

Derwenthorpe Residents' Association
All Residents' Meeting
Wednesday 23rd January 2019

1. Welcome, apologies and thanks. Sam Borman (acting Chair) welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. Also in attendance were:

- Core Team: Gerry Mountfort, Sheri Kinbrum, David Casswell, Dave Munley
- Residents: 18
- JRHT: Joanne Lofthouse (Derwenthorpe Manager)

Apologies were:

- Core Team: Wendy Borman (Secretary)

2. Review of minutes from the All Residents' Meeting of 21st November 2018.

Sam B reminded the assembled group that ARM minutes were available on the Derwenthorpe website.

- On the subject of 'bio-diversity' under AOB; Ginnie Shaw inquired whether the current initiative to develop the bio-diversity at Derwenthorpe had taken account of the work done by St Nick's in 2016-17 and covered in a report written by Maria Gill entitled 'Derwenthorpe Wild Watch Project.

ACTION: Sam B agreed to pass on the reference to Wendy Borman, who may already have knowledge of the earlier work. Joanne Lofthouse stated that she was aware of the DPAC funded report, and that JRHT were continuing to work on implementing findings.

- On the subject of 'car-chargers' under AOB; Sally McGurn requested an update. Joanne L stated that she was unable to give specifics there is a commitment to provide car charging points in the central area and that making a more definitive statement would only be possible when DWH had completely vacated the central square.

ACTION: This topic should be added to the agenda for the next DRA/DWH/JRHT Liaison meeting.

- On the subject of 'allotments' under AOB; Sam B was unaware of any formal plans for allotments within Derwenthorpe. He suggested that possibly the nearest were in Heworth at Hempland Lane.

- On the subject 'composters and rodent control' under AOB; several comments were made regarding the problem of rats being sighted in various parts of the development, including the area of raised beds. One questioner asked about the possibility of rat-proof composters and another about recycling of green waste. Maria Fouks stated that while three compost bins had been provided for 'browns & greens' only one was in use. There was a suggestion that there was a lack of understanding on 'how to compost greens' and there should be some form of educational information created.

ACTION: Contact either JRHT or the Gardening Group for further help.

David Friend suggested that a 'Rocket Composter' would be a big step towards improving the eco-credentials of Derwenthorpe and satisfy the many individuals who want to do as much as possible to be green.

Such composters are used in educational/ commercial applications and would therefore require some form of local infrastructure. **ACTION;** Pass to DGG when operational.

3. Treasurer's report. GM reported that that expenditure is on budget.

- The DRA account balance is approximately £754.
- Income: The annual stipend of £2.00 per household in due February/March 2019

- The community pot stands at approximately £4150.
- The DRA account is holding £260, some in cash, for CAN.
- The sum of £100 had been approved for the forthcoming Christmas party.
- The Treasurer is holding a cash sum for the CAN.
- David F stated that the 'film night' did not have a fixed charge but relied on donations 'on the night' for funds. Currently a sum of £380.00 was held to cover the future cost of the license and room rent.

4. Derwenthorpe Governance Group (DGG) update

- Sam B provided an update on the DGG as follows: The previously discussed interim DGG comprising five residents and five JRHT personnel will no longer be required. Such an arrangement was seen as necessary in order to meet JRHT's operational timescale. However as the relevant 'terms of reference' and legal standing of the DPAC element of the DGG have not yet been agreed between CYC and JRHT the election/selection of DGG members can wait until later in the year and coincide with election/selection of DRA Core Team members in May 2019.
- In order to maximize interest in the five 'resident positions' on the DGG it was suggested that 'candidate guidance' in the form of a 'job spec' would be helpful. The DGG terms of reference are seen as a guide to the duties required but needed to be supported with other features. One speaker suggested that full representation across the community was important and that being 'social media savvy' was essential as was engaging with all tenures and especially the youth in the community.
- ACTION: Steve Burkeman and Nicky Helliwell accepted a joint action to meet, discuss and create a job spec.
- While not related directly to the subject of the DGG it was felt that a similar exercise was needed to select/elect members of the Core Team from residents ahead of the elections due at the end of May. ACTION: CT to draw up a list of skills required to be a DRA Core Team member.
- Sam B advised the assembled residents that while the Core Team could comprise a maximum of ten, currently the number was seven and by the time of the elections in May it would be down even further.

