**EGGLESCLIFFE AREA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION (EARA)**

**MINUTES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**Thursday 18th July 2024, at the Pot and Glass PH,**

**Egglescliffe Village.**

Present: Shane Sellers, Neil Rocket, Tim McFall, Ruth Greenwood, Russell Pell and Christina

1. **Welcome**

Shane Sellers welcomed and thanked those present for their attendance at this meeting. The meeting started at 7:00pm as planned, with the evening’s agenda being circulated to members.

Shane particularly welcomed Christina, a new member of the group who indicated she would like to work with EARA. It was good to see new members putting themselves forward to join the committee, as they have a lot to give.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mark and Caroline Buckley, Brian Robinson, Tim Stokeld, councillor Stefan Houghton and Becky Heaton.

1. **Minutes and updates from the previous EARA Meeting**

The minutes for the EARA meeting held in June 2024, had been previously circulated to members. It was agreed that the contents of those minutes were an accurate reflection of the matters discussed on the day, with no comments being raised by members in respect of them.

1. **Celebration of the 200th anniversary of the Stockton and Darlington Railway**

Shane informed members that he had met with one of the coordinators involved in supporting local communities to prepare for the 200th anniversary of the Stockton and Darlington Railway (S&DR). Caitlin, and a colleague of hers, were taken for a walk around Egglescliffe, where they were informed of the proposals of EARA to work in partnership with others to deliver a successful event. These partnerships included:

* Egglescliffe and Eaglescliffe Parish Council (EEPC).
* Residents.
* Local businesses.
* Egglescliffe School and Sixth Form College.
* Egglescliffe Primary School.
* Rosedene Nursery.
* St John’s Church.
* Egglescliffe Parish Hall Association (EPHA) and their groups (Brownies, quilters, etc).

Shane stated that he had met with members of EEPC on Tuesday 16th July regarding another matter but raised the issue of the S&DR event and the fact EARA would like to work in partnership with them to deliver it. Although the issue itself would have to go to EEPC members for ratification, there were some positive indications made on the night.

One thing EARA and EEPC would have to agree on should they work together, is the date for the event in 2025. Planning for this event is at its early stages, but confirmation for a date should be relatively quick to identify.

Some of the ideas that EARA committee members came up with to support a successful event included:

* An Egglescliffe Village station trail with local stations.
* Speaking to the Durham Archives to secure information about the implementation of S&DR.
* Speak to the Railway Museums at Shildon and York, as well as Preston Hall and Stockton Borough Council.
* Identify whether there was any old footage or photographs we could utilise for displays.
* Would it be possible to have a mini train taking children around Egglescliffe?
* Source old railway tickets.

It was agreed that if EEPC agree to work in partnership with EARA on this venture, planning should start now, rather than early next year.

1. **Other community events to be organised by, or in partnership with, other organisations**

**Food event in the Pot and Glass** – It was agreed that EARA should hold a food event in partnership with the Pot and Glass, sometime in September. We could invite a singer along for the evening and sell raffle tickets to raise money. Looking at suitable dates for the event in September, either the 7th or the 21st seemed most appropriate.

**Mike McGrother** **(Wild Cats of Kilkenny)** – Caroline Buckley is still waiting to hear from for Mr. McGrother, with a view to securing the Wildcats of Kilkenny for an event at the Parish Hall. She will follow this up once she returns from holiday. Shane stated the initial deposit of £50.00 for this event is with the EPHA bookings officer, as Shane had paid this for a previous event EARA had to cancel.

**Salvation Army foodbank collection** – EARA’s annual foodbank collection for the Salvation Army should take place in November 2024. A date needed to be identified for this and the EPHA bookings officer asked to book the hall – Shane to follow this up.

**Landscape artist of the year event** – Ruth prosed this event at the Last EARA meeting (June 2024). Following a lot of discussion, it was felt this event could take place before a July 2025 Summer Fete or the S&DR event, with the artwork being displayed at one of these events. The artwork could be displayed in the parish hall, the church or on The Green, Egglescliffe.

**Summer Fete 2025** – It was not known if the 2025 Egglescliffe Summer Fete in July would be going ahead, due to S&DR celebrations in September. Shane would liaise with EEPC to confirm this, as they would have to budget for it later this year.

**EARA quiz** – Russel stated that he still intended to have a quiz in the parish hall. This is likely to take place in January 2025.

**Open gardens** – Christina enquired whether there could be an open gardens event around Egglescliffe next year. This was thought to be a very good idea; however, EARA would need to clarify the issue of liability in the event of infjury and seek support from residents.

Ruth stated she would speak to members of her gardening club, to see who would be interested in supporting this event.

1. **Finance**

EARA currently have £718.64 in their account. Some of this money is for the purchase of wooden flower barrels at the front of Egglescliffe Parish Hall.

Shane would make an application for funding for next year’s flowers for Egglescliffe War Memorial and the parish hall. This application would be sent to Norma Ironside.

1. **Terracycle** – Becky had sentan email to members identifying a cost of £133.00 for a Terracycle recycling box. Egglescliffe Primary School has indicated they would be happy to have a Terracycle box to recycle pens and similar items, but we would need to confirm if this is a one-off cost or a recurring cost when the box was full. A one-off cost would be more appropriate for EARA.
2. **Any other business**

Shane informed members that people from the Community Payback Scheme had painted the bench between the two wooden barrels opposite the War Memorial. They had also painted the bench on Yarm Road at its junction with South View and would likely be undertaking more work in the local community.

Tim stated that one of the memorial trees to councillor Geoff Turner had died. Shane would let EEPC know about this so they could replace it.

1. **Next Meeting** – The next meeting of the EARA committee would take place at 7:00pm on Thursday 15th August 2024, at The Pot and Glass, Egglescliffe.