

## **ALREWAS AND FRADLEY CHARITIES ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

In 2021, Trustees met on four occasions, five of those on Zoom due to the Covid pandemic and continued to promote the work of the Charity.

In total, our overall income for the year to 31/12/201, as submitted to the Charity Commission, was @ £10,760, which included £1590 from our Monthly Magic Numbers Lottery.

We are incredibly grateful to the community we serve and to the many local businesses, for their support as well as for the many donations we receive by standing order and in our collecting boxes.

In 2021 we were involved in various fund raising events including a Table Top sale in April, organising Treasure Hunts/Quizzes in both Alrewas and Fradley during the summer, and serving delicious pork baps to the crowd at the Brewery Cup final at Alrewas Cricket Club in September, courtesy of Coates Butchers.

A substantial part of our income was from sales of jams and plants in both villages, supplemented by sales of plastic bags at Leavesley's garage, by a donation from a couple who sold bags of kindling from their garden and from the entry fees for the Orme Cup cricket competition.

In total we gave away donations amounting to just over £3000, to projects at All Saint's and St Stephen's Schools, to help set up a Baby and Toddler Group and a Little Fishes Group, a Pop In Coffee Group, and to various individuals in financial and other distress. We also funded the production costs of a very successful book of local walks - Make Tracks - since when we have had all our costs returned as well as a donation from the authors.

We had 2 laptop computers donated following an appeal, which were given to a family in need.

The Charity owns a Field, The Busall Field, donated to the Village in the 19th Century. Although the field is land-locked, it may yield valuable Mineral rights in the future if the area is quarried and we are in the process of having its boundaries properly marked and recording its history. See addendum below:

The Charity also owns 4 wheelchairs, all kindly donated, and which are available for short term loan at the following locations: Alrewas Church, The Bank Coffee House Alrewas, Fradley Church and Fradley Post Office.

**Our focus for the future is to continue to promote the work of the Charity, to raise further funds by encouraging donations and to support more individuals and groups needing financial help in our Villages. We would welcome any ideas to help us achieve these aims.**

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, Mrs Chris Evans, our Magic Numbers Lottery administrator and to all of our trustees for their unflinching hard work, ideas and advice on behalf of the Charity.

Trustees:

Dr Robert Horton - Chairman  
The Rev John Allan - Deputy Chairman  
Mrs Kim Brookes - Treasurer  
Mrs Jane Reilly - Secretary\*  
Miss Felicity Jane Arblaster - retired 22/11/2021  
Mr Tim Aston  
Dr Elaine Dolman  
Mrs Paula Dumolo  
Mrs Christine Evans  
Ms Kathryn Powell - from 22/11/2021  
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.

Addendum:

Attached below is a map showing the location of the Busall Field owned by the Charity. The Busall Field will be mentioned in the next volume of "Make Tracks" and we would encourage walkers to record their visit for posterity, in a book situated at The Bank Coffee House in Alrewas.





At an oak tree in the hedgerow look right, and facing you is a piece of history that is known to only a few. You are looking at a field, The Great Busall Field, part of which was first bequeathed by the Busall Charity to the Alrewas & Fradley Charities in 1899 and is still in their ownership. The Charity is in the process of re-marking the boundaries of their part, and if you would care to wander to the Field, the Charity would be grateful if you could record your visit in this Register

**IT'S OUR CHARITY IT'S YOUR CHARITY!**

Registered Charity number 220600