

The Eaton Village Residents Association

Autumn Newsletter 2023

www.eatonvillage.co.uk



Welcome to this EVRA Autumn Newsletter in which we cover local issues and events. We also warmly welcome to Eaton Village all those residents who have recently moved into the Village.

The EVRA Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held **on Wednesday 18th October 2023 at Eaton Golf Club starting at 7.30pm** where we will formally conduct the business of the Association including presentation of reports and accounts for 2022/23 and election of the Committee. The Agenda for the AGM will be posted on the EVRA website prior to the meeting and copies will also be available on the night together with other reports and the accounts.

Elections will be held for the committee to run the Association for the following twelve months. Existing Committee members are eligible to stand for re-election but new members are always welcome. Several existing long-standing Committee members intend to retire at the AGM including our Treasurer. The Association relies on residents volunteering to join the committee and can only provide support to the Eaton community if sufficient people help run this. Committee meetings are held bi-monthly with occasional involvement between times so is not a huge commitment. Our Events Planning Team organise and run our events reporting to the main committee. We would be pleased to hear from you if you are interested in helping with the work of the Association or joining the Committee or assisting our Events team. Contact Chris Stebbing at: evra.vc@live.co.uk or phone 503301 for further information. Nominations for the Committee should be sent to the Secretary, via the EVRA postbox in Waitrose or 54 Greenways, by 15th October and should be signed by the proposed, proposer and seconder. Nominations will also be accepted at the AGM.

The current EVRA Committee members are: Chris Stebbing (Chair) (Tel: 503301, Email: evra.vc@live.co.uk); Vic Flute (Vice-chair) (vicechair.evra@gmail.com); Naomi Godding (Treasurer); Patricia Seadon (Secretary); Kathleen Westwell, Sharon Atkinson, Fiona Bradshaw and Natasha Simpkin. One of our Councillors also attends our meetings as a representative of our local City and County Councillors. Any questions regarding items in this Newsletter can be addressed to the Chair by email or by letter posted in the EVRA box by the check-outs in Waitrose or delivered to 54 Greenways.

Village Sign Refurbishment Project: – Our Village Sign returned to its rightful place at Eaton crossroads in April. The elephant and the side brackets are original but the lower part with the Eaton name has been replaced. The workshop recreated the shields from the original design installed in 1956. It is good to have it back. We have a plaque to commemorate the refurbishment which we will be fixing to the sign.

Speeding around Eaton Village: The Eaton Speed Awareness Monitor (SAM) sign was first installed on Sunningdale at the beginning of August 2021 and we now have two years of data on the number of vehicles and their speed around Eaton. The sign is regularly moved by Eaton volunteers between Sunningdale, Greenways and two locations on Church Lane and also shared with Judges Walk. The data is processed following each move and shared with our local Councillors, the Highways Team at County Hall and our Neighbourhood Policing Team. A summary table of the data is posted on the EVRA website at: <https://eatonvillage.co.uk/local-issues/eaton-speed-awareness-monitor/>

The summary table shows that more than 60% of vehicles are regularly exceeding the 20mph speed limit with around 16% exceeding 25mph on Greenways and Church Lane by the Church Hall. Higher averages are recorded on the section of Church Lane by the Eaton burial ground where 70% exceed 20mph and 29% exceed 25mph. Vehicle speeds of 50mph up to 65mph are regularly recorded each week on our roads. The data shows that some 5000 vehicles per day use the section of Church Lane between Greenways and Eaton Street with Eaton Primary School traffic accounting for around 800 of the vehicle movements per day during term time.

Raised Speed table on Church Lane: The number of vehicles and their speeds recorded for Church Lane highlight how difficult it can be for pedestrians crossing the road to reach our local shops. For the past few years EVRA has been working with our Councillors and Norfolk Highways to provide some form of traffic calming to assist pedestrians crossing Church Lane near to Waitrose. A raised table was originally proposed for the implementation of the Eaton 20mph Zone in 2018. A funding package has now been agreed for a raised speed table to be installed before the end of March 2024. The exact location has yet to be confirmed but EVRA will continue to liaise on this and keep residents informed.

