

ALREWAS AND FRADLEY CHARITIES ANNUAL REPORT 2020

In 2020, Trustees met on 4 occasions, 3 of those on Zoom.

We continued to promote the work of the Charity holding a major fund raising event - a Night of Northern Comedy - which raised £1073. We organised a quiz, raising £200, and continued to receive donations from Standing orders, Loose cash boxes, Collecting boxes and individual donations. We also launched a Covid pandemic Appeal to help those affected by the Corona Virus. This Appeal raised over £8000, much of the monies coming from individual donations, but a significant amount from a host of volunteers working tirelessly by making cakes, jams, masks, bags and other items, by selling plants and garden produce and by organising Table Top sales. In total, our overall income for the year to 31/12/2020, as submitted to the Charity Commission was @ £17,000.

In December we funded a project for the children at both Primary schools - All Saints Alrewas and St Stephen's in Fradley - to record the way the Pandemic had affected them, in messages on laminated card, which were used to decorate the Christmas Trees at both schools.

So far, over £4000 of the money from the Appeal has been donated to the many groups supporting others whose lives have been turned upside down by Covid. We also made donations totalling @£2500 to a number of organisations, including Alrewas Cricket Club, Alrewas Bowls Club, Stepping Stones, All Saints School, and the Hurricane Pub project in Fradley.

We said goodbye to one of our longest serving Trustees, who was also our Clerk, Mrs Angela Noble and our thanks go to her for her dedicated service for over 20 years.

The Charity owns a Field which was rented out as grazing land until the death of the tenant in 2017 and we continue to try and secure a new Tenancy agreement with the new Landlord. Although the field is land-locked, it may yield valuable Mineral rights in the future if the area is quarried.

Our focus for the future is to continue to promote the work of the Charity, to raise further funds by encouraging donations by standing order, and small change collecting boxes, and to support more individuals and groups needing financial help. **To this end, one of our Trustees, Mrs Chris Evans has set up a "Monthly Magic Numbers" Lottery, which has raised a further £1100 during this year.**

We are grateful to all our supporters for attending events, donating prizes and funds, to our treasurer Mrs Kim Brookes, our Secretary, Mrs Jane Reilly and to all of our trustees for their unfailing hard work, ideas and advice. We would also like to thank Mr and Mrs M Wilcox for stepping in to assist our Treasurer through the year.

Trustees:

Dr Robert Horton - Chairman
The Rev John Allan - Deputy Chairman
Mrs Kim Brookes - Treasurer
Mrs Jane Reilly - Secretary*
Miss Felicity Jane Arblaster
Mr Tim Aston
Dr Elaine Dolman
Mrs Paula Dumolo
Mrs Christine Evans
Mrs Jo Spence
Mrs Becky Walker
Mrs Wendy Walker
Mr Stanley Whitehead*

(The following Trustees remain nominated following consultation with the Parish Councils

* Alrewas Parish Council - Mrs Jane Reilly
*Fradley and Streethay Parish Council - Mr Stan Whitehead)

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.