



Moseley & Kings Heath Liberal Democrats

MOSELEY and KINGS HEATH RAILWAY STATION UPDATE



The above building in Sampson Road North, Camp Hill, would have to be purchased compulsorily for the new railway chord.

A map showing the line of the Bordesley Chord can be seen at www.martinmullaney.co.uk

Network Railway has put in a bid to the Government to start the compulsory purchase of land in preparation for reopening railway stations in Moseley and Kings Heath.

The bid is part of a national package of infrastructure improvements between 2009 and 2014. The bid is to purchase land in Camp Hill for a new railway chord (to be called the Bordesley Chord), plus initial design work on this chord. The chord will allow trains from Kings Heath to run into Moor Street Station.

A bid to build the chord will be entered in the next round of infrastructure improvements for the period April 2014 to 2019.

We will know in November whether the bid has been successful.

MORE STREET TREES IN MOSELEY AND KINGS HEATH

Forty street trees were planted in Moseley and Kings Heath Ward this winter. Half of them were planted in paved areas. The tree planting was organised by the volunteers of Moseley in Bloom. Funding was provided from local Community Chest funds.

Councillor Martin Mullaney was heavily involved in the tree planting and spent two days with the work crew overseeing the digging of tree pits in Cambridge Road and St. Albans Road. Cambridge Road is now close to being completely tree lined, which has not been the case since the 1950's.

STANDARDS COMMITTEE HEARING ON MARTIN AND ERNIE



The former offices of Moseley Road tram depot. As a statutory listed building both its exterior and interior are protected. The present owner has removed the entire interior—floors, walls, ceilings, everything—without listed building consent.

Martin and Ernie were recently the subject of an investigation by the Standards Board for England and were found to have disrespected the owner of a statutory listed building in Moseley. Martin has appealed against the decision, as he believes they were working in the public interest to save one of Moseley's most historic buildings. Ernie has refused to apologise and has instead chosen to accept the one month suspension. He now wishes to bring his involvement in this episode to a close and has decided not to appeal against the decision made against him. However, he remains committed to working to preserve this Grade II listed building

A full copy of the hearing and other related documents can be seen at www.martinmullaney.co.uk/sbe.htm

The investigation centred round a YouTube video made in March 2007. The video dealt with the derelict nature of the former tram offices on the corner of Moseley Road and Trafalgar Road. Prior to making the video, Martin had spent two years asking Planning to investigate allegations of work taking place at this building in breach of planning conditions.

The video showed

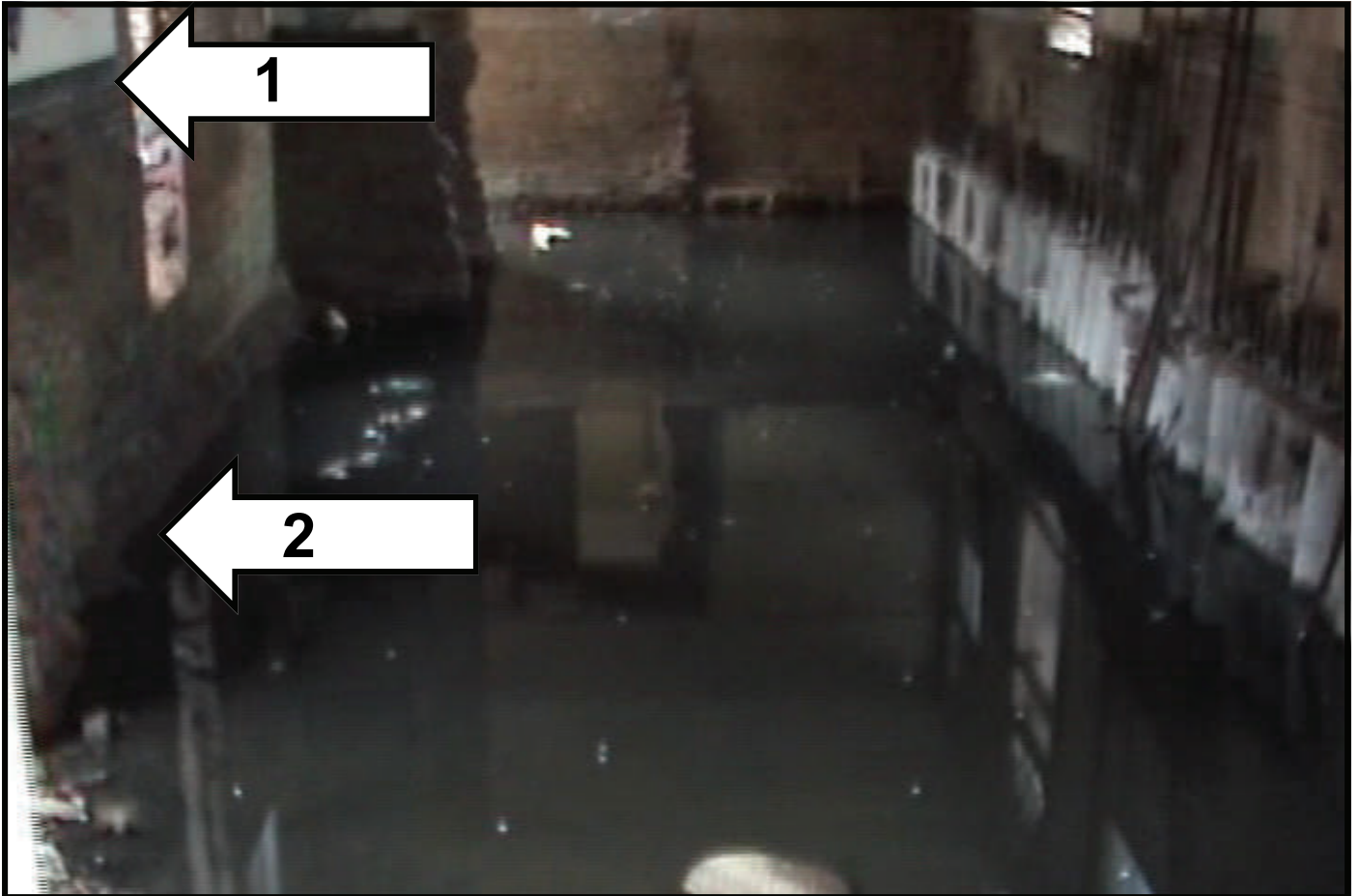
- How the interior of the historic building had been ripped out without listed building consent with the entire ground floor plate and original internal walls removed.
- How the building had been destabilised in early 2006, by digging below the original foundations, leaving them exposed in the rear elevation and without further re-strengthening

