**EGGLESCLIFFE AREA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (EARA)**

**MINUTES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Monday 5th October 2020**

**Online via Zoom­**

Present: Shane Sellers, Ruth Greenwood, Councillor Stefan Houghton, Neville Thompson, Norman Douglas and Brian Robinson, Richard Crouch and Jan Crouch.

1. **Welcome**

Shane welcomed and thanked those present for their attendance online.

1. **Apologies**

Kathie Hatfield, Doug Nicholson and Councillor Maureen Rigg.

1. **Minutes of previous Meeting**

Shane explained that due to the Covid-19 national lockdown in March 2020, all of EARA’s meetings had to be cancelled to prevent the spread of the virus. As we are now approaching a period where the virus is now spreading nationally across the UK, and there have been significant increases locally, a face-to-face meeting is unlikely to take place for some time.

Rather than wait until at least March 2021 to meet again, it was decided that we meet virtually online via Zoom. With that in mind, meetings have been planned for 7.00pm for the first Monday of every month until April 2021.

The minutes of the February 2020 meeting were circulated.

1. **Artistic Bins for Egglescliffe Village Green** – A proposal by councillor Stefan Houghton

Shane explained that he had met with councillor Stefan Houghton in Yarm some weeks earlier and that the councillor had made reference to EARA possibly purchasing artistic bins for Egglescliffe Green.

Councillor Houghton informed members that he had seen some artistic bin coverings in the Norton area and that these were very pleasing to the eye. These frames were part of a project carried out by SBC in 2006 and were made by an artist from the Durham area. They cost about £1500 to supply and install, but councillor Houghton may be able to get some additional funding from CPB.

Members seemed to like the idea of this, so Shane asked councillor Houghton if he could circulate a photograph for members to see. He agreed to do this.

Councillor Houghton also stated that the artist would likely be available for our next Zoom meeting in November 2020.

1. **Egglescliffe Volunteers Gardening Section** – Richard and Jan Crouch

Richard informed members that the War Memorial garden was looking very good and that he had received many positive comments about it.

The bushes had recently been trimmed by Shane and Richard and Jan had purchased daffodils and tulips for next year’s display. Richard thanked everyone for their support in watering and weeding the garden.

Shane informed Ruth that the Barrels at the Parish Hall, which were maintained by the Gardening Club, were looking good. Ruth stated there was an active group of members who looked after the barrels and that there were ‘hidden’ Narcissi that would blame next years. The hebe bushes have been left in place for now as they are still in flower.

1. **Financial Update**

Shane sought approval from members to allow for online banking with a maximum limit of £2,000 as, at the moment, one member has to purchase the product/goods, and receive a cheque from the treasurer to put into their account. Neville informed members that he was in the process arranging such a facility. Neville, Shane and Brian are currently the three cheque signatories for EARA’s account.

Brian was nominated at the second EARA internet banker, in the event Neville becomes ill or is unable to undertake this role. He agreed to take on this role.

Members agreed to have online banking for EARA with a maximum of £2000 withdrawal limit. Norman asked whether there was an overdraft on this account as he was concerned, we would be left in debt if the account was compromised. He was informed there has never been an overdraft facility on this account and there was never a need for EARA to have one. We would only spend the funds we raised.

Neville also informed members that EARA’s account currently stood at £4958 but, having paid out funds for bulbs and plants, the account balance is £4827.

Committed funds

£1000 to Egglescliffe Parish Hall Association (EPHA) as a contribution to the newly installed disabled persons ramp;

£1200 for the purchase of a defibrillator to be placed at the parish hall (EPHA providing £600 for the secure defibrillator box);

£1000 for artwork on Stoney Bank (it is believed these funds are no longer required to be used as other funding sources have been identified – Shane to confirm).

Shane stated that when the defibrillator is purchased, it will need to have a permanent source of electric to keep it charged. He asked if Nev could raise this with EPHA to see if they would pay for half the cost.

1. Egglescliffe Parish Hall defibrillator – Shane Sellers

EARA have agreed to spend £1200 for a local defibrillator at Egglescliffe Parish Hall. The Covid-19 lockdown has stalled the purchase of this device but, as soon as it can be purchased, it will be.

EPHA have provided £600 for a secure defibrillator box to be placed at the parish hall.

Shane stated that when the defibrillator is purchased, it will need to have a permanent source of electric to keep it charged. He asked if Nev could raise this with EPHA to see if they would pay for half the cost.

1. AOB

Richard stated there will be no ceremony to celebrate VJ day, but there may be a wreath laying by the British Legion.

Brian stated there is likely to be a wreath laying at the War Memorial for Remembrance Sunday.

Neville asked whether EARA would be undertaking a foodbank collection this year. Shane stated that subject to lockdown guidelines, we would have a collection but would need to take measures to prevent virus transmission. Neville would contact the EPHA bookings officer to identify a suitable date.

1. Next Meeting – The next meeting of the EARA committee would take place on Monday 2nd November 2020, via Zoom at 7.00pm.