

Derby Road Fund

**Committee Meeting 09th January 2019 – 7.00 pm
Held at 3a Derby Road**

Present:

Ian Lawson (Chairman)
David Moro (Treasurer)
Sean Mitchell
Gill Vooght

Apologies:

Paula Benham (Secretary)
Fiona Grant (guest)
Shirley Rennison

The Minutes of the last committee meeting held on 11 October 2018 had been approved.

Matters arising:

Pinch Point LA Application:

DM reported the application was made in November 2018 and a reply from Reading Borough Council was received requesting additional information and drawings. These included serving a notice on the owner as per Article 13. This information needs to be back with RBC by 15th Jan 2019.
DM to action.

PP is in place and to be planted up next weekend, closure bar being manufactured ready next week, GR chairman [REDACTED] issued closure dates following meeting, DR dates issued back at approx. four days per month. DR dates issued to SM by DM to volunteer to close PP, other residents have volunteered to help with the closure. DM to issue closure dates to committee members.
It was agreed January dates would be issued to all residents notifying of road closure start date on the 22nd Jan 2018. The rest of the year would only be issued to residents who have paid the fee for 2018.
DM to email and organise mail shot. SM to deliver to all homes.

Clarification of wording on FG's deeds:

Following the last meeting, Fiona reported she was mistaken and her deed did not state they owned to half way across the road but to her garden boundary.

Redrafting of the Constitution by IL:

IL stated he had made a start on redrafting and abridging last year's constitution and would issue a copy to committee members on the 16th of January 2019 for review and comment.

IL and SM to follow up Public Liability Insurance:

SM stated a copy had been issued to him by DM to read and was over 150 pages long and in technical language which made it difficult to understand precisely what the cover encompassed.
IL confirmed he had had a conversation with the Hiscox representative and discussed the committee's activities and responsibilities before acquiring the policy. SM indicated it would have been useful for a condensed appraisal of the policy to have been included in the email from the insurers.

IL reassured the committee our obligations had been fully explained before placing the order for the policy and the reimbursement cheque had been gratefully received.

Date of next AGM:

GV stated she had emailed E [REDACTED] earlier in the week requesting dates in April for the AGM at Queen Anne's. SM questioned when in April would be best? Late April was agreed.

Caversham Prep School signage:

GV highlighted to IL a number of residents had mentioned how the CPS sign at the entrance to Derby Road was ugly, overbearing and misleading in its present location. IL stated the school had replaced like for like what was there for the clinic before it. GV notified IL that she had been stopped along DR and asked where the school reception entrance was and had to be redirected. The sign was much bigger than that for the clinic before it and definitely gave the impression the DR entrance was the entrance to the school. SM asked if the sign could not be moved down the road a few meters away from the entrance to DR. IL said this would impede access to the garage at the rear of the Gatehouse and would require a new signage application to be placed with RBC.

White posts to the entrance of the Gatehouse off Derby Road represent a trip hazard following car impact. IL stated these would be removed next week by a specialist contractor.

DR website:

GV had met with T [REDACTED] late last year with PB and agreed amendments to website format, she emailed both TL and Philip Edwards to arrange for the reallocation of the domain website name to DRF. This would be at a cost of £95.00 per annum following transfer.

IL would drop TL a line to check on hand over date and going live.

Chairman's Report:

IL to prepare The Chairman's report for the AGM highlighting what has been undertaken this past year 2018 and what issues need to be addressed for the coming year 2019. Draft report for end of February to issue to committee.

Treasure's interim Report:

Expected income by the 23rd December 2018 should be in the order of £14,116.00. Actual funds received £8,168.00 so 58%. Total in the bank following expenditure for the PP and LED lamps is £30,960.99.

Despite the introduction of a surcharge of £10.00 more than half have still to pay, the figures are distorted because QA, Southern Housing, Allsops and Farmer & Dyer have all paid on time.

Reminder Letter:

DM stated the reminder letter issued last year was judged to have been to threatening but was effective in obtaining more payments. IL requested a copy of last year's letter and would draft this year's to be issued at the end of the month. Copy to be issued to all committee members for comment before SM to deliver and request outstanding payment.

Correspondence:

Michaels Chase request letter to [REDACTED] issued to SM for review by DM. No funds have been forthcoming for 15 years. DM requested payment last year and gave detail of restricted covenant, FA stated his deeds mentioned no such covenant and had been advised not to pay by his solicitor. Since

then we have obtained deed for the land 13a Derby Road from Land Register which indicate the existence of a restricted covenants obliging the land owner to maintain the road front in repair until taken over by the Public Authority.

IL requested a copy of the deeds, a copy of our letter, copy of FA's last email and details of money owing. DM to email. IL to write a 28 day request for payment letter and investigate small claims court action.

SM also was aware of FA informing other owners and residents they did not have to pay.

Any other business:

Facebook page: GV stated a moderator was required in addition to C [REDACTED], the page was out of date and had a number of non residents given access. It may be the page should be closed down and contact to be via website. IL to speak with C [REDACTED] and GV to issue updated list for checking.

PP closure dates: PP is in place and to be planted up next weekend, closure bar being manufactured ready next week, GR chairman [REDACTED] issued closure dates following meeting, DR dates issued back at approx. four days per month. DR dates issued to SM by DM to volunteer to close PP, other residents have volunteered to help with the closure. DM to issue closure dates to committee members. It was agreed January dates would be issued to all residents notifying of road closure start date on the 22nd Jan 2018. The rest of the year would only be issued to residents who have paid the fee for 2018. DM to email & organise mail shot SM to deliver to all homes. SM requested times of closure and re-opening, it was thought 7.00 till 7.00 was acceptable.

Road repair: GV quotation required for road repair at manhole at Moss Close and gate entrance. Investigate making bigger 2 number soakaways. Work party to tidy Derby Road – work to be identified in more detail.

White posts: SM received a request for provision of white posts to verge. SM requested quotation for providing painted white posts. First quotation at £20.00 each was thought quite high SM to seek two further quotations for the following:

Supplying painted wooden posts, I have had time to think again about the size and the quantities of these posts.....a) please base your quotation on 100mm X 100mm X 800mm posts and not the 75mm version x 50 units.

Date of next meeting: 6th March proposed to be confirmed.