EVRA Events: It has been a busy time for our Events Planning Team who have organised the following events and introduced new features to some of our long running events:

- A talk on the Arminghall Henge at Eaton Vale Activity Centre attended by 60 people
- The Spring/Easter Trail with 18 clues around the Village for people to collect and solve the anagram with prizes for the winners as well as a children's colouring competition.
- EVRA arranged defibrillator (AED) training in partnership with Norfolk Accident and rescue Service (NARS) and around 60 people were trained in resuscitation and use of the AED.
- A quiz night in May was well attended and was followed by a Table Top sale in June.
- Our main event each year is the week-long Scarecrow Festival in July together with the Family Fun Day and Garage Sales running alongside. We had 29 scarecrows around the Village with categories of standard, simple and business with separate prizes on offer. People could also vote online this year which resulted in over 170 votes being cast. Photos of the scarecrows can be found on the EVRA website at: <https://eatonvillage.co.uk/events/groups-clubs-activities/eaton-scarecrows-july-2023/>

EVRA Family Fun Day at the Cellar House helped to raise £275 and money raised from cake sales by Elaine and Grace during the scarecrow week contributed a further £210 towards EVRA funds.

Our next event is a Pumpkin Trail around the Village on Tuesday 31st October. This will be a family friendly event where you follow the Trail Map, collect clues and try and solve the Halloween themed anagram. Trail maps and further information will be published on the EVRA website and Facebook pages towards the end of October. See the EVRA website for any other events arranged for the coming months.

Future Projects: EVRA accounts are in a healthy state and the Committee has been discussing how we might use the funds to support our community. One idea that we have been progressing is how we might support the younger members of Eaton Village – those in early to mid-teens – who are not really catered for. EVRA doesn't have sufficient funds or resources to run a youth club or similar event but may be able to support the cohort in a different way. We would welcome your thoughts and ideas on this and also any help you can give to take this forward. You can send your ideas via email to: evra.vc@live.co.uk or leave a message in the EVRA postbox behind the check-outs in Waitrose. Or, come along to the EVRA AGM on 18th October and tell us about your ideas. You could offer to join the Committee and help take the projects forward.

Friends of Donkey Lane: Our appeal for help with managing Donkey Lane has led to the formation of a new group for this. We have had a couple of work sessions on a Saturday morning to cut back and tidy the banks along the lane. The aim is to maintain a natural environment but also to keep it looking reasonably tidy. Thank you to those volunteers who have come forward to help with the work. If you interested in helping then you will find more information and dates for our work sessions on the EVRA website at: <https://eatonvillage.co.uk/events/>

EVRA Subscriptions: Thank you to all residents who have paid their EVRA subscription for 2023 – it is never too late to pay! The EVRA subscription remains at £1 per household or business but additional donations are very welcome to support our activities and projects. We are extremely grateful for your support which enables EVRA to pay necessary expenses such as insurance and the cost of printing Newsletters and also fund projects such as the Village Sign Refurbishment and Eaton Green Playground equipment. More residents are now choosing to pay their subscriptions directly via online banking and many include additional donations. (The EVRA bank account details are: Sort Code: 20-62-53 Account No. 90029262 Account Name: Eaton Village Residents Association. Please include your address as the reference so that we can note which households have paid.) Payments in cash can be posted in the EVRA post box by the check-outs in Waitrose or delivered to 54 Greenways.

EVRA WEBSITE & FACEBOOK: The EVRA website is regularly updated with local events and information. Take a look at the website at: www.eatonvillage.co.uk for more information on any of the above items. Our Facebook page is used for posting items of immediate and short term interest and is a great way to keep in touch with local events. <https://www.facebook.com/eatonvillageresidentsassociation> Email contact: evra.vc@live.co.uk