95% of the video was shot from a private right of way, although for a short period (less than a minute), Martin did enter the building so that he could show the exposed foundations.

The video was put on YouTube to embarrass the Council into taking action. After the video had been produced, the Council did make the owner finish underpinning the foundations on the rear elevation and also keep the basement dry. The owner has also been forced to seek retrospective planning permission for removing the entire original interior— floors, ceilings and interior walls, **everything**.

The owner has at no stage sued Martin or Ernie for trespass or slander, however, the Standards Committee, on the 14th March said they had disrespected the owner by producing such a video. They have been given the option to either apologise to the owner or be suspended as Councillors for one month.

Martin has appealed against the finding and his suspension will be put on hold while the appeal is heard.



The above photo is taken from the video. The 'white arrow 1' shows where the ground floor used to be. This floor has been removed without listed building consent.

The basement is full of water and has been excavated BELOW the original foundations. On the right of the photo you can see where the foundations have been re-strengthened. On the left of the photo, the 'white arrow 2' shows the exposed Edwardian foundations which had been left soaking in water for over six months, at the time the video was shot, giving rise to strong concerns that this would lead to subsidence and collapse of the rear elevation of the historic building.

Copies of this shot and others can be seen at

www.martinmullaney.co.uk/sbe.htm

CONTACTING YOUR LIBERAL DEMOCRAT COUNCILLORS

We are here to help you 7 days a week, 365 days a year. You can contact us on the following telephone numbers or e-mail addresses:

For planning or environmental (eg graffiti, dumped rubbish) issues contact:
Councillor Martin Mullaney—689 4372—mullaney3@blueyonder.co.uk
Website: - www.martinmullaney.co.uk

For housing or social benefits issues contact:
Councillor Emily Cox—442 2070 — emily.cox@jhc.co.uk

For general issues contact:
Councillor Ernie Hendricks—256 1310—e.hendricks@liberaldem.co.uk

If you require a home visit, telephone 689 4372.

You can also meet us at our Advice Bureaux. These are held **every Monday (except Bank Holidays and during the month of August)** at the following times and locations:

6.30 - 7.00pm Kings Heath Community Centre, 8 Heathfield Road, Kings Heath.

7.15 - 7.45pm, Moseley Community Development Trust, The Post Office Building, 149-153 Alcester Road, Moseley.

Please use the space below to tell us your concerns. **Return to: Moseley & Kings Heath Liberal Democrats, FREEPOST RRBY-KLUR-RRUB, 12 Southlands Road, Birmingham B13 9RJ.** This is **FREE**, but using a stamp helps the Liberal Democrats.

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1. I support the Lib Dems
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(To join or donate please send cheques made out to ' Liberal Democrats' - membership costs £9 minimum.)

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