

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.

David Moro (Treasurer)

For over twelve years Gill and I have lived in Derby Road. Together we made many lovely friends in that time. In addition, this year I have become acquainted with many more during the landscaping of our frontage.

My profession is an Architectural Technologist and so understand all aspects of construction, with this I am also practical and able to implement these skills for the benefit of the Road as can be seen by the new path round the pinch point. I have been treasurer for three years and would propose to continue for a further three years in addition to my many other commitments.

Elisabeth Westerlund

My fiancée and I moved to the area recently after living and working 4 years in London.

I am working in the financial industry and have been involved in committees in the past as Treasurer and Information Manager. I have a Msc in Engineering and a Bsc in Business Administration.

I have offered to help out with the website to make sure community members can access information easily but also Facebook to ensure we can keep a positive and helpful community spirit online.

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