



Chairman's Report for AGM 2018

The main focus of the Trust's efforts continues to be supporting those with severe physical disabilities in their desire to live as normal and fulfilled a life as possible whilst remaining in their own homes.

As you will have seen in the financial report from our Hon Treasurer, this past year we have had two main items of expenditure:

1. The funding of an upgrade to a previously supplied "cargo bike" (children being the "cargo" !!) to an electrically assisted version - the penalty of children growing!
2. You may remember last year that I mentioned the efforts we were making to persuade South Cambs District Council to make the kitchen of a new sponsored member wheelchair friendly. I am pleased to be able to report that a satisfactory conclusion to this situation was reached and I thank SCDC for their (albeit somewhat belated) efforts in constructing a totally revised kitchen. The one thing that SCDC were unable to provide was the electrical equipment and Cherryhomes arranged the supply of both a new built-in oven and an induction hob (for safety reasons as the hob itself does not get hot). A grant towards the specialist cooking utensils for the induction hob was also made.

Our reserves remain at a healthy level due to generous regular donations from our supporters as well as fundraising activities by the Trustees. We are grateful for a "surprise" additional donation from the Barrington Ball Committee (who most generously supported us in 2015) because of a change in their situation which resulted in remaining funds from that most memorable event being distributed to original beneficiaries. At the end of April, we had our Musical Evening at Melbourn United Reformed Church, who again kindly donated their facilities, when we were privileged to welcome "The Montagnana Trio" of Catherine Wilmers (cello), Kate Elmitt (piano) and Emma Halnan (flute) - all internationally acclaimed musicians who gave of their time and to whom we are immensely grateful. A hot supper and glass (or so!) of wine completed what was a wonderful evening and raised a significant sum for our funds. We continue to appear at Bassingbourn Village Market to good effect and the HMRC "Gift Aid" scheme brings added benefit to us with no impact on our donors.

We are and wish to remain a small local charity - it is by being such that we can continue to provide that personal relationship with those we seek to assist.

Our website www.cherryhomes.org.uk continues to be a useful vehicle to publicise what we do and we express our continued thanks to Dr Aidan Van de Weyer (the husband of our Hon. Secretary) for his continued support as our webmaster.

Finally, I should like to express my sincere thanks again this year to my fellow Officers and all the Trustees for their work in support of Cherryhomes. For the coming year, and in line with our Charity Commission approved Governing Document, the Trustees have re-elected the previous officers to serve for a further year. Subject to there having been no previous dissent at this AGM, the Trustees are as follows:

Angela Craxford Snelling, Joyce Goodall, Margaret Hewat, Barry Monk (Chairman),
Beryl Monk (Hon. Treasurer), Kathleen Shepherd and Rosaline Van de Weyer (Hon. Secretary).

(Barry Monk - Chairman)

4th March 2018