

Derby Road Fund

Committee Meeting 4 December 2019

Held at 3A Derby Road

Present:

Sean Mitchell (Temporary Chairman)

David Moro (Treasurer)

Jamie Harcourt

Simon Scaddan

Gillian Vooght

Apologies received from Paula Benham and Julie Mills

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 2 October 2019 were approved.

Matters Arising:

(1) Four new road signs were all in place and thanks were given to DM.

(2) Mander Court foliage pruning: DM to send a reminder

DM

(3) [REDACTED] from Chaney's Chartered Surveyors and Property Managers: DM had sent him further information. AC had outlined three different levels of management which his company could offer. No estimates of the costs were provided. Quotations had been requested but none received.

DRF Committee members were not inclined to increase residents' costs by buying in services which were already provided free of charge.

(4) Mrs G [REDACTED] and her tree: JM to update us.

(5) Letter to Mr R [REDACTED]: SS explained that this letter, jointly drafted by DM, PB and SS awaited approval by JH, JM and SM. DM proposed a further amendment which he had sent to SS.

SS then proposed that, before the letter was delivered, he should call on Mr R [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] purely as a courtesy and, as the Chairman elect, to introduce himself in the hope that a face to face meeting might lower tensions.

SS would not draw on the content of the Committee's proposed letter to Mr R [REDACTED] but he would report back to the Committee after his visit and before the letter was sent. The Committee all agreed to accept this proposal.

SS

(6) Caversham Prep School signs: These had been measured by SM as approximately 137 cm high x 168 cm wide (54" x 66"). The Local Planning Authority allow signs only 1.2 square metres to be put in place without their permission. GV would speak to Mr L [REDACTED] prior to any complaint being made to the Planning Authority by the DRF.

GV

(7) DRF's responsibility to manage land/trees east of Mander Court and as far as numbers 8 to 16 Field View was accepted. SM and DM to inspect the area and assess the work needed together with any associated costs. **SM/DM**

(8) DM had approached [REDACTED] twice via email with regard to the debt on his property. CS had declined to meet but had indicated he would re-visit the Deeds.

(9) Liaison with Grosvenor Road re pinch point closure dates: Their 2020 closure dates would be announced in the next few days and this would allow us to plan our Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday closure dates for 2020.

With regard to their "apportionment of road fees", all households pay except those on Greystoke Road.

(10) Progress with plans for the new path around our pinch point: JH and DM would map out with an extension to take the path beyond the black and white metal post on the speed bump. JH and DM would report back via e-mail. **JH/DM**

Treasurer's Report:

(1) Requests for next year's fees had all been delivered (check 14 Moss Close/Harcourt).

(2) Funds received to date = £5760 (44% of total but only 18% of those asked to pay).

(3) The renewal of the Combined Liability Insurance Policy was confirmed at a slightly reduced premium of £232.96.

SS recommended that the DRF pay a small premium to Ashburnham Insurance Services Ltd for Private Road Insurance. DM to obtain a quote. **DM**

Correspondence:

It was confirmed that a letter detailing the Emergency Services' access to Derby Road had been delivered to all households.

A letter had been received from [REDACTED], together with DM's reply. It was requested that both letters be e-mailed to all Committee members. **DM**

Thanks were given to SS and PB for their replies to JL [REDACTED] with regard to communication issues. It was felt that he had raised a good point and the matter should be raised at the AGM.

Date and time of next year's AGM:

Queen Anne's School had kindly offered their hall to DRF from 12 noon to 3 pm on Saturday 4 April 2020.

Although this date marked the start of the Easter school holidays, the Committee approved the time and date in the belief that they would suit the majority.

SM suggested that notification of this date could be printed and delivered at the same time as the notification of the 2020 Pinch Point closure dates. **PB**

Election of new Chairman:

PB had planned to propose Simon Scaddan as our new DRF Committee Chairman. However, in her absence, it was necessary to delete the proposal from the Agenda. SM suggested the proposal could be e-mailed by PB to all Committee members. **PB**

The roles of Committee members and ideas to simplify communications between members were not discussed.

Any Other Business:

A car had been seen bypassing the Pinch Point opposite Ellesmere Close and a photograph had been taken. RB [REDACTED] suggestions made on Facebook on 31 October re Pinch Point opening and closing procedures: SS had e-mailed RB advising him that the Committee favoured retaining the closing time of 07.00 to 19.00 hours, but pointed out that those opening and closing the PP should operate from just after 07.00 and just before 19.00 hours.

Date and time of next Committee Meeting:

SM to e-mail Committee members with a list of alternative dates. **SM**