

Chairman's report to the Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting
of the Orford and District Surgery Charitable Trust covering 2019 and 2020

This Charity was set up by Trustees in 1980 to secure and build a surgery building in Orford for the benefit of Orford & Gedgrave, Iken, Chillesford, Sudbourne and Butley parishes. The Trustees made arrangements for the day-to-day business of the Trust to be achieved by a management committee of representatives of the five parishes, all of whom are volunteers.

The management committee oversees two charitable elements:

1. The Orford and District Surgery Trust which can fund the provision of medical equipment and facilities for the surgery and
2. The Esmond House Legacy Care Fund which can fund facilities, equipment and services for frail older persons and disabled people resident in our five parishes to support them to live independently at home.

Anna McCreddie was Chair during this period until June 2020 having been in post for several years and our thanks go to her for her leadership during that time.

During 2019 and 2020 the charity has funded extra nursing and health care assistant hours at the Orford surgery, supported the continuous professional development of practice staff, allocated Orford Primary school a payment for extra teaching assistant hours to support children with additional health needs, paid for tree surgery and shrub clearance to the area surrounding the surgery car park to obviate car park flooding, purchased a defibrillator for Chillesford, funded the venue for the Flu vaccination day, put up a new sign for the Chapman House building and paid for alterations to the building so that the dispensary could operate from a dedicated window.

In 2019 the Esmond House charity supported a number of complementary therapy sessions but there were no calls on the funds during 2020. However in 2021 it is helping to pay for call monitors and/or key safes, through the Good Neighbour Scheme, for those elderly and vulnerable people in the locality who are in need and would not otherwise be able to afford them.

The pandemic of 2020 was certainly unprecedented. Nobody could have foreseen the circumstances in which the medical profession operated and nobody could have foreseen the impact Covid 19 had on this community – let alone the impact nationally and internationally.

After becoming Chair in June 2020, in September I presented a strategic review discussion paper, written with the support of Sue Johnston and Corinne Lusher. It looked at the environment in which the Orford and District Surgery Charitable Trust operates, articulated our objectives and the strategy and structure to achieve them

The Trustees and Management Committee agreed that plan and we are all working to achieve the vision of supporting the health and care needs of the users of Chapman House surgery to ensure a surgery remains in Orford for use by the community for the future. Two main projects are underway i) to establish a new internal repairing lease with the practice and ii) to change the Orford and District Surgery Charitable Trust into a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Over this period there have been some changes in membership of the Charity and I'd like to thank all those for their contributions and service to the charity and to welcome the new members.

Finally I'd like to thank the Doctors and their colleagues for all their efforts during this very difficult year and to assure them that they have our full support.

Katherine Silver-Murphy
Chair Orford and District Surgery Charitable Trust
12th May 2021