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ISSUE 39 / OCTOBER 2017

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wingham Court Care Home Halloween Fireworks

Tuesday 31st October from 5.30pm, display to start at 7.00 pm (see page 7 for further details)

Claygate Village Association Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 15th November 7.00pm Claygate Village Hall (small hall)

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 12th November. Parade departs

Hare Lane car park by Champions at 10.30am.

Outdoor Service at War Memorial at 11.00 am.

Claygate Centre for the Community Christmas Fayre

Saturday 18th November, 11.00am to 1.30pm

Claygate Recreation Ground Trust 'Battle of the Bands'

Saturday 18th November, Claygate Village Hall

Claygate Primary School Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 25th November, 11.00am to 2.00pm

Claygate Christmas Lights

Saturday 2nd December 4.00pm, The Parade.

Claygate Dramatic Society 'A Christmas Cabaret'

Friday 8th and Saturday 9th December Claygate Village Hall Box Office: 01372 466621 or email annehenning@hotmail.co.uk Box office opens 30th October

Carols On The Green

Sunday 10th December 4.00PM The Green, Old Village, Claygate

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES



Welcome to your Claygate Courier. We are glad to be back. We have spent a lot of time completing a significant upgrade to our website and embarked on social media via Twitter. Many residents have told us how they value the Courier and in this

age of 'instant' communication we now aim to produce the Courier 4 times a year to provide as up to date news and local information as quickly as possible. We thank those volunteers who have helped prepare it in the past, we appreciate all the local organisations who provide material for inclusion and a huge thank you to those volunteers who give up their time to deliver it.

Grant Support to our Local Community

An important responsibility of the Parish Council is the consideration of grant applications. The Parish Council aims to support relevant local services, initiatives and events wherever we can. Recently, we awarded a substantial grant, of £30,000, towards the Claygate Recreation Ground Clubhouse rebuild project (see page 6).

Applications for financial grants, large and small, towards projects initiated by Claygate organisations are always welcome. Full details are available on our website or speak to a Parish Councillor or the Clerk.

Planning and the 40 Acre Green Belt Field

The Parish Council reviews over 200 planning applications in Claygate annually, submitting our comments to the Local Planning Authority, Elmbridge Borough Council (EBC) as well as inputting to planning consultations organised by EBC or the Government.

The Parish Council strives to preserve and protect our Village and its Green Belt. We objected to a planning application for

a Traveller site in Green Belt, which was appealed to the Planning Inspectorate and provided funding towards the cost of independent, professional representation during the planning appeal process. We are very pleased with the decision of the planning inspector to dismiss the appeal, as inappropriate development harmful to the Green Belt (see page 3)

Remembrance Sunday 12th November

Many residents will come together to pay their respects at the Annual Remembrance Day Parade, led by the Scouts and the Outdoor Service at the War Memorial and afterwards at Holy Trinity Church.

Surrey Police no longer provide marshalling for road closures so your Parish Council have partnered with the Scouts and Holy Trinity Church to ensure that the Parade and Outdoor Service continues. The Parish Council has applied for the road closure notice, utilised its public liability insurance for the Parade and Outdoor Service and has paid for trained traffic marshals from a private company approved by Surrey Police. We thank, in advance, those local volunteers who also assist.

Between 10.15am and 11.30 am on the 12th November, stretches of roads in and around the Parade route and War Memorial will be closed, so please take note, as we work together to ensure there is minimum inconvenience.

Local Events

Autumn is here and there are many local events in the run up to Christmas so check out the Dates for your Diary on this page, for some of the many, great events in the Village over the next couple of months.

Please do contact any of your Parish Councillors if you have any issues, concerns or ideas. Contact details on the back page - we will try our best to help.

> - Mark Sugden Chairman

16/17 ACCOUNTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Topline review of Income, Expenditure and Reserves for the Financial Year ending 31st March 2017. The Accounts have been approved by the Internal and External Auditor.

