Conservatives successfully pressed for the whole of Common Road to be repaired including Cornwall Avenue to Stevens Lane and to bring repairs forward by a year. The scheme, originally due for October 2013, was put back to November after a detailed survey showed a need for more substantial repairs. The works included a full road reconstruction and new kerbing in many places.



Mark and Mike in Common Road when the road was being repaired

Upcoming Road Repairs

Aston Road, Simmil Road and Norfolk Road are planned for repair the last week of February 2014, and The Avenue in the first week of March, weather permitting.

Coverts Road, Foley Road and Gordon Road will be repaired in 2014/15. These roads are in the plan, and the monies set aside - we await the planned repair timing.

Additionally, Mike Bennison will use his delegated Highways budget for 2014/15 to repair The Roundway.

Continued Focus on Getting Gullies Cleaned.



Contractor cleaning the gullies in The Avenue in December

Mark Sugden has been pressing for Claygate gullies to be cleaned. He was pleased to see Claygate prioritised and that gullies were being cleaned in December. He spoke to the contractor and saw the hand held devices they use. These provide a record of each visit - when the gully was cleaned, how full it was - and log defective or blocked gullies. This will identify problem gullies that need more frequent cleaning or require repair. Some gullies cannot be cleaned on the first visit, due to being blocked, parked cars preventing cleaning or the gully lid being jammed or broken. On average 97% are reported as free running after cleaning. Most of the remaining 3% can be cleaned via additional jetting often within 7 days of the first visit. Those that cannot be cleared require further investigation that will most likely involve excavation and pipe repair. Over 180 tonnes of silt each month is transferred to a centre where 100% of the waste is recycled.

Your Local Conservative Action Team



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News from Claygate Conservatives

Settlement and Investment Development Plan Update: Open Space/Local Green Space

■ After assessment of recent consultation results, a final consultation is due in 2014. We will continue to update residents and in this issue we focus on Open Space/Local Green Space.

The plan sets out sites that could be designated for continued protection in their existing use. A new designation 'Open Space in the Urban Area' provides a higher level of protection than the existing 'Strategic Open Urban Land'. Such designated open space should be protected and not built on unless it can be shown to be surplus to requirements; the loss

would be replaced by open space of equivalent quality and quantity or the development is for alternative sports and recreation use. The proposed sites for 'Open Space in the Urban Area' designation were: **The Roundway, Claygate Primary School Grounds and Torrington Close Tennis Club.** Many residents agreed with the above proposals, but suggested additional sites for protection - **The Green by The Hare and Hounds Pub, Derwent Close Green and the Glebelands Roundabout.**

Other sites may be designated 'Local Green Space' - these have to be of significant local importance and meet strict criteria. They would have a level of protection equivalent to the Green Belt. **Claygate Recreation Ground** was recommended. This was strongly



Mark wants even stronger protection for our 'Rec'

supported by residents, who also suggested **The Green opposite the Swan Pub.**

'I want the strongest protection for Claygate's open/ green spaces. Development must not encroach on existing open/green spaces, which are critical to the character of our Village.'



Geoff and Mark support increased protection of The Roundway

Community News In Brief

■ **Christmas Fayres and Bazaars:** Congratulations to all involved in very successful events. **Mike Bennison** was honoured to attend the Claygate Centre Christmas Fayre, as Mayor, on 16th November. **Mark Sugden** attended the latter event and also visited the Christmas Bazaar at Claygate Primary School on 30th November and Wingham Court Christmas Fayre on December 1st.

■ **Claygate Christmas Lights:** On December 7th The Parade was again packed with residents and visitors, with music, carols, stalls, refreshments and switching on the lights, followed by fireworks. Many thanks to all involved, especially the Claygate Village Association, the 1st Claygate Scouts, volunteers and local businesses.

■ **Carols on the Green:** Another big turnout with well over 100 people attending on 15th December, singing carols, led by Holy Trinity Church, Church Road.

■ **5th Claygate Music Festival:** The biennial Music Festival runs from 8th through 23rd March, at local venues, with great concerts and a broad array of musical styles.

Local Action

Mike, Mark and Geoff thank residents who contacted us after our last In Touch. Many of these matters have been dealt with. We continue to pursue those outstanding, together with issues subsequently raised by residents. A key issue raised was the apparent worsening of the On-Street Parking. Mark advised residents to bring this matter up at the Parish Council Highways meeting on 19th December - many residents turned out and a Working Party has been set up to undertake a village-wide parking survey.

