

Derwenthorpe Residents' Association

Newsletter July 2017

Welcome to our newsletter. It's been a while! But please be assured we've been busy on your behalf. If you want to contact us about any item in the newsletter or any other issue, details are at the end, along with the agenda for the next all residents' meeting which is on Tuesday 11 July at 7.30 pm in the SSC.

We hope to see some of you there.

What has the core team been up to?

Since the last newsletter, there have been quite a few changes to the core team and since the AGM in April we have been developing our roles and responsibilities matched to our interests. Core team members, with their main areas of activity, are ~
Chris Abberton, Treasurer ~ also communication/printing; community pot allocation
Sam Borman ~ parking, energy (Switch2 and Veolia); transport; IT (webmaster and Dropbox)

Wendy Borman, Secretary ~ communication; recycling; IT (Dropbox)

Ian Croston, Chair ~ liaison meetings with JRHT and David Wilson Homes; estate management (JRHT); MVHR/MEV; quarterly meetings with JRHT senior staff working on future governance issues

Matt Gardner ~ community hub development/SSC users' group; communication (Fibre Options); energy (Switch2)

Nicky Helliwell, Vice Chair ~ liaison meetings with JRHT and David Wilson Homes; estate management (JRHT); MVHR/MEV; quarterly meetings with JRHT senior staff working on future governance issues; recycling

Sheri Kinbrun ~ liaison meetings with JRHT and David Wilson Homes; community hub development/SSC users' group

Rob Lafrance ~ transport

Gerry Mountfort ~ parking; treasurer designate; community pot allocation; liaising with City of York Council (road names)

Dave Munley ~ estate management

A lot of our work is in response to immediate and ongoing areas of concern brought up by residents, such as lighting, parking, and ventilation systems. Other work is more long term, including working with JRHT on a future governance model for Derwenthorpe.

And now for the rest of our news.

The Big Picnic

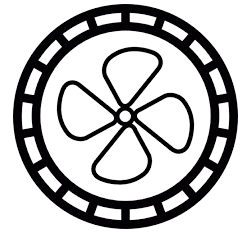


On Sunday 18 June Derwenthorpe joined "The Great Get Together" and had a "Big Picnic" outside the SSC. This was one of many events taking place across the country to mark the anniversary of the MP Jo Cox's death one year ago. Communities were encouraged to hold activities to bring people together.

150 people joined the picnic, brought and shared food, played games with the children and enjoyed the sunshine, talking to neighbours and getting to know each other. The picnic was a lovely event, organised by members of the community and supported by the DRA and the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust.

MVHR and MEV systems

Significant progress has been made between the DRA and DWH in relation to ensuring that all houses, in all phases, have fully working MVHR and MEV systems.



Stephenson (MVHR). As many of you are aware seven homes have recently had their MVHR systems upgraded by DWH. Their work has also been reviewed and verified by an independent body, the Building Research Establishment (BRE). These systems are now working properly. Following discussions and negotiations with the DRA, DWH have agreed to pro-actively address all MVHR issues in all the remaining houses on Stephenson. The work will be conducted by the same contractor used for the original seven homes and the work will have oversight of the BRE. This will be at the cost of DWH.

Seebohm and Lotherington (MEV). A number of residents have reported issues with their systems, which do appear to be common to many homes. After investigation, it is apparent that there is a systemic issue on many properties related to the fitting of inappropriate roof tiles, which can be identified by external inspection. However, whilst this is a key determinant as to whether the system can work properly, there are going to be many cases where an internal inspection and remediation will be required. The DRA has also obtained an assurance from DWH that these modifications will be made to all homes to ensure the MEV systems operate fully.

Derwent Way



Further to this being raised by a resident following emergency vehicles going to the wrong part of Derwent Way, we have contacted the City of York Council (CYC) who advised that the options are ~

Option 1. Renaming one or both parts of Derwent Way. This would involve costs in amending title deeds of all properties affected as well as the need to advise change of address to all utilities, DVLA, banks etc. CYC also advised that if one or both parts of Derwent Way are

renamed then all numbering on this street may have to be revised, as the numbering is currently based on a single road name.

Option 2. Leave it as it is and ensure that careful instructions are given to all visitors, delivery companies and, most importantly, to the emergency services. This should be helped by the fact that the post codes are very different on each section - YO10 3BF in Stephenson Quarter; BUT YO31 ORJ or ORQ in Seebohm Quarter. SatNavs and other databases are not updated very regularly, so this could be an issue which will be resolved in the short/medium term. Royal Mail has the latest data and this does not appear to have been an issue with them. They would have to agree any changes to the street name/numbering but are likely to go along with CYC's suggestions.

CYC had no recommendations about the best way forward apart from saying it may be necessary to get all parties round a table to discuss this, should option 1 be preferred, given changes and costs involved. All residents of Derwent Way would be consulted and the decision would have to be agreed by a majority of them.

