**EGGLESCLIFFE AREA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (EARA)**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Tuesday 19th July 2016**

**Egglescliffe Parish Hall**

**PRESENT**: Members of the EARA Management Committee plus a significant number of other residents

1. **Welcome** – Shane Sellers welcomed everyone to the 4th AGM of the EARA and thanked them for their attendance.
2. **Apologies:** A number of apologies for absence had been received by the Chair including Richard and Jan Crouch, Mark and Caroline Buckley, Dawn Robinson, Joanna Sellers, Richard and Lynne Gaunt.
3. **EARA ACTIVITIES OVER THE LAST YEAR**

Shane Sellers highlighted the primary activities initiated through EARA over the past year

* Gardening Section – special thanks were made to Richard and Jan Crouch; additional funding from the EPHA and Council were appreciated; the theft of plants and the ‘phantom planter’ were also noted
* Christmas Tree – The annual ceremony of lighting the Christmas Tree outside the Parish hall; thanks to Brian, Mark and Simon
* Summer fete – EARA support the Parish Council in the planning and organisation of the annual fete; thanks to Tony and Alan for the ‘free’ electricity.
* Entertainment – a number of events had been arranged during the year including the Johnny Cash night, Flossie, Quiz Night, Magician
* Community Liaison – the links and interactions with a range of other community groups was highlighted including PCC, EPHA, DTV Airport and various public organisations
* Public Meetings – EARA had also led a group opposing the planning application for houses in the village; although unsuccessful the points made were noted by the Planning Committee.

1. **REPORT OF ACCOUNTS**

Tim Stokeld gave a report on the accounts for EARA noting that the bank account could not be overdrawn. The fund raising activities during the year had resulted in an increased account balance to approximately £2000.

1. **ELECTIONS TO THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

Maureen Rigg kindly volunteered to facilitate the election process that resulted in the following appointments to the Management Committee for 2016/17

* Chairman - Shane Sellers
* Vice Chairman – Brian Robinson
* Secretary – Mark Ellis
* Treasurer – Tim Stokeld
* Committee Members – Richard Crouch, Kathie Hatfield, Tony Huckwell, Ruth Greenwood, Norman Douglas

1. **ERG**

Shane outlined the role of the newly formed Egglescliffe Renovation Group and the links to EARA, EPHA, PCC as well as the Parish and Ward Councils. The initial focus of the group has been the renovation of the Parish Hall. An architect has developed proposals that have been presented at a public consultation evening and following feedback, a planning proposal will be submitted to the Planning Committee. Shane pointed out that if approved, the developments will necessitate significant fund raising efforts. The ERG are also looking at supporting other developments such as the Heritage Trail, new gates for Stony Bank and new signs at the entrance to the village

1. **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Shane summarised the events that are planned over the next few months and encouraged support

* Village BBQ on the 23rd July
* An ERG fundraising BBQ in the Pot & Glass in August / September
* A Race Night in the Pot & Glass on the 24th September
* Village Quiz in the Parish Hall on the 26th November
* Christmas Tree Lighting followed by a 60s 70s night on the 3rd December
* 2017 Summer Fete – to be planned

An open discussion then resulted in a few additional suggestions including one to plan the Summer Fete with a strong music element and focus making it a distinctive event in the area with a possibility of growth year on year. It was suggested that it could be used to showcase new young singers or musicians. It was also suggested that the Egglescliffe School Singers could be invited although it was also noted that there might be a clash with exams. Shane thanked everyone for the suggestions and pointed out that the Summer fete is actually primarily funded and managed through the Parish Council.

1. **Next Meeting**

The next AGM will be planned for July 2017