Income/Operating Income Summary £

D ,	40.001
Precept	48,001
Precept Grant from EBC	2,470
Interest	247
EBC Grant for Garden Site maintenance	3,756
Highways Income	580
Sub-Total £	55,054
Release of CIL funds	£15,000*
Total Income	70,054

Expenditure £

Total Expenditure	£40,021
Communications	2,212
Planning	1,173
Environment	9,907
Highways	3,639
Public Projects	3,195
Other Grants	500
Operating Expenses	19,395

Surplus f.

Surplus of Income over Expenditure £30,033

General and Earmarked Reserves £ *4 at 31st March 2016 £46,330*5 €30,033 Surplus 16/17 £76,364*5 **Total Reserves**

Earmarked/Committed Reserves £.

-Grant to CRGT- paid 17/18	£30,000*6
-Planning Appeal costs – paid 17/18	£13,150*6
-Other earmarked reserves	£4,000
Sub -Total	£47,150
General Reserves £	£29,214

Notes

- *1 The Council released £15,000 of Community Infrastructure Levy Funds (CIL) that it was holding as a restricted reserve, to contribute to the £30,000 grant it agreed, in March 2017, towards the Recreation Ground Trust Clubhouse rebuild. This grant was paid in the 17/18 financial year, so does not appear as Expenditure in 16/17, but the funds were set aside as an earmarked reserve, see also '
- *2 Overall operating expenses were significantly reduced by 33% versus year ago.
- *3 Grant to Claygate Youth Club.
- *4 It is Parish Council policy to maintain a general reserve of £15,000 to cover emergencies. Any further general reserve surplus forms a community fund to finance future initiatives and grants.
- *5 Does not include any unreleased and restricted CIL funds held by the Parish Council. The Parish Council now receives 15% of CIL, collected by Elmbridge, from development in Claygate that falls within the CIL criteria. These funds can only be spent on certain community infrastructure projects and must be spent within 5 years of receipt. At the end of 16/17 the Parish Council held $\ensuremath{\not \ \ } 1{,}701$ in CIL. Elmbridge holds an additional £6,284 of CIL funds for use in Claygate, payable to the Parish Council when requested.
- *6 The payments of the grant to the CRGT and for most of the costs of the 40 Acre Planning Inquiry, committed in 16/17, were set aside as earmarked reserves and paid in 17/18.

ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE

The maintenance and improvement of the Highway Garden Sites is amongst the Parish Council's largest item of expense. These sites around the Village are not owned by the Parish Council but maintained by Elmbridge. Many years ago, CPC entered an agreement to look after them as we believed that they should be maintained to a higher standard than EBC would be willing to or could afford to do. We do receive a grant from EBC towards the cost of maintenance but then spend Parish Council funds on top. The majority of these sites are maintained by a contractor employed by the Parish Council, some jointly with volunteers and a small number solely by volunteers,

We have started to plan a longer term approach to monitoring and maintaining these sites. There are plans for additional planting. Most recently, work has taken place to restore damage to the St. Leonard's Road end of The Green, EBC Street Smart restored the damaged wooden railings and volunteers have undertaken new plantings.

On other matters, after a lot of effort the damaged bus shelter outside the Village Hall has been repaired and the telephone box at the same location has been saved from disconnection



HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

Over recent months the Committee has undertaken maintenance of the horse ride in Woodstock Lane South, further work is planned on the pedestrian footway alongside, to clear more vegetation from the horse ride and to remove fly tipped vegetation.

The committee continues to report defective roads with potholes, missing and damaged

road signs, faulty reinstatements and water leaks. In the case of water leaks we continue to push Thames Water to get them resolved more quickly and permanently.

A key proposal, which we support, in the recent on street parking consultation by SCC, is the control of parking in a short length of Church Road, between Holy Trinity Church and the Recreation Ground, including the entrance to Blakeden Drive, in the hope that this will improve traffic flow and reduce gridlock at this location.

As the autumn leaves fall and winter approaches, with poor lighting and potentially slippery cycling and driving surfaces we urge motorists to exercise extra caution and cyclists to be safe and utilise helmets, lighting and hiviz clothing.

-Ken Huddart

PLANNING REPORT

Elmbridge is in the process of updating the Elmbridge Local Plan which sets out the future strategy to meet the need for new homes across the borough. Earlier this year EBC consulted on its strategic option proposals and received a huge number of responses – the vast majority of which opposed any amendment to Green Belt boundaries to meet housing needs.