Our recommendation is to go with the simplest and that is option 2. Renaming is complex and will cost each resident money to change their address legally. The DRA will pro-actively work with CYC, Royal Mail and local taxi companies to ensure the road numbering system is well understood.

Parking Survey

By now you will all have received a paper copy of our parking survey. Parking at Derwenthorpe is a subject that has been raised as an issue at many residents' meetings. The reason we are doing a survey is so that the DRA can understand more about your concerns and ideas on how to alleviate these problems. We will be using the results to request changes from JRHT. We cannot guarantee that any changes will be made, but if there is a large enough majority who want a particular change then that will enable us to put more pressure on JRHT to take some action. If you haven't already done so, we urge you to complete the survey so that we can ensure that we are representing the majority opinion of residents and to make sure that we do not try to get changes made that you don't want. The closing date for the survey is Friday 14 July. Results will be presented at an all residents' meeting and published on our website.



Community Pot



The DRA have successfully bid and been awarded a one-off grant of £4800 from DPAC (Derwenthorpe Partnership Agreement Committee). We have asked for this so that we can support residents who want to organise community events, by offering them small grants. Full details on how to apply and how it will be managed will be announced at the next all residents' meeting, and published on our website shortly afterwards.

Defibrillator

We are pleased to say that we have secured a grant from DPAC (Derwenthorpe Partnership Advisory Committee), with the help of JRHT, to purchase an AED (automated external defibrillator) which will probably be located at the front of the SSC. It has been ordered by JRHT, and delivery is expected to be soon after 5 July.



Osbaldwick Community Choir

Our choir was founded nearly 5 years ago by a former resident, who was a music student at the University of York. We are a mixed choir both in terms of musical experience and where we live, attracting people from Derwenthorpe as well as surrounding areas.

We sing all kinds of music, from contemporary to classical - our recent concert included numbers by Gershwin, Hoge Carmichael, Tallis, and Mozart.

This term we also held our first Saturday "Singing Workshop" and hope to have more of these in the future. We meet every Thursday in the SSC 7.00 pm - 8:30 pm; our new term starts in September - we will be advertising the exact date shortly.

We are steadily growing in number, at present just under 30 and always welcome new singers for all parts. While reading music will help, it isn't essential. You are most welcome to come and give us a try!

For more information please contact ~

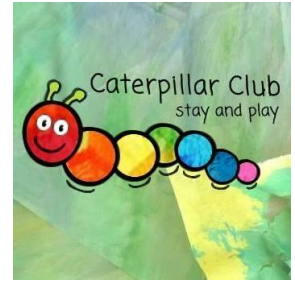
Nicky Helliwell on 07714953315 nickyostwald@clara.co.uk or

Patrick Reedy on 07415459234 patrickreedy999@gmail.com

Caterpillar Club

In summer 2016, an application made by residents to Derwenthorpe Partnership Advisory Committee (DPAC) was successful in securing funding to establish a Derwenthorpe resident led baby & toddler group.

The residents decided on the name Caterpillar Club, designed their own logo and launched in September 2016 - since that time sessions have run every Wednesday morning (9.30 am - 11:00 am) in term time, including a Halloween and Christmas party.



Attendees enjoy a lovely selection of toys, a dedicated baby area, weekly craft activity and homemade cake every week. The group is well attended by residents of Derwenthorpe, Osbaldwick, Tang Hall and further afield! One of the greatest pleasures from the group has been the development of friendships (big and small), the support for each other and the group itself that has flourished over the past nine months. The group has been popular from week one and currently has been operating at nearly maximum capacity every week. It's a very noisy session, but full of fun! They have also begun to provide support to other activities and events being held at Derwenthorpe, for example the York Bike Belle's "Travel With Tots" scheme.

Caterpillar Club is always open to new families wanting to join in the fun and is also keen to welcome any volunteers with a spare couple of hours on a Wednesday morning to assist in the running of the club (with or without youngsters).

Emma, Lauren & Shelley (The Caterpillar Club Team)

caterpillarclubyork@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/caterpillarclubyork

Agenda for All Residents' Meeting at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 11 July 2017 in SSC

1. Welcome, apologies and thanks
2. Review of minutes from All Residents' Meeting held on 20 May 2017
3. Treasurer's report
4. Community pot
5. Derwent Way
6. Estate management and landscape ~ update
7. MVHR and MEV ~ update
8. Parking ~ update
9. Defibrillator
10. Any other business

For more information on any item on the agenda, or if you want to raise any issue, please contact the secretary by ~

✉ emailing secretary@derwenthorpe.co.uk, or

✉ phoning 01904 500462, or

✉ completing the "contact us" form found on our website www.derwenthorpe.co.uk

by 7.30 pm Wednesday 5 July 2017. You can of course raise any issue at the meeting, but it would be helpful to know beforehand.