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No Change Proposed to Claygate Borough Ward Boundary

The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) recently announced proposals for new Elmbridge council ward boundaries. It recommends that Claygate retains 3 borough Councillors, with no change to the current Claygate boundary.

Last year, Elmbridge Borough Council (EBC) voted to reduce the number of borough councillors from 60 to 48. The independent LGBCE accepted the recommendation. This required a review of ward boundaries to create 16 wards with three members each. The key criteria for creating revised wards were: **Electoral Equality; Community Identity and Effective and Convenient Local Government.**

There was concern that with 5,500 electors, Claygate ward is below the new target of 6,000 electors per ward. However in their response to the first stage consultation the LGBCE stated:

'All borough wide schemes submitted during consultation, including Claygate Parish Council, proposed that Claygate should be retained in its own separate three member ward on the basis that it is a separate and cohesive community..... We consider the evidence received for Claygate is compelling and justifies a three member ward wholly containing Claygate parish notwithstanding the relatively high electoral variance. We adopt this ward as part of our draft recommendations'

The LGBCE will make the final decision by December. **'I have strongly supported Claygate ward remaining unchanged'**,



Claygate 'a separate and cohesive community'

said **Mark Sugden**, *'I hope this recommendation is confirmed'*. If agreed, changes will be implemented for the local elections in May 2016, when the whole of EBC Council, including all 3 Claygate borough councillors, will be up for re-election.

Car Park Charges to Increase



Mark states: 'I oppose these increases'

Elmbridge has approved a new 3 year plan for charges in Council owned car parks, from January 2016 - this includes Torrington Lodge behind the Co-op and Hare Lane by Champions.

The first 30 minute charge will increase by 10p each year to 40p in 3 years' time, the all day charge will increase by 50p each year to £3.50 and the annual season ticket charge will rise from £244 pa to £427 pa. There will continue to be no charging on Sundays.

'Village car parks are different from commuter and town car parks' says Mark, 'the Village increases, particularly for the first 30 minutes and the annual season ticket are excessive. This will increase congestion and force even more cars to park on our streets. I oppose them and I will fight to have them reassessed'.

Provision for Young People in Claygate at Risk

Surrey County Council (SCC) has agreed changes to Community Youth Work in Elmbridge which are a 'raw deal' for young people in Claygate.

The Community Youth Work Service aims to deliver work where they believe there is the greatest need for supporting young people into employability. The Youth Club building in Elm Road is owned by SCC. It will stay open and SCC is investing £20,000 on upgrading it. However, SCC will no longer pay for the 9 hours of youth work currently provided and is seeking an external organisation to provide it. There was also uncertainty about the future of Sure Start provision at the Day Centre.

In the recent consultation Claygate residents accounted for 86% of the responses and raised concerns that the plans could provoke an increase in anti-social behaviour and that local young adults would be



A 'raw deal' for Claygate

Geoff Herbert Reports Back



I thank residents for their support in the May Borough Council elections and I continue to work for Claygate on your Parish Council. As Chairman of the Planning Committee, a key issue is the review of the Green Belt Boundary and I will do everything that I can to protect it. As Vice-Chairman of the Environment Committee I am committed to maintaining our Village green spaces and on the Communications Working Group to further improve our communications with residents. **Geoff notes**, *'I have seen many changes over the sixty years I have lived here. Claygate will always change but we must manage that change. I look forward to meeting you in the Village and in the course of my work.'*

Local Claygate Action

Your Conservative team have reported:

ROAD MARKINGS

■ Repaint the 'SLOW' markings on Hare Lane from the Swan Pub to the Telegraph Exchange; 'SLOW' markings and centre white line in Cavendish Drive; the centre white line along Oaken Lane from Manor Road South to The Avenue; the 'SLOW' markings near the Scout Hut and the centre white line at Stevens Lane and Common Road by Ruxley Ridge.

VEGETATION CUT BACK

■ Loseberry Road and the junction of Stevens Lane at Forge Drive

WEEDING

■ Holroyd Road from nos. 34-52, Lower Wood Road, Blakeden Drive and the footpath from Oakhill to Kilnside



Remove the weeds!

STREET AND ROAD REPAIR SIGNS

■ Remove 'Abandoned' road repair signs in The Roundway and Oaken Lane. We are pleased that the Transport Secretary is proposing that temporary road signs must have a 'remove date' written on them. This will allow residents to call companies to demand that the signs are removed after the deadline expires.



Get temporary road signs removed faster

GULLEYS AND DRAINS

■ Gordon Road drainage issues escalated to MP. There is often debate as to whether an issue is a SCC or Thames Water responsibility. This is extremely frustrating and delays getting a problem fixed. **Mike and Mark**, having lodged official complaints about Gordon Road with SCC, have now referred the matter to Dominic Raab, MP, who has written to the Chief Executive of Thames Water.

neglected in favour of young people elsewhere.

Mark Sugden stated : *'The proposals for Claygate Youth Club are opposed by Claygate residents and with the uncertainty over the future of Sure Start they are ill conceived, unfair and show a lack of concern for young people, of all ages, in Claygate'*.

STOP PRESS: Sure Start Centre to stay open.

