

Derby Road Fund Committee

Contact via E.mail: derbyroadfund@gmail.com

10th November 2020

Dear Resident,

DERBY ROAD FUND: NEW COMMITTEE

This letter is to introduce ourselves as the newly elected Co-Chair of 'The Derby Road Fund' Committee, together with a further two new Committee members and the re-election of two previous members. The composition of Committee now is six Members.

First of all, we would like to start by thanking those members of the Committee who have worked tirelessly for us all for the last few years. The work is purely voluntary and we appreciate all their hard work. We also recognise that there are residents that have valuable experience and knowledge.

Except for Jamie and David, we have not been members of the Committee until now, so we are very new to the role and would ask for your patience and understanding, as we take our time to familiarise ourselves with the roles.

Let us start by introducing ourselves:

John Mullaney

I am in my late 70s, and have lived in Derby Road for thirty three years. I was a local secondary school teacher before opening 'Caversham Bookshop', with my wife Lindsay, in 1979. We retired sixteen years ago. I am a historian and write, give talks and lectures, especially about Reading Abbey. For some years I was Chair of the Caversham branch of 'Save the Children Fund', and one of the editors of 'The Caversham Bridge' newspaper. I was also a governor of two schools in Reading. My MA is in education, focusing on its history and philosophy. Lindsay and I have two grown up sons, each married and we have three grandchildren, with another on the way.

I have offered to act as Co-Chair with Lyn Anthony-Higgins.

Lyn Anthony-Higgins

My family and I moved into Derby Road in March of this year.

I began my career as an NHS nurse and I am a member of Chelsea & Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

I have held a number of senior executive government positions, working for political Leaders, Cabinet Members and Members of Parliament of various political Parties. I have worked on National, Local and European polls. Involving stakeholders including political parties, candidates, agents as well as elected members. Whilst maintaining impartiality and keeping an eye on the political realities and financial probity affecting Councils.

I believe in 'putting residents first' and as 2020/21 will continue to be a very challenging time for all of us but, by working together, I believe we can develop the best solutions for the DRF and our Community.

Brian Cairns

Since 2008, I have lived in Derby Road with my wife, Marina. Like most, we've spent a lot of time renovating the property. As we are on the corner of Derby/Grosvenor Roads we have the pleasure of being members of both road funds!

I am a project management consultant and a Director of two companies in that sector. The companies operate mainly in the major infrastructure projects area.

I am keen to see a constitution established for the DRF, where its role and objectives for the road are clarified, and based upon which all those with a right of use of Derby Road make an equitable contribution.

Jamie Harcourt

Since 1988, my wife Susan and I have lived in Derby Road and brought up our two sons here.

I have worked my entire career in the camera department of the film and TV drama businesses and have been a camera operator for many years.

In between projects I spend a considerable amount of time maintaining the house and several years ago we did a major job reshaping and remaking the driveway and front garden ourselves.

I volunteered for the DRF Committee a few years ago and have recently taken up the responsibility of keeping an eye on the state of the lime trees and grass verges and have been talking to the Council and tree surveyor about the safety of a few trees and the general condition of pollarding etc. I am currently awaiting his report.

Helen Savidge

I have lived in Field View for nearly 9 years now and have been a Reading resident for over 20 years. I am a maths teacher working in local Reading schools and have held various senior management positions.

I bring voluntary experience in varied roles in several committees over the years. In particular, in Field View, I worked with my fellow residents to set up the Field View Residents Association when we all first moved in, including as Chair person and then as Director of the Field View Management Company.

As a new Committee, we believe this is an exciting opportunity for us and residents to work together to continue to build on the aims and objectives of the Derby Road Fund and to secure its future.

We are keen to hear your views, so please contact us via email at derbyroadfund@gmail.com.

We will shortly circulate protocols on how we intend to work together.

Yours sincerely

Lyn Anthony-Higgins and John Mullaney
Co-Chair, Derby Road Fund Committee