5. Quick Updates : Based on the DRA/JRHT Liaison Meeting of 15th January 2019

- MVHR: Contractor in position to start work still scheduled for January 2019. The Building Research Establishment have set the work standard and will randomly inspect the work when completed. Despite many previous promises, writing letters to the affected residents advising on the program of work has not happened. ACTION: CT to raise this at the next meeting due 12th March 2019
- MEV: User guide is still in the drafting stage. The lack of this basic documentation is an ongoing source of irritation to some residents, as is the report that a DWH survey of six homes found no issues with the system. As far as the DRA CT and JRHT are concerned there is no documented evidence of systemic fault. However, some residents are sufficiently concerned regarding the operability of the MEV that they have offered to test the system of any resident who thinks they have a problem. To that end John Reddick and David Friend equipped with sophisticated power and flow measuring

equipment have placed themselves at resident's disposal to test their systems. Residents interested should make contact through John R on 07599 967182.

One resident offered a word of caution, relating some of the history of the task faced and still facing residents with MVHR systems. The rectification of clearly evidenced problems has taken five years, a significant injection of personal finance and an incalculable emotional strain to get somewhere close to fixing the issues. A suggestion that the NHBC could help was countered by the fact that it is not a free service.

- Lighting faults: A schedule for rectification has been agreed with a contractor and is due to commence towards the end of January 2019.
- Garage door replacement: Letters detailing the batch replacement program will be issued end of Jan 2019 to those affected. ACTION: CT to follow up at the next DWH/DRA Liaison meeting.
- Canopy Replacement: A program working in order of severity is ongoing.
- Footpath from Seebohm to Burnholme: due to be complete by end of first quarter 2019.
- Pond decking resurfacing: JRHT's remains committed to upgrading both the support structure and the decking surface. An assessment of cost is in progress. ACTION with JRHT JL for an update on the program.
- Phase 5: Traffic management has been the subject of JRHT and Residents at which a new and more robust contractual plan has been outlined that would be legally enforceable.

6. Community Activity Network (CAN): Sheri K advised the meeting that CAN was a loose network of residents who were looking to develop the Derwenthorpe community through beneficial activities.

- All residents are welcome at the meetings, which are held on the second Tuesday of each month in the energy center (SSC).
- A meeting record for CAN and other information can be found on website <http://www.derwenthorpe.co.uk/CommunityActivityNetwork> and contact details are given in the newsletter.
- As part of the discussion of CAN activities the suitability of the SSC as a resident meeting room was raised. In the context of there being 1000 residents living in the development, a meeting room that will only hold between 45 and 60, depending on the activity, is not fit for purpose. The often discussed idea to insert a fire escape into the meeting room in order to increase the number of occupants is no longer feasible. Joanne L stated that as a consequence of the position of the current big room entrance door, a previously unheard of '45⁰ rule' would force any such fire escape into the front elevation of the building, which is clearly impossible. Following some general discussion it was suggested that a new group, not specifically CAN or the DRA CT but perhaps DGG, be formed/tasked to try and look for ways of providing a meeting space more suitable for the size of the Derwenthorpe development. ACTION: CAN/CT/DGG to consider how to go about this task.

7. Any other business

- Community Heating: Currently David F and Ian C, as subject matter experts, represent the interests of Residents in discussions on tariffs and measures to improve distribution efficiency. Such discussions are covered by commercial confidentiality. David F advised

the meeting that through his continuing contact with Veolia he was advocating to have more information made available to residents. He was proposing to get specific monthly data released that would allow residents to see the impact of severe weather and overall system efficiency.

- David F also stated that there would be a presentation held in the SSC entitled '50 Ways to Love Our Planet' that deals with 'global warming' and 'carbon foot print'.
- Steve B thanked those currently involved and asked for new volunteers to help deliver the LOTSON leaflets.
- As a concluding remark one resident sought to remind the assembled group that despite the lingering construction issues, Derwenthorpe was a lovely place to live.
- The meeting minute taker asked that any attendee wishing to have their contact details added DRA Secretary's mailing list should fill in the appropriate sheet. 5 sets of details received and will be passed on to the DRA Sec.

8. Dates of next all residents' meetings. All meetings start at 7.30 pm and are held in the energy centre (SSC).

Wednesday 27 March 2019	Wednesday 24 July 2019
Wednesday 29 May 2019 (AGM)	Wednesday 18 September 2019

Core Team Meetings. Residents are welcome to attend Core Team meetings as observers. However as space is limited (and sometimes these meetings are held in our homes due to the unavailability of a room in the SSC), you **must contact the secretary at least two days before the meeting** to confirm that there will be space. Meetings start at 7.30 pm. The dates are as follows:

Wednesday 16 January 2019	Wednesday 17 April 2019
Wednesday 20 February 2019	Wednesday 22 May 2019
Wednesday 20 March 2019	

Contact details

DRA Website - www.derwenthorpe.co.uk, using the "contact us" form
 DRA Facebook - www.facebook.com/DerwenthorpeResidentsAssociation
 Email - secretary@derwenthorpe.co.uk
 Phone – 01904 500462

For information, named attendees are simply referred to in the minutes by their initials, and the core team by "CT". Other abbreviations are explained when first mentioned.