



Flackwell Heath
Residents' Association

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

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Flackwell Heath Residents' Association (FHRA) is a charity set up to support community life and make the village a better place to live. A membership organisation, we promote the concerns of all residents, liaising with Parish, District and County Councils and interested parties. We have three key aims.

We aim to improve the life of residents by:

1. Providing leisure and recreation facilities for the social benefit
2. Promoting the preservation, development and improvement of the character and amenities of the village
3. Advancing education

FHRA is run by an Executive Committee of volunteers. Each year we agree priorities for the year ahead as well as continuing on-going efforts in five key areas: Planning, Environment & Decorations; Events ; Police & Traffic; and Youth. We work hard to offer benefits to the village every day, every week, wherever possible working together with other village organisations particularly Flackwell Heath Community Association who run the Community Centre.

FHRA relies on membership fees and fundraising activities to deliver benefits to the village for the public good.

What we do

1. **Communicate village views** to Parish, District and County Councils, media and community groups for example:
 - **Represent village views on speeding and anti-social behaviour to the police**, sit on the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) and actively participate in the Community Speedwatch programme. FHRA has funded speed awareness equipment, identified more speeding hot spots and collected traffic volume evidence. The village now has its own movable flashing speed sign monitoring the problem.
 - **Represent residents' views on planning issues.** FHRA was heavily involved in the Daws Hill development and remain involved with the Old Nursery site (commenting on the applications, appeal process and new applications for the site) and other planning applications and parking issues. We remain involved in Wycombe's New Local Plan (NLP), and Committee Members are active on the newly formed groups dealing with infrastructure and those groups that affect our areas, including Abbey Barn Reserve Site and Junction 3A.

2. Run community events for all

- Building on the popularity and success of the 2012 Diamond Jubilee celebration we introduced a free village picnic and have expanded it over the past couple of years, in partnership with the Community Association to a Fete and Picnic, coordinating with and bringing together many other village groups. The Village Fete and Picnic is very popular, evidenced by its growth.
- Our young people also benefit from the addition of the children's party at the Christmas Carols and Lights Switch on. This event is run with the support of the Community Association and also involves other village groups.
- Other events we've hosted that were very well attended, Quiz Night, a Table Top Sale, and ran stalls at Carrington School fete, Christ Church Christmas Fayre and the Methodist Christmas Market.

3. Plant and care for green spaces in the village with the help of our volunteers

- tend the Jubilee garden (home to the permanent Christmas tree which has grown and improves every year), planters on Chapel Road, Chapman Lane, and outside La Bodega and planting bulbs throughout the village.
- continue the project to create planters at village gateways which began with Heath End Road.
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4. Look after our village environment and character

- We have planted cherry trees throughout the village reflecting Flackwell Heath's heritage
- We encourage residents to care for their own environment, for instance organising litter picks, helping to make the village a more pleasant place to be, and informing relevant parties if action is required.

5. Undertake special projects:

- We surveyed members and villagers to find out what is important to them and what they would like from village life. We've had an excellent response and the Survey will be published in the first quarter of 2016
- We are continuing with the 5 year plan to light up the centre of the village at Christmas. We arrange and pay for the lights to be put up, turned on, taken down and stored for the rest of the year – a very expensive but much-loved addition to the village.
- We continue to participate in the Parish Council's working group for the rejuvenation of the playground facilities on Straight Bit, and donated £26,000 towards the initial phase, and we will make a contribution to the next phase.
- We actively contribute to the Flackwell Forum, supported the formation of a new Youth Club, and the Scouts and Guide fundraising to improve their HQ.

2016's priorities

1. Participate in working groups to ensure that village views are included in discussions about the future of the area.
2. Review the survey results and produce a report which we will send to the stakeholder groups and use to help us prioritise our goals.
3. Continue the Christmas lights plan and village gateway planter scheme.
4. Continue to collect speed data and investigate parking in the village.