

Derby Road Fund

**Committee Meeting 25th July 2018 – 7.00 p.m.
Held at 3a Derby Road.**

Present:

David Moro (Treasurer);
Gill Vooght;
Shirley Rennison;
Sean Mitchell;

Apology:

Ian Lawson (New Chairman)

Conformation:

DM was able to confirm Mr Ed Hellings secretary was stepping down following eight years of diligent service. Gill formally thanked Ed on behalf of all the committee for all his hard work. It was agreed he will be hard to replace.

Gill emailed QA and requested Ed to enquire should another member of staff wish to represent QA's on the committee or as secretary this would be an invaluable link with Derby Road the committee would wish to retain.

DM confirmed a set of the last meeting minutes were emailed to Ian and Sean together with the time and location of the meeting.

Agenda

- Derby Road history and possible adoption.
- Action with regards non payment of Derby Road Fund Fee.
- Road reinstatement, sweeping and gulley cleaning.
- Road closure and installation of pinch point.
- LED lighting conversion

Derby Road history and possible adoption

In the absence of IL this item was postponed until an update to the progress could be obtained from IL's investigations into cost and prudence. DM to email reminder to IL along with a copy of the meeting minutes.

Following on from the AGM last week IL had reviewed his deeds and requested more historical information on the road and The Berkshire Estates Co Ltd who were former owners of the road. To the best of everyone's knowledge they no longer existed and no such company was found on the Company House web site register.

IL proposed going forward DRF acquire ownership of the road and would be in a stronger position to obtain the funds required to maintain the road from the residents. The committee agreed for IL to obtain a quotation for engaging solicitors to undertake this work. DM to check with XX our in house solicitor if this was a prudent course of action in addition because this would mean taking on liability for which would need to be covered by insurance.

SM requested clarification to the sequencing of events and taking non payers to court, IL discouraged court action at this time on the grounds we would be in a stronger position if ownership of Derby Road was in place first by Derby Road Committee. IL stated this should be possible for a relatively modest sum of money.

Action with regards non payment of Derby Road Fund fee

In the absence of IL this item was postponed until an update to the progress could be obtained from IL's investigations. DM confirmed the cheques had been banked and no further action would be undertaken in the above regard, no further correspondence had taken place with XX.

IL stated the next stage would be to gain a county court judgment legitimising our request for payment to maintain the road surface. DM confirmed we were in a strong position with regards Positive Covenant on all the land off Derby Road according to XX our in house solicitor and the "Benefit & Burdon" test case. IL stated this would be further strengthened with a county court judgment behind us.

DM requested how we best proceed with regards taking a test case to court and writing a reply letter to Xxx X. XXXXXXXXXXXX who by the way had now paid Xxx contribution for 2016-2017 without prejudice. It was agreed DM's reply would be conciliatory for the time being until the above was progressed. DM confirmed the cheques would be banked.

Road reinstatement sweeping and gulley cleaning

DM confirmed no resolution with regards the major reinstatement at the junction with Grosvenor Road was forthcoming from GPL who promised to get back to Brian Farnham and have not. A verbal assurance was also given to pay for the road sweeping and gulley cleaning which again has not materialised.

IL suggested we undertake a survey of the affected road surface and obtain a report prior going back to GPL and making any further requests for reinstatement. IL to obtain quotations from surveyors to undertake the above report. DM to forward on relevant emails to IL to update him on state of play with GPL.

DM confirmed the relevant emails had been forwarded to IL for his information. In the absence of IL this item was postponed until an update to the progress could be obtained from IL.

The road sweeping and gulley cleaning have taken place by RBC over a two week period completed on the 25th May and was supervised by DM & SM in part. RBC have taken two payments for the Road Sweeping and so by mutual agreement they will sweep the road at the end of the year following the leaf fall in November at no extra cost. We may still seek reimbursement following the outcome of the above.

Road closure and installation of pinch point.

August Bank Holiday was agreed for the closure of the Derby Road Gates at the AGM by a show of hands. The committee agreed on this date and notification letters would need to be organised, DM agreed to undertake this in addition to the request for a new secretary, committee members, notification of the introduction of the pinch point all rolled into one. SM and SR agreed to organise road notification distribution weekend 3rd August.

DM to purchase appropriate signage for the gate closure which is to be from 6.00am to 8.00pm and pinch point signage. In addition to new padlocks for the gates would be required. Pinch point location was agreed by all committee members between the entrance of Field View and Ellesmere Close at the fourth speed hump from the gate entrance.

A bar and not post operation would be preferable at this stage as opposed to Grosvenor Road system. Three quotations for the construction of the timber pinch point required design to match that of Grosvenor Road with planters. DM to undertake.

SM raised the question of liability insurance quotations for DR committee members against possible legal action relating to Derby Road activities. This was not available to non ltd companies at SM's current provider but it was agreed SM would check with alternative companies.

The Constitution

In the absence of IL this item was postponed until an update to the progress could be obtained from IL.

DM stated some form of constitution would be of benefit to committee members and to advise new home owner on Derby Road and solicitors as to what is expected from all parties coming to live on Derby Road. SR introduced a copy of the constitution used at Mander Court for discussion, it was reviewed and agreed a constitution between the one tabled at the AGM and this one would be more practical. IL to review and table for the next meeting.

Street Lighting Upgrade to LED

GV confirmed the quotations from SSE had been revised and received, it was in the order of £572.64 + VAT for the LED street light conversion of the lamps only. It would seem there would only be a requirement for 8 new LED lamps and not the 15 initially quoted for. There are 10 lamp posts and two noted as belonging to RBC which are relatively new. This will need investigating by the installer. GV told the meeting another two electricians had been contacted and had offered to quote for the conversion works.

Any other business

DM ask if IL had been in contact with former Chair Paul Grant? IL confirmed he had not but would endeavour to make contact with him and request any documentation relating to the role. DM to prepare a letter to go out to all local solicitors reminding them of the Derby Road Fund fee, estate agents to be included in the circulation. SM to review letter before emailing.

Letter to Mr Xxxx at Xxxxxxx Xxxxx regarding non payment of Derby Road Fund SM to review before sending.

DM declared the meeting closed and we reconvene in approx two months time to be advised.