**Minutes of the Eaglescliffe Area Residents’ Association (EARA)**

**Monday 7th November. The Cleveland Bay, Eaglescliffe**

**Present:** Brian Robinson, Nev Thompson, Tim Mackfall, Neil Rocket, Tim Stokeld, Mark Buckley, Caroline Buckley, Stefan Houghton, Becky Heaton, Ruth

**Apologies:** Shane Sellers

1. BR welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. Apologies were received from Shane Sellers
3. BR summarised recent AGM where it was agreed that the group (EARA) should continue as a separate entity to the Parish Hall Association, however the two groups will continue to support each other and may work on joint projects from time to time, for the benefit of the local community.
4. Scarecrow festival 2022 – less entries this year than previous – group agreed that this is something that should continue. Suggestion that next year, this could be combined with a harvest festival theme, perhaps with a ‘harvest supper’ event in the village hall.
5. Future events for 2023;

Discussion that post Pandemic, it would be nice to reinstate some of the ‘Saturday night’ events we’ve had previously, such as Flossie, the curry night, cheese tasting, antiques.

Ideas so far;

* Summer fete on Sunday 9th July 2023
* Suggestion that there should also be an event organised within the village to celebrate the coronation – the day after the coronation – Sunday 7th May. Ideas were to have a coronation BBQ or picnic, with live music.
* Burns night supper (or similar) at end of January
* Harvest Supper event – end of September
* Fundraising event such as a ‘Quiz and Curry’ night

Discussion around the procurement of raffle/tombola prizes for events, and whether we should be canvassing for items. One drawback of this, is that the items aren’t always ‘desirable’ and multiple donations can lead to a lengthy raffle. At previous events we have either accepted donations from local businesses, or paid for one or two ‘good’ prizes which people would wish to win. Profits from the raffle have always more than covered this.

Also discussed the possibility of holding another food bank donation – probably not possible before Christmas, but should consider doing so in future.

1. Finance; NT advised that the account is currently at £1100. All agreed to the £100.00 donation towards the defibrillator for the Kingsmead estate
2. EARA website. Not currently active; nobody present had the skills to maintain this. Discussion re: use of social media (primarily Facebook) to communicate events, whether through own page or via ‘Eaglescliffe News’. The use of Eaglescliffe News might have more ‘reach’ particularly when trying to advertise events.
3. Richard and Jan Crouch are standing down after many years of maintaining the war memorial. Their expertise, dedication and talent has been invaluable in ensuring that we have had a beautiful display of flowers in the memorial garden, in addition to the pots and planters that they have sourced, designed, planted and maintained. The committee wish to thank them for their hard work.

Ruth will enquire at the gardening club as to whether there are any volunteers who would be interested in taking over next year. Volunteers are also needed to assist with watering the plants.

1. Fundraising events/community projects

* ‘Quiz & Curry’ night?
* Great British Spring Clean event
* Possibility of second bin cover opposite the Parish Hall. All felt that this would be a positive addition.
* Consideration of the need to provide replacement pads for the defibrillators

AOB: It was reported that there is a tree in The Parkmore which appears to be unstable; Stefan Houghton will take this forward.

Parish Hall lights switch on event, 26/11

**Date of next meeting 05 Dec 22**