

## Evenley Residents Association (ERA) Annual Report April 2018

(Special Guests); Councillors; Ladies and Gentlemen

Thank you for the opportunity for the ERA to present a report on their **activities in 2017/18**.

For those attending not familiar with the Evenley Residents Association; it is an organisation of resident volunteers whose aim is to work alongside the EPC to protect the interests of the residents and work with them on key activities in the village. The Association is a not for profit organisation that fund raises and operates under a formal constitution with members elected annually. We communicate through regular updates on the Evenley website and Facebook pages together with the noticeboard in the pub.

ERA were delighted to win ACRE's Best Village Newcomers competition for 2017 following the submission prepared by the ERA team and others in the village. A cheque for £250 was presented to the Parish Council and the funds were put towards the purchase of a planter located in front of the village hall (near the notice board) and a plaque to permanently commemorate this success. Along with the Parish council we have agreed to submit applications every two years.

In 2013, the ERA formulated the EVENLEY MATTERS group, responsible for the distribution of profits generated from the annual village fete. EVENLEY MATTERS has since donated and pledged over £18,500 to local groups, activities and charities. The process involves people making applications for funding and the group reviewing all applications against strict criteria of local interest, impact, timescale and the applicants own contribution to fund raising activities at the Fete. This year we have introduced for a trial period, a fixed donation policy that will allocate 10% of the profits automatically to each of the Village Hall, St George's church and to the Parish Council for use to develop and protect green spaces in our parish.

Recipients in 2017 include:

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|--|----------------------|
| • <b>Evenley Village Hall Committee; new lights and projector screen</b> | <b>£1100</b>         |
| • <b>St Georges Church repairs to plaster work</b>                       | <b>£1100 pledged</b> |
| • <b>Astwick Benefice children's club</b>                                | <b>£250</b>          |
| • <b>Local welfare charities</b>   | <b>£400</b>          |
| • <b>Evenley Children's Christmas Party 2017</b>                         | <b>£328</b>          |
| • <b>Evenley bus service</b>   | <b>£500 maximum</b>  |

The later donation is a new idea from Mrs Edwards; which was to promote an alternative bus service in the village as the services dwindle in the light of council cuts. Our thanks to **Dr Barrie Morgan** who has taken on the role to organise a local taxi firm to help those in the Parish not able to travel under their own steam. Already in March 2018 eight shared trips to Brackley have been organised; users are required to make a small donation to contribute to the costs.

Evenley Matters were again delighted to sponsor the Evenley Children's Christmas party; attended by more than 30 local children and a visit from Father Christmas. Our younger community continues to grow in Evenley and we would like to thank **Helen Sanders** and her team for organising this and again for 2018.

In light of EPC being no longer able to fund the Speedwatch support provided by the clerk; ERA has taken back organisation of this important activity. Speedwatch was instigated by the ERA back in March 2009 following meetings with Beat31 and local PSCO officers. ERA would like to thank **Zelda Carr** and **Sue Waller** for volunteering to take this task on and will continue to operate Speedwatch until permanent speed reduction measures are introduced. ERA is pleased to hear that EPC continues to seek approval and funding for chicanes in Broad Lane for example. However it is very sad to see that the previous highest speed of 109mph in 2015 has been exceeded this year, with a vehicle coming into the village down Broad Lane, measured at 118mph.

The Evenley Fete and Dog Show 2018, is booked for **Saturday September 1<sup>st</sup> 2018**, SAVE THE DATE. ERA would like to thank **Jackie Alder** for taking the lead with this year's organisation; we are sure it is in safe hands. All are welcome of course on the day to join in the fun, which this year again will be proudly sponsored by Michael Graham of Buckingham. We continue to look for volunteers who can help on a rota to run stalls or help setup.

**ERA**  
**April 2018**