

SAVE CLAYGATE GREEN BELT

PROPOSALS FOR MAJOR DEVELOPMENT OF OUR GREEN BELT EXPECTED CLAYGATE COULD BECOME SUBURB OF ESHER OR LONDON OR BOTH EXISTENTIAL THREAT TO CHARACTER OF OUR VILLAGE

Crown Estate, an unelected government-linked body, owns land formerly held directly by the Crown. It is entrusted with great areas of green belt land, including that between Claygate, Oxshott and Esher. It is considering developing the current Loseberry Farm, which occupies the space between Claygate and Arbrook Woods, and has already sent surveyors onto the land.

The development could proposal could be for as many as 3,000 new homes – as many as Claygate has already. As well as destroying our green belt and threatening Claygate's separate identity, this scale of development poses major threats for roads, schooling and natural habitats.

Owners of green land elsewhere in and around Claygate are also known to have put their land forward for development.

What has prompted this now? Well, the UK Government is in the process of changing the National Planning Policy Framework (essentially, the rules for approving development proposals). It plans to insert a provision that Green Belt protection will no longer apply to green belt land within walkable distance (probably 800 meters) to a well-connected railway station. It defines "well-connected" in a way that hits Surrey green belt particularly hard.

SAVE CLAYGATE GREEN BELT is a campaign set up by Claygate residents to oppose developments on our green belt that threaten the distinctive character of our village. We will pressure Crown Estate to think again about the use of their land; we will oppose any threatening or destructive planning application that is put to Elmbridge Borough Council and/or the new East Surrey; and we will lobby the Secretary of State who will most likely make the final decision.

We have strong arguments to make at each stage. But the most important thing is to show decision-makers that we have the support of the people of Claygate. This could be the factor that decides whether Claygate as we know it survives.

What can you do? You can...

- Sign our petition at saveclaygategreenbelt.com
- Forward this factsheet to your friends in Claygate, asking them to forward it on (street WhatsApp groups are especially useful)
- Join the SCGB Campaign! We still have need for all kinds of skills, so please drop a WhatsApp message to our campaign manager on 07889 116883

SAVE CLAYGATE GREEN BELT