

ALREWAS AND FRADLEY CHARITIES

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT For the year ended 31st December 2017

In 2017, Trustees met on 5 occasions. We continued to promote the work of the Charity holding 4 major fund raising events - a Charity Banquet at the Delhi Divan Restaurant in Alrewas, a Summer Supper event, a Quiz at Alrewas Cricket Club, and a pre Christmas Fayre. These events raised in total over £5000.

We accepted the resignation of Mrs G Deakin of Fradley, and welcomed a new Trustee, Felicity Jane Arblaster, also of Fradley. Other trustees were reelected.

Early in the year, Mr Richard Voice announced his intention to resign as Secretary/Treasurer, and will be replaced as Treasurer, from January 1st 2018, by Mrs Kim Brookes. The committee also co-opted Mrs Sonia Wilcox to help with the management of small change, and collecting boxes. Mrs Jane Reilly has kindly agreed to take on the role of Secretary.

During the year we made donations of £3100, supporting a child with a brain tumour, a young family in acute financial difficulties, a young adult with a disability requiring adaptations to his home, Alrewas Tennis Club towards their floodlights, the Holiday at Home project, and the Dementia Friends group.

Our focus for the future is to continue to promote the work of the Charity, particularly in Fradley, to raise further funds, by events, by encouraging donations by standing order, and small change collecting boxes, and to support more individuals and groups needing financial help.

We are grateful to all our supporters for attending events, donating prizes and funds, and to our trustees for their unfailing hard work, ideas and advice.

Trustees:

Dr Robert Horton - Chairman
The Rev John Allan - Deputy Chairman
Miss Felicity Jane Arblaster
Mr Richard Voice - Secretary/ Treasurer
Mr Tim Aston
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.