At the same time the Government published a housing White Paper, 'Fixing our broken housing market' and is now seeking views on a number of proposals to reform the planning system to increase the supply of new homes. To take part go to https://www.surveymonkey. co.uk/r/planningforhomes. The deadline is 9th November.

EBC is now reviewing the responses to their consultation in conjunction with the Governments's housing White Paper and aims to come back to residents in early 2018 on how they propose to progress their Local Plan.

We continue to deal with many, varied, Claygate planning applications. The Parish Council Planning Committee meets every 3 weeks. The date, time, agenda of meetings with topline details of all applications under consideration are posted on the two Village noticeboards, one by Boots and the other by the Village Hall, as well as on our website. If a resident wishes to make representation to the committee regarding an application, please contact the Parish Clerk in advance of the meeting to book a time to speak.

-Geoff Herbert

40 ACRE FIELD PLANNING APPEAL

Background

The power to grant or refuse planning permission rests with Elmbridge Borough Council (EBC), the Local Planning Authority (LPA). Claygate Parish Council (CPC) reviews and comments on all planning applications in the Village, based on planning policy and passes these comments to EBC. The Parish Council Planning Committee remit states CPC will object to any reduction in the designated Green Belt in and around Claygate and to any proposed development that detracts from its amenity value.

Planning Application for a Traveller Site on the 40 Acre Green Belt Field

The Parish Council objected to planning application (2015/3788), for 8 stables and a barn to include temporary accommodation. This was refused by EBC in February 2016. Thereafter, a retrospective planning application (2016/1567) was submitted for change of use to a Traveller site, incorporating two pitches for siting of 2 mobile homes, a stable/utility room and hard standing, together with provision of a cesspit.

The Parish Council objected on the basis that it was contrary to National and Local Planning Policy and that it provided no very special circumstances to justify such a development in the Green Belt. This application was refused by EBC in October 2016, but the applicants immediately appealed to the Planning Inspectorate.





Fighting the Planning Appeal

Over 1100 objections had been made by Village residents, demonstrating overwhelming concern to protect our Green Belt. Many residents wanted to ensure that EBC actively pursued the dismissal of this appeal.

Consequently, your Parish Council joined with other interested parties in the Village, including the Claygate Village Association (CVA), local residents' associations and other concerned local residents to form the Claygate Community Group (CCG). The CCG sought and was granted 'Rule 6 status' by the Planning Inspectorate, allowing it to be represented at the planning inquiry as a concerned third party to ensure that the views and concerns of the Village were fully heard. The CCG believed that the effect of this appeal, if it was successful, would have a potentially devastating impact on Claygate. The CCG stated to the Planning Inspectorate that it would be able to provide a local community perspective in support of, but over and above that which could be provided by Elmbridge.

Fighting this appeal to defend our Green Belt required an immense effort and a big thank you for the support received across the Village. The CCG employed the services of a Planning Specialist and QC. Such expertise does not come cheaply and the final costs were around £30,000. £15,000 was provided by the Parish Council and the balance came from the CVA, local residents associations and individual resident donations.

Submissions to the Planning Inspector/ Public Inquiry

Individual members of the CCG submitted Statements of Evidence and Affidavits concerning the value that this site and its surroundings (pre-development) enjoyed. These outlined the harm that this application, if approved, would do to the Green Belt, its openness and permanence, the harm to the rural character of the area and the adverse impact on local design and character. It provided evidence concerning the nearby bridleway, as well as the adjacent Local Nature Reserve, Claygate Common and in respect of surface water drainage and flooding.

The public inquiry was planned for 3 days in July. However, when it was opened, the applicants and their representatives did not turn up. The Planning Inspector decided to determine the appeal based on all the written evidence previously supplied by all parties.

The Decision

On September 5th, the independent Planning Inspector, having weighed up the written evidence, dismissed the appeal. Among other comments in the decision (see CPC website for link to full decision) he noted 'The scheme would incur definitional harm through inappropriate development and would impose very significant harm through loss of openness and encroachment'.

The CCG are now engaged in ensuring that Elmbridge Borough Council enforces the decision subject to previously determined timings.