Claygate Matters

Elmbridge Borough Council (EBC) News Update from Mark Sugden

PLASTIC BAGS STOP BINS BEING EMPTIED



Some residents have been concerned that their recycling blue top bin is not being emptied. This is mostly because of non-recyclable items inside, particularly plastic bags. A bin hanger should be put on the bin to explain why it has not been emptied. Issues: go to, www.elmbridge.gov.uk and search *recycling and waste*.

GETTING WEEDS UNDER CONTROL

EBC treat and kill weeds, on behalf of SCC, on streets and pavements, 2-3 times a year, in April, July and September. It takes 2 weeks for the

treatment to be effective and they are later removed by the street cleaning service.

COMBATTING FLY-TIPPING

The EBC environmental enforcement team work with the police and other agencies to reduce fly-tipping. The most fly-tipped road in the borough is **Woodstock Lane South**, with 41 recorded fly-tipping incidents in 2014. Waste carriers must register with the Environment Agency and provide proof of their licence when undertaking works. Entrusting waste to an illegal waste carrier can lead householders unwittingly to commit offences themselves. Elmbridge have successfully prosecuted a local man for illegal fly-tipping and a custodial sentence was handed down.

TRAVELLERS MOVED ON

EBC responded swiftly and enforcement action was taken to remove those unlawfully camped on Hare Lane Green opposite The Swan Pub.

CLAYGATE WAR MEMORIAL



Claygate War Memorial is to be added to the list of Buildings of Special or Historic Interest as part of Historic England's First World War Commemoration project. The designation is due to its historic interest as an eloquent witness to the tragic impact of world events on the local community and the sacrifices it made in the First World War.

Community News in Brief

FLOWER SHOW AND 'ABBA MANIA GIG ON THE REC'

■ Congratulations to all involved for another successful Flower and Village Show and to the 'Abba Mania Gig on the Rec' team who raised £5,000 for the Clubhouse.

MIKE BENNISON: SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

Cty Cllr Mike Bennison has provided funding of:

■ A further £2000 towards the horse crossing on **Woodstock Lane South**, initiated by Borough Councillor Mary Marshall, in addition to £1000 in the prior year.

■ £2000 towards the cost of resurfacing **Brookfield Gardens**

■ £500 to the 'Abba Mania Gig on the Rec'

■ £500 to Claygate Music Festival organisers for the March 2016 event

POLICE MATTERS



THANK YOU PC DANNY BOND

■ After 9 years as the beat office for Claygate, Danny has moved to a new role in Casualty Reduction. We thank him for his service to Claygate. PC Tommy Pearson has joined the team whilst a permanent officer is sought.

SHED AND CYCLE SECURITY

■ Surrey Police urge residents to review shed, garage and cycle security. There have been recent bike thefts at the Station - British Transport Police have been involved. Register bikes at www.immobilise.com or www.bikeregister.com

Surrey County Council (SCC) News Update from Mike Bennison

MIKE GETS EVEN MORE ROADS REPAIRED



Foley Road under repair

Mike has had **Foley Road** resurfaced and got extra funding to repair **Brookfield Gardens**. The **High Street by Londis** and **St. Leonards Road** will be resurfaced soon.



Foley Road under repair

PARKING REGULATIONS

Yellow lines, requested by residents, have been implemented opposite the entrance to **Foley Road on Hare Lane** and on **Hare Lane by the Railway Bridge**.



Yellow lines implemented on both sides of Hare Lane by Railway Bridge

POTHOLE-PROOF ROADS

A scheme to pothole-proof roads has been announced. Each pothole-proofed road has a 10 year guarantee, so the contractor will pay for any repairs. However, Department of Transport funding for the county is still more than £40 million short of the £135 million needed to maintain Surrey's roads for the next five years.

REQUEST FOR SHARE IN BUDGET ROAD CASH

Surrey is requesting more money from a new dedicated road fund from Vehicle Excise Duty (VED). The Budget indicated that the money will only be

spent on 100 miles of motorways and major A roads managed by Highways England. Surrey's 3,300 miles of roads would not be eligible. Surrey drivers contribute more than £100 million through VED each year and only around £20 million comes back to the County - SCC believes this should be doubled.

RIDE LONDON

Mike and Mark have expressed their concerns about problems caused in Claygate on 2nd August, when cars were wrongly directed into Claygate during the Prudential Ride London event. They have asked for action to stop it happening in the future.

OVERGROWN HEDGES AND OVERHANGING TREES

Private householders in residential areas own most hedges and trees alongside the public highway. It's their responsibility to ensure they do not overhang or creep onto the road. Problems caused range from obscuring junctions to inconveniencing pedestrians. Issues: go to www.surreycc.gov.uk and search *overhanging trees or hedges*.

COULD YOU CHAMPION YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY?

Do you want to stand up for your local community and the interests of local residents?

Next May, Borough Councillors will be elected to serve their local community and you could be part of our strong, supportive and friendly team of Councillors and campaigners. If you are interested in finding out more about what might be involved, we want to hear from you. Conservatives welcome all candidates and campaigners who care about representing local people's views and looking after the interests of their local area.

To get involved please email conservatives@esherwalton.com or call 020 8546 2934

Your Local Conservative Team



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CARING AND CAMPAIGNING FOR ALL OF CLAYGATE