We have reported for action:

■ **Potholes:** Already repaired at the entrance to **Woodbourne Drive** at the junction of **Oaken Lane**. **Telegraph Lane** by the allotments, the entrance to **Forge Drive** at the junction with **Stevens Lane** and outside **Broad Oak** on **The Causeway**.

■ **Road signs:** Dumped road signs at **Aston Road/Hare Lane** by the Railway Bridge, sharp bend road sign on the footpath on **Hare Lane** and multiple road signs/barriers 'abandoned' in **Common Road** after the recent road repairs

■ **Footpaths:** Repairs needed outside **44 Gordon Road** and **33 Beaconsfield Road**.

■ **Trees down:** Many already reported by residents but also reported by us in **Torrington Road**, **The Avenue**, entrance to **Foxwarren** and **Hermitage Close**.

■ **Lighting repairs:** **Torrington Road** lamppost No 2 - the lantern has been replaced but not the old pole and the street light in the alleyway between



Working to get the light fixed in the public footpath between Loseberry Road and Station Road

Loseberry Road and Station Road needs repair/replacement.

Please contact us on any local matter that requires action - we will report it and persist until the matter is resolved. It sometimes takes longer than we would like! Updates on local action and selected local news items will be on our website at www.esherwalton.com

Planning

■ **Telegraph Hill Update:** Surbiton High School's appeal for a new indoor sports hall in the Green Belt was dismissed by The Planning Inspectorate. They concluded that 'the proposal would represent inappropriate development in the Green Belt and 'does not represent the very special circumstances necessary to justify inappropriate development in the Green Belt'.

■ **Barwell Farm Update:** Barwell Farm has been sold in several separate lots. The 40 acre plot between the A3 and Claygate Common is apparently being turned into grazing areas for horses. It is believed that the new owner is portioning the land into 3 acre lots for sale as such.

■ **Rowan Prep School, Fitzalan Road:** An application has been submitted for a part single/part two-storey front and side extension, two-storey rear extension, new external staircase, a new vehicle drop off area and two new pedestrian entrances.

Public Transport



Buses: On behalf of a resident, **Mark Sugden** has raised with Transport for London the timetable for the two K3 buses that go direct to Esher High School in the morning. The second bus should arrive at Esher High at 8.42am but it is invariably late. The earlier bus is therefore constantly packed and often does not pick up at some Claygate stops. Over the years these bus arrival times have gradually moved later. Mark has requested that TfL review the timetables to enable local children to get to school on time.

Crime and Policing



In late November Police and Elmbridge Borough Council (EBC) held a joint enforcement week across the borough, to resolve issues identified in the Council Community Safety Survey and at recent Neighbourhood Panel meetings. During the week they found 28 people speeding, 32 cycling on pavements, 8 jumping red lights, 15 not wearing seatbelts and 26 using mobile phones while driving. A vehicle was seized for not having insurance. Anti-social behaviour was also monitored, including littering, dog-fouling, fly tipping and graffiti with the Police and EBC also undertaking 10 joint patrols across the Borough, including Claygate Recreation Ground.

Let Britain Decide - A Fresh EU Settlement that YOU Decide on.

We need a fresh EU settlement - based on fairness, flexibility and competitiveness. Conservatives want to negotiate the best deal we can for Britain, then let voters debate and decide on that new settlement through an in-out referendum. A couple of recent examples that will affect us locally show why we believe we need to renegotiate.

■ **EU to Mandate Four Recycling Bins per Household:** Households will have to separate recycled material into at least four different bins from 2015, because of a new EU regulation. The Waste Framework Directive requires separate collection of paper, metal, plastic and glass. EBC's recycling service is rated highly by residents. The bottle bank in Torrington Lodge Car Park, which caused such problems, is gone because of the improved recycling service introduced by EBC Conservatives. This Directive will cost local taxpayers more money and where are we going to store all these extra bins? A solution - 'bin' the Directive instead!

■ **EU Proposes Road Sign Changes:** EU bureaucrats propose to standardise A road signs across Europe. This is said to pave the way for 'intelligent' cars with cameras able to read road signs and talk to drivers. During tough economic times, with local authorities strapped for cash, we don't think this is a priority - let's get our roads and footpaths fixed first before we start replacing perfectly good road signs.

CARING AND CAMPAIGNING FOR OUR COMMUNITY