

CRS has been very quiet in recent months. Along with many small organisations like ourselves, things have been in limbo and there is little to report. However there are some **positives** from the situation we find ourselves in, which we hope you are able to take advantage of while you can; the wonderful sound of the **birds singing, quiet roads and much cleaner air**, few problems with traffic and parking and a wonderful opportunity to get to know your neighbours better – **clapping for the NHS** on Thursdays and being involved in the **WhatsApp groups** that have been set up in various areas offering help – and what would we do without Tik Tok! **Enjoy while you can – looks as though things are changing!**



You may be interested to know that one of our newly appointed Committee members, **Pranav Gupta** (above), has been doing stalwart work on the Estate in **reporting potholes** to the Council and has had some success in getting them dealt with or a promise to get them dealt with. Seemingly some potholes reported do not meet the criteria for urgent reparation!

Pranav has also been vigilant in reporting **graffiti** on the numerous telecommunications/IT boxes on the Estate and has had **huge success** here – Virgin Media have even replaced some of their cabinets. By the way, if you find a problem in your street, you can report it via the website **“Fix my Street”**.

On the **Planning** front BCC have closed their offices for the moment and called in applications are now dealt with virtually by the **Planning Committee** – they happen on Thursday mornings fortnightly – the next one is due on **June 4th**. The public can also access the hearings via the website www.civico.net/birmingham.

Unfortunately an application regarding **68 Wellington Road**, although recommended to refuse 2 years ago, an almost identical application was approved (8 votes to 4) by BCC 3 weeks ago. **Residents are coordinating objections to Calthorpe Estates who also must approve**. Please contact **Stephen Richards** at Mainstay and/or to **Mark Lee** at Calthorpe Estates.

The Planning Application for **No6 Norfolk Road** is ongoing. Two more amendments were made to the application in April with a closing date for further objections of **May 4th**. We understand from **Preet Gill**, our Edgbaston MP, who has become involved, that she has received an assurance from the Council that **another public hearing** will be held when the current crisis is over.

On the negative side, unfortunately the CRS Committee has not been able to meet since March and at the moment cannot see when we may meet again. We are still not in a position to give any more information about our delayed 2020 AGM, and the only event we have on the horizon at the moment is the Autumn Meeting on November 12 at EHS where our speaker will be local Edgbaston resident Mindu Hornick, MBE, talking about her experiences in Auschwitz.

Things are quiet on the **traffic and parking** front apart from a letter the Chairman sent to the Birmingham Post which was published on **May 14th**.

Dear Editor

Birmingham City Council wants to introduce the delayed Clean Air Zone (CAZ) as “early as possible in 2021”. As long as March 2019 it recognised that the scheme would bring chaos to the neighbourhoods adjacent to the Inner ring road as commuters would dump their cars in these areas and walk into the city centre to avoid paying the daily charge. We envisage that the CV19 pandemic will make the situation even worse as people will be wary of travelling on public transport and come to the city in their cars instead. Councillor Zaffar promised to bring in measures to stop this happening (Birmingham Post March 14 2019). Since then no such measures have been announced. Birmingham City Council must publish any measures that have been formulated straight away or admit that they have no plans but are simply going to allow a dangerous and chaotic situation to develop in these areas.

Peter Arnold
Chairman, Calthorpe Residents’ Society

Website – a dedicated [COVID-19 page](#) has been set up and we would be delighted to hear how **members are spending their time in lockdown**, together if possible with appropriate photos. **Contributions to:** calthorperesidents.org/contact and complete the **COVID lockdown story** form.

PACT MEETINGS

The Edgbaston **Neighbourhood Policing Team** have advised that no PACT meetings are currently scheduled and they will make an announcement when the meetings are due to start again. If you haven’t signed up already, we encourage you to **subscribe to West Midlands Police’s free online messaging service** at www.wmnow.co.uk to keep up to date with what’s happening near you.

Finally – important information – in case you are unaware – much research has found that there are good local suppliers of wines and spirits which can be delivered by Majestic Wines, Loki and Connells.

The Committee wish you all well, and you may be assured that we will all meet again but don’t yet know where or when!

Best wishes,

Your CRS Team