CLAYGATE FLOWER & VILLAGE SHOW

A wonderful time was had by around 5,000 people at the Annual Claygate Flower & Village Show in July, as villagers and visitors kicked up their heels, despite an hour of unforecast rain at the show's start.

The 104th Annual Show was formally opened by the **Mayor of Elmbridge, Councillor Rachael Lake** with the formal cutting of the doorway sash to the impressive exhibition marquee.



Mayor opening the Exhibition Marquee

Families enjoyed the wonderful adult and junior exhibits which included flowers, fruit, vegetables, art, photos and domestic delights including cakes, cordials, wine and beer. They also loved participating with their beloved pets in the Companion Dog Show and admiring the vintage cars and motorcycles as well as watching the entertainment in the arena programme, which included local dancers from the Chadsworth Stage School & Zumba Dancers, the 1st Claygate Scout and Guide Band, the Thames Valley Morris Men and displays of martial arts by Kuk Sool Won.

Barry Fitzpatrick (Chairman) said "Each year we try to get a little better and this year we certainly succeeded. Despite the initial rain a huge crowd arrived at The Show to enjoy a

family afternoon with neighbours and friends. There was a lovely atmosphere as people wandered throughout the show checking out stalls and displays and still found time for some bar or teatime refreshment."

Children of all ages were particularly thrilled with the fun fair, the foot races, the farm animals, exotic animals and the mini rugby try-out, while younger children were all smiles as they participated in the Fancy Dress Parade, had their faces painted, played traditional games and watched Punch and Judy.

Adults enjoyed the tug-of-war, the variety of the Stalls Village, the food and drink and beer tent, primarily provided by the **Ajax Sea Scouts** and new, this year, the Prosecco Tent.



One of the many children's races

Towards the end of the afternoon, the 2017 **President, Susannah Moffat**, presented cups and trophies to the many adult and junior prizewinners. As she noted: "It was a wonderful day for our community. The popularity of the show continues to grow due to its warm, relaxed atmosphere and its quirky mix of old & new. Everyone's efforts, from stall volunteers, fundraisers for the Pavilion rebuild; even enthusiastic jam-makers, 3 year-old artists and budding flower and vegetable growers made it a very special occasion."

Monies raised will be used to fund local charities and to contribute to the rebuild of the Claygate Clubhouse.

-Gary State



Hon Vice President Michael Aspel OBE commenting on the Fancy Dress Parade

WHAM BAM, THANK YOU CLAYGATE!



Absolute Bowie Gig on the Rec

Absolute Bowie wowed the 700-strong crowd in July, the day after the Flower and Village Show, with all the late pop legend's biggest hits performed to perfection. The band opened their first set with Space Oddity and from that moment on you knew it was going to be a very special evening. By the time they finished their two hours on stage with Heroes the crowd had been treated to the full catalogue of Bowie tracks which had them on their feet, dancing and singing along to many classics.

This was the 7th 'Gig On The Rec' and the 3rd staged by Claygate Royal FC and Event Director Tony Shearman: "We tried a new layout this year for the first time which allowed us an increased capacity. Absolute Bowie were fantastic and we are delighted to have achieved our £5,000 target which will go towards improvements to the Community Clubhouse at the Recreation Ground when it is rebuilt. Our thanks go to all our sponsors and those who attended and made it such a special event."

Tony and his team of volunteers are already planning for Gig 2018 although the name of the headline act is yet to be announced.

- Tony Shearman



YOUR CENTRE FOR THE COMMUNITY

Claygate Centre for the Community is next to Capelfield GP Surgery in Elm Road. When was the last time you came to see what is on offer, at this wonderful facility?

It was opened 27 years ago, originally as a place for older residents in our community. It is now open to a wider range of residents and offers many activities, services and events. Some are subsidised by Elmbridge Borough Council and others by Friends of Claygate Centre, a charity that supports Claygate Centre for the Community. Some require prior appointment, but all represent good value for money.



