**EGGLESCLIFFE AREA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (EARA)**

**MINUTES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday 12th October 2021, at 8:00pm**

**In Egglescliffe Parish Hall.**

Present: Shane Sellers, Brian Robinson, Doug Nicholson, Ruth Greenwood, and Norman Douglas.

1. **Welcome**

Shane welcomed and thanked those present for their attendance online. He informed those present that the committee minutes from the September meeting had been circulated and published online.

1. **Apologies**

Councillor Stefan Houghton, councillor Maureen Rigg, Neville Thompson, Richard Crouch and Jan Crouch.

1. **The way forward for EARA**

The Chair stated that, through its many community events over the last nine years, many residents had been brought together and lasting friendships had been made. However, it has proved difficult to bring in younger members on to the committee, despite encouragement through advertisement.

1. **Recruitment of new EARA committee members / co-opting members**

It was suggested that we utilise the expertise of local businesses to promote EARA and publicise the benefit we have brought locally. Shane and Doug will explore this proposal and liaise with some of the larger local businesses.

It was also suggested we use social media platforms to encourage younger community members to come forward and support their community.

1. **Egglescliffe Scarecrow Festival - Update**

It was agreed that EARA’s scarecrow festival in September proved to be very successful and raised money in support of Yarm Wellness Centre. The number of visitor’s visiting Egglescliffe Village, who turned out to see a significant number of scarecrows, and the positive comments we received, are testament to how successful the event was.

EARA will seek to replicate this event in July next year, working alongside Egglescliffe and Eaglescliffe Parish Council (EPHA), to coincide the scarecrow event with Egglescliffe Summer Fete.

The winner of the best scarecrow, picked by our independent judges, was Jean Clift.

1. **Defibrillator - Update**

The defibrillator at the Parish Hall had been removed from its box again, due to an emergency, but had not been used. It was re-sanitised and put back into operation in the event it was required for a furrther medical emergency.

1. **Finance**

Nev, EARA’s treasurer, was unable to be at today’s meeting but little has been spent since last month’s balance, which stood at £1784.91.

1. **Garden Volunteers**

Richard and Jan informed the meeting that the plants in the barrels at the top of Stoney Bank were still alright, but it would soon be time to change the barrels themselves.

Shane thanked Jan and Richard Crouch, as well as the gardeners who maintain the barrels at Egglescliffe Parish Hall, for their on-going support.

1. **EARA Functions**

The possibility of re-starting functions by EARA was discussed as a means of raising funds for EARA and bringing the community together once again. There were several possible events that could be undertaken this year, these being:

* our usual Christmas quiz in December; and
* a localised car boot sale.

Shane asked members to think about events we could undertake in 2022, events we could align to the Egglescliffe Summer Fete and the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee celebration.

1. **Any other Business**

Shane raised concerns from residents on Aislaby Road, about vehicles speeding through the 30mph signs without attempting to slow down. This activity was extremely dangerous and puts the lives of residents at significant risk. He agreed to liaise with councillor Stefan Houghton (Stockton Borough Council) and councillor Maureen Rigg (EEPH) to see what if anything could be done.

He will report back to those residents who have raised this point.

1. **Next Meeting** – Monday 8th November 2021, at the Pot and Glass Public House.