

ALREWAS AND FRADLEY CHARITIES

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT For the year ended 31st December 2016

2016 saw the Charity take on a new focus, both in terms of fundraising, and grants, following the revised constitution, and the “relaunch” of the Charity in November 2015.

The Trustees met on 5 occasions, and organised 3 major fundraisers events. The first was a Charity banquet at the Delhi Divan Restaurant in Alrewas in January, a Quiz was held in the Village Hall in September, and one of our Trustees, Wendy Walker, held a pre Christmas event at her home.

These funds, as well as a sizeable donation to the Charity, enabled us to make grants totalling over £6000 during the year.

2 were to young people with ongoing disabilities, one to a student needing financial support at University, and trustees also approved grants to Alrewas Scouts, for upgrading the electrical supply to the Scout Hut, to Alrewas Cricket Club towards the CCTV coverage of Walkfield, and to the newly formed Alrewas Youth Club.

In December, the name of the Charity was changed, after consultation with the Charity Commission, from Alrewas United Charities, to Alrewas and Fradley Charities, to reflect the growing size and importance of the village of Fradley.

All trustees were re-elected during the year, and the focus for the future is further fundraising, and further promotion of awareness of the work of the Charity both in Alrewas and Fradley.

Trustees:

- Dr Robert Horton - Chairman
- The Rev John Allan - Deputy Chairman
- Mr Richard Voice - Secretary/ Treasurer
- Mr Tim Aston
- Mrs Gaynor Deakin
- Dr Elaine Dolman
- Mrs Paula Dumolo
- Mrs Angela Noble
- Mrs Jo Spence
- Mrs Becky Walker
- Mrs Wendy Walker

The following Trustees remain nominated following consultation with the Parish Councils

- Alrewas Parish Council - Mrs Jane Reilly
- Fradley and Streethay Parish Council - Mrs Lyn Beaumont.

NB: At an ordinary meeting held on 21st November 2013 the trustees reviewed the past performance of the Charity and determined they wished to make a more positive contribution to improving the welfare and quality of life of those people resident in its area of benefit.

In order to be more effective the trustees agreed they needed to update and expand the Charity's objects to make them more relevant to people's needs in the 21st century. The trustees also agreed they needed to attract more energetic and enthusiastic trustees to promote the work of the Charity within the area of benefit and to explore additional sources of income.

The trustees acknowledged that the Charity's governing document, sealed nearly 80 years ago, was archaic and not helpful in attracting potential trustees and beneficiaries. It was devised long before the advent of the National Health Service and the Welfare State, contained complex and ancient descriptions of the area of benefit, made reference to legislation long out of date and was written in language difficult to comprehend by today's generation. It was agreed that a thorough revision and modernisation of the governing document was an essential first step in raising the Charity's profile.

In drafting the new governing document the trustees have endeavoured to retain much of the spirit and intent of the Charity's original benefactors. The Charity's area of benefit has been retained in essence, though consolidated and redefined in terms of current geography. The nominating bodies have been amended to reflect shifts in local demographics. The original scheme determined that all trustees were nominated by Alrewas Parish Council but this has now been amended to recognise the relative growth of Fradley and the recent split of the parish councils of Alrewas and Fradley & Streethay.

The trustees have also chosen to change the process of appointing trustees. The trustees consider it is no longer relevant to expect the nominating bodies to perform this function and that the body of trustees should properly assume this responsibility. The trustees have however chosen to retain some input from the nominating bodies as they consider it would enhance the legitimacy of the Charity by ensuring the conduct of its business is transparent and open to public scrutiny.

The trustees have broadened the Charity's objects by including a clause permitting the promotion of any charitable purpose of benefit to the residents in the area of benefit. The new Constitution came into effect in 2015.

Public Benefit

In exercising their powers and duties the Trustees have at all times complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.