ACTIVITIES

These vary from Bingo and Boccia to table tennis and creative activities such as an Art Class. There is a modest fee of £1 for some of these activities. Boccia is a chair based bowls game that all, regardless of physical mobility, can compete in on equal terms. It takes place on Tuesdays and alternate Wednesdays and it is free to participate. Additionally, there is a Bridge Group that meet on Tuesday afternoon and a Wednesday Afternoon Group that provide their own entertainment.

OUTINGS

Day outings are organised by Friends of Claygate Centre. These include trips to seaside locations such as Brighton and Worthing, but also to The Poppy Factory or Buckingham Palace. New ideas are always welcome.

SERVICES

If you want to look and feel better, then you can have a pedicure or manicure or use the hairdressing salon. The hairdressing salon is open daily during the week, whilst the beautician and reflexologist is available once a week. Podiatry is available either through Age UK or privately. All require appointments that can be arranged by contacting the Centre. There are keep fit classes and chairbased exercise suitable for the less mobile. Additionally, you can pick up a bargain from the goods sold at the Centre, these range from greeting cards, wrapping paper and miscellaneous stationery to free range eggs.

EVENTS

Every Thursday entertainment is provided after lunch and throughout the year there are special lunches where entertainment is provided. The Christmas and Easter Fayres are a great opportunity to have fun and grab a bargain. Any profits are used by Friends of Claygate Centre to support the Centre. The Christmas Fayre features a magician/clown, a visit from Father Christmas and stalls that offer a variety of Christmas presents and stocking fillers at bargain prices.

REFRESHMENTS

A three course lunch is available every weekday for £3.90. Good, wholesome freshly cooked food at a great value price. Why not give it a try? Alternatively, if you just want a light snack, there is a Coffee Bar with food and drink including toasted sandwiches, available at discounted prices.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Among the support groups that meet weekly at the Centre are a Parkinson's Support Group (on Monday), a Parkinson's Exercise Group (on Monday) and the Claygate Stroke Support Group (on Friday).

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Claygate Centre is almost entirely dependent on volunteers to keep things running smoothly. Up to 14 volunteers are needed each day to man the front desk or coffee bar, help serve lunch and organise the meals-on-wheels service. You can spend as little or as much time as you like volunteering at the Centre. Help is particularly required for the weekday meals-on-wheels service. It takes between one and two hours of your time from 11.30 am onwards and is done once a fortnight or more if you can spare the time.

CLAYGATE CENTRE MEMBER/COM-MUNITY DISCOUNT CARD

Anyone over the age of 50 is eligible to use the Centre's facilities. There is a modest charge of £12pa (or £20pa for non-Elmbridge residents). You will be provided with a community discount card that not only allows you to use all the services and activities run from all the seven Centres in the Borough, but also entitles you to a discount at select local retailers.

To learn more call the Centre at 01372 463476 or, better still, pop into the Centre and see for yourself. It is open weekdays between 9am and 4.30pm.

- John Bamford

CLAYGATE RECREATION GROUND: AN UPDATE



Project Phoenix

After the terrible fire which destroyed the Claygate Clubhouse on November 7th 2016...

"The Claygate Community Clubhouse was right at the heart of our community. There is no doubt it will rise again. There will be a huge amount of work ahead and we will need the community to work together again to rebuild."

- Helen Maguire, Chairman CRGT

WE MADE IT: £190,000 RAISED!



The Project Phoenix Team, with your help and the help of the Community, have put in a 'Gargantuan' effort through

the Summer months and have hit the initial 'Enhancement' project target of £190,000. What a milestone to reach and the target date set by Elmbridge Borough Council made in good time.

Raising £190,000 in six months is no small feat and the trust would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the fundraising effort and everyone who has contributed to the fund.

The request to make improvements to the clubhouse has now been discussed at a Elmbridge Borough Council Cabinet and full council, with a view to commencing demolition and works in March 2018. The build is expected to take eight-and-a-half months. Thank you once again to all that have helped and special thanks must go to the following organisations for their generous support:

Claygate Royals FC, Claygate Cricket Club, Claygate Parish Council, Elmbridge Borough Council, Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner, Surrey Cricket Foundation, Nias Wheatley Charitable Trust, Claygate Village Flower Show, Surrey County Council, Claygate 'Gig on the Rec', Claygate Gardening Society, Claygate Village Women's Institute, Claygate Probus.

