Egglescliffe Area Residents’ Association

**MINUTES OF THE**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE**

**EGGLESCLIFFE AREA RESIDENTS’ ASSOCIATION**

**EGGLESCLIFFE PARISH HALL**

**TUESDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2018**

1. **Welcome by the Chair**

Shane Sellers welcomed those present and thanked everyone for their attendance. Shane also noted that this is the 7th year since the formation of the association.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Norman Douglas, Councillor Phil Dennis, Councillor Stefan Houghton, Councillor Maureen Rigg, Nev Thompson and Councillor John Fletcher.

1. **Minutes of the 2017 Meeting**

Minutes of EARA’s AGM held on Monday 4th September 2017, were approved as correct. The minutes had been circulated to the database and were also included together with minutes from the monthly meetings on EARA’s web site.

1. **Chair’s Report – Shane Sellers**

Shane gave a full report on the EARA events and projects held throughout the past year. The report is attached below for reference.

1. **Food Bank Collection**

Shane highlighted the plan to hold a second food bank collection on November 29th, 2018 following the success of the event in 2017.

1. **Financial Report**

Tim Stokeld (EARA Treasurer) gave a status report on the accounts. This included the following key points

* The account had been maintained with a positive balance between £2,400 and £3,500
* Income has primarily arisen from the regular entertainment events, typically £200 to £300 per event.
* Outgoings had included donations to various local organisations such as Eaglescliffe Medical Practice, the Parish Council Summer Fete and the Egglescliffe Renovation Group.
* Regular expenses have been for flowers for the Parish Hall and War Memorial Gardens.
* Accounts for 2017/18 will be signed off and released in December – Financial year is `September to September’.
1. **Election of Management Committee Officers**

Current Officers stood down from their positions. A formal election process concluded the election of officers to sit on the EARA management committee for the next 12-months.

* Chairperson – Shane Sellers was nominated and re-elected
* Vice-Chair – Brian Robinson was nominated and re-elected
* Secretary – Mark Ellis was nominated and re-elected
* Treasurer – Tim Stokeld was nominated and re-elected
* Additional committee members – Maureen Rigg, Stefan Houghton, Nev Thompson, Norman Douglas, Ruth Greenwood, Richard Crouch, Caroline Buckley and Kathie Hatfield all accepted positions as committee members. Shane was delighted to welcome Judith Hills and Harsh Agarwal who also volunteered to join the Committee.
1. **AOB**

Shane asked those present if there was any other business

* Ian Reynolds raised an issue about recent incidences of smoke pollution – Shane advised that this type of incident was best managed either by direct contact with those responsible or via Stockton Council.
1. **Closing down of the AGM**

The AGM was closed. The next AGM will be held in August / September 2019.

**EARA**

**Chair’s Annual Report 2017/18**

Since the last annual general meeting held by Egglescliffe Area Residents’ Association (EARA) in September 2017, members of the management committee have been involved in numerous activities that have benefitted, or will benefit in the future, our community.

**Local Events**

1. On 25th November 2017, EARA held an event at Egglescliffe Parish Hall (EPH) with a nationally recognised comedian called Patrick Monahan. The event was a complete sell-out.
2. On 27th January 2018, EARA held their annual village quiz, which raised £259 for the Great North Air Ambulance Service (GNAAS).
3. On 24th March 2018, EARA hosted the annual inter-village quiz at the Cleveland Bay, raising more money for GNAAS.
4. On 16th June 2018, EARA held a Blues and Rock and Roll music night for residents at Egglescliffe Parish Hall with the Memphis Suns
5. On Sunday 8th July 2018, together with Egglescliffe and Eaglescliffe Parish Council (EEPC) and other local volunteers, EARA helped make the annual Egglescliffe Summer Fete a great success for the community. EARA contributed £200 of their own funds to the overall cost of the fete.

**Volunteer Gardening Section**

EARA used funds they had raised, and donations provided by EEPC, to by plants and bulbs for the autumn and spring flower displays. They were able, through an increased number of local volunteers, to divide the watering and weeding groups into two, to reduce the workload. The displays of flowers over this summer period have been outstanding, and EARA would like to thank Richard and Jan Crouch for their unstinting support in designing the flower beds, and those members of the community who assisted in the watering and weeding of the plants.

**Community Projects**

1. Salvation Army Foodbank Collection

In November 2017, EARA held a foodbank collection day at Egglescliffe Parish Hall (EPH), when members of the community could donate food and other products for those less fortunate than ourselves. The community rallied round significantly, and an extraordinary amount of non-perishable food was donated from across the area. This food was taken to the Salvation Army Foodbank in Stockton, who were extremely grateful to receive it.

As this event was such a success, EARA have agreed to make this an annual event and will be carrying out another foodbank collection in November 2018. However, EARA would like to broaden the area in which they collect food, to include local schools and businesses.

1. Egglescliffe Renovation Group

Members of EARA’s management have been working as part of a multi-agency community group called the Egglescliffe Renovation Group (ERG) to fully renovate Egglescliffe Parish Hall. This has involved monthly meetings in the Pot and Glass, the identification of appropriate funding sources, the identification of builders to undertake future work and holding fund raising events such as community BBQ’s. ERG have been successful in securing funds from Yarm Social Trust and they are awaiting the outcome of a funding applications to both the Banks Group and the Big Lottery.

EARA have donated £200 of their own funds to assist the ERG in raising funds.

1. Egglescliffe and Eaglescliffe Heritage Trail

Working in partnership with Stockton Borough Council, River Tees Re-discovered and Ground works, EARA are seeking to have a local heritage trail that represents the history of the area. Funding has been sought from a number of sources to pay for way points, history boards and metal artwork on Stoney Bank, that identifies the Civil War heritage of the area. This is an ongoing project that may spread over a number of years but is something committee members are very passionate about.

EARA have donated £1000 of their own funds to support this project.

1. Community Telephone Box Library

EARA arranged for the Grade 2 listed phone box on the Green, Egglescliffe, to be converted into a village library. This telephone box is now well stocked with a variety of books that are open to any member of the community to take away free to read.