Egglescliffe Area Residents’ Association

**MINUTES OF THE**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE**

**EGGLESCLIFFE AREA RESIDENTS’ ASSOCIATION**

**EGGLESCLIFFE PARISH HALL**

**TUESDAY 12th October 2021**

1. **Welcome by the Chair**

Shane Sellers welcomed those present and thanked everyone for their attendance. Shane also noted that this is the 9th year since the formation of the association, and that EARA will be celebrating 10-years next July (2022).

Those present at this AGM were Shane Sellers, Brian Robinson, Doug Nicholson, Norman Douglas, Rosemary Douglas, Ian Reynolds, Palli Hungin, Barbara Hungin, Ruth Greenwood and James Bustard.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Jean Clift, Councillor Stefan Houghton, Neville Thompson, Richard Crouch, Jan Crouch and Councillor Maureen Rigg.

1. **Minutes of the 2018 Meeting**

Minutes of EARA’s AGM held on Tuesday 18th September 2018, were previously circulated and were published on the EARA website.

1. **Chair’s Report – Shane Sellers**

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

During the Chair’s report, James Bustard raised several questions. These were:

1. How many houses were to be built on the development site off Butts Lane, just off The Green.

The answer to this was that it is believed there will be five houses at this location.

1. Were EARA in dialogue with Yarm School regarding the completion of the school bridge.

The Chair informed James that both him, and Brian Robinson, had met with the new head teacher, who had explained the timescale for completion. Although the playing fields would be completed before the school bridge was complete, there was agreement the fields would not be used until September 2022, when the bridge was finally operational.

1. What was the situation with the renovation of Egglescliffe Parish Hall?

Brian Robinson explained that a new ramp and front doors had been installed, giving easier access to the hall for persons with disabilities. This work also stopped the clock on the planning application, which now allows for funds to be raised to complete other work.

1. James was seeking views of those present about a horse chestnut tree near to his garden. He was, quite rightly, concerned about the potential of damage to his house due to the size of the tree, as they are significantly larger than they were 100-years ago.

The Chair explained he had a similar tree in his garden, which is protected by a tree preservation order (TPO). Although a TPO protects a tree from being cut down, it does not prevent reasonable maintenance of a tree, subject to approval from the local authority. It was advised that James speak to councillor Maureen Rigg before any work is undertaken, as it is believed the Parish Council own the land upon which the tree is on.

Ian Reynolds said that the trees around The Green were the heart and character of the village, and that some residents would not take too kindly to the trees being pruned or removed.

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**

The Treasurer, Neville Thompson, was unable to attend this evening’s meeting and tendered his apologies.

The Chair stated that since our last AGM, EARA had spent funds on flowers, new half-barrels for the top of Stoney Bank and a community defibrillator. There was more than £1,700 in EARA’s bank account, which now afforded on-line payment facilities to pay bills. There is also now a £5.00 monthly fee EARA must pay for their banking facilities.

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, seconded, and re-elected.
* Vice-Chair – Brian Robinson was nominated, seconded, and re-elected.
* Secretary – There was no secretary elected. The Chair agreed to take the minutes at future EARA committee meetings.
* Treasurer – Neville Thompson was nominated, seconded, and re-elected. Despite the fact Nev was not able to attend the meeting, he did state that if he was nominated and seconded on the night, he was prepared to continue in the role for another year.
* Additional committee members – Norman Douglas, Ruth Greenwood, Doug Nicholson all accepted positions as committee members. Richard Crouch, Jan Crouch would be approached to confirm they would be happy to remain as EARA committee members.
* Councillor’ Stefan Houghton and Maureen Rigg were accepted as co-opted members in support of EARA.

No other persons present wanted to become part of EARA’s committee.

1. **AOB**

Shane asked those present if there was any other business:

Ian Reynolds raised concerns about what was happening alongside the River Tees. He felt area where a new access road was being installed, was causing unnecessary damage. Ian also raised concerns about barn owls that had been seen nesting locally for the first time in 4-years, and that land adjacent to Stoney needed to be maintained. He inquired as to who owned this farmland, but, at this moment in time, the owner is not known.

A land registry search would need to be undertaken before the owner could be approached and asked to maintain it.

1. **Closing of the AGM**

The AGM was closed. The next AGM will be held in August / September 2022.