The Trust have recently amended the internal plans to provide increased space for the community, both upstairs and downstairs and better flow between the internal and external environment. These amendments are currently being costed out by Kier Construction.

WHAT A NIGHT.....WE HAD A BALL..!

There have been some fantastic fundraising events this year, but to see out the season there was the Late Summer Ball held at Esher Cricket Club on Saturday 9th September and what a night it was with over 200 guests wining, dining, auctioning and of course dancing through the night and into the early morning. One of the highlights of the evening was the 'Silent Auction' with 'revellers' digging deep for some great prizes, including cricket bats signed by the England team, holiday cottages, dinners for two and even a 'Grand Pavlova!'. All of which helped raise over £10,000 for the Community Clubhouse which pushes the fundraising effort over the magical £200,000 mark. All in all it was a great night out and huge thanks must go to Nikki Willard (and her little helpers) for putting on such a successful event.



THE FUNDRAISING CONTINUES.....

Well, we now know that the enhanced Community Pavilion will be built, but the fundraising will continue in order to raise funds for the Clubhouse interior and the wider external project. This includes a landscaping project including a 'family garden,' permanent picnic tables and benches, a disabled access ramp, increased decking, internal and external furniture along with equipping the new kitchen and Café and building external storage units. And of course we should also mention the 'enhanced security measures' that will keep the new building safe! All of the above are being costed out and we will have a firmer fundraising target soon.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

GET INVOLVED:

Keep a look out for upcoming fundraising events We've got a number of exciting fundraising events planned. The next one is:

Battle of the Bands' – Saturday 18th November, at Claygate Village Hall, Church Road.

FOLLOW US:

Twitter @ClaygateRec and on FB Claygate Clubhouse & Recreation Ground

DONATE:

MYdonate.bt.com Claygate Clubhouse

Do you want to receive our regular newsletter? or for any other information: email: admin@crgt.co.uk or call 0845 2240025.

- Damian Ross



To book your tickets please visit:

• wegottickets.com/WinghamCourt

All proceeds from the event go to the Residents Fund

Wingham Court Care HomeOaken Lane, Claygate, Esher KT10 ORQ



1125/8830/AUG17

BPR 02480

The majority of residents are funded by the NHS

CLAYGATE PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES & CO-OPTED MEMBERS 2017

Mark Sugden

Parish Council (Chair), Ex Officio all Committees and Working Parties

Tel: 01372 463085/07548 244422 mark.sugden@claygateparishcouncil.gov.uk

John Bamford

Parish Council (Vice Chair)

Planning, Communications W/ Party, **Staffing** W/ Party (Chair)

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Planning Committee (co-opted)

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Gavin Wilson

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Parish Clerk

Contact the Parish Clerk, Shirley Round, on 01372 467000.

Email clerk@claygateparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Shirley is available at the Village Hall on Fridays, between 10.00am and noon, by appointment. Messages left on the answerphone will be answered within 24 hours.



Parish Council Meetings

Meeting dates to the end of February 2018 are as follows:

2017

November

9th	Planning Village Hall (c/room)	7.30pm
16th	PARISH COUNCIL Small Village Hall	7.30pm
30th	Planning Village Hall (c/room)	7.30pm
_		

December			
7th	Environment & Leisure Village Hall (c/room)	8.00pm	
14th	Highways & Transport Village Hall (c/room)	8.00pm	
21st	Planning Village Hall (c/room)	7.30pm	

2018

January

4th	Planning	7.30pm
	Village Hall (c/room)	
11th	PARISH COUNCIL	7.30pm
	Small Village Hall	

February

1st	Planning Village Hall (c/room)	7.30pm
9th	Environment & Leisure Village Hall (c/room)	8.00pm
15th	Highways & Transport Village Hall (c/room)	8.00pm
22nd	Planning Village Hall (c/room)	7.30pm

Welcome Shirley

The Parish Council is pleased to confirm Shirley Round's recent appointment as its new Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO).

Shirley has lived in the Village for many years and has previously served as a Parish Councillor. Over the last couple of years prior to her appointment, Shirley has provided interim administrative support to the Council. We welcome her as our new Clerk.

Freedom of Information