**Minutes of the ordinary meeting of Darnhall Parish Council**

**Held in Darnhall Village Hall on Tuesday 21st May 2019 at 8.20pm**

Members of the public present: None

Members of the council present: Cllr Jinks (chair), Cllr Bownes, Cllr Davenport, Cllr Langley, Cllr Sherry & Cllr Strachan.

1. **Apologies for absence**

Rosie Lee – on holiday

1. **Disclosure of declaration of interest**

None

1. **Chairman’s opening remarks**

The Chairman thanked Councillors for re-electing him for Chairman of the Council. The Chairman then talked about future Parish projects:

The Village Hall - work to commence on the floor in July 2019;

Darnhall Mill and the Waterfall – The Restoration of these and to protect them for the future.

The Chairman spoke fondly of seeing a recent article of Darnhall & Wettenhall WI in the Winsford Guardian next years Centenary and finally The Raven public house had recently received a tidy up from the owner.

1. **Minutes**

**To approve the minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting held on Tuesday 16/04/19. 148/19.**

1. **Matters arising from the minutes of the ordinary meeting on Tuesday 16/04/19.**

None

1. **Clerks report**

The Clerk reported that she had received a thank you letter from Angela Hancock on behalf of Darnhall Dancers for Councils £100.00 donation following their recent successful dance show.

Communications relating to health & safety had been sent from Meller Speakman on behalf of Verdin Estates. This to be addressed at the first Village Hall Management Committee meeting.

The Clerk reported that she needed formal training to undertake her role at a cost of £99.00. This was agreed by Council. The Clerk asked Council if they would consider forming a Finance Committee, given that the finances hadn’t yet been finalised for the year, and to consider accounting software. Sue Langley (Former Clerk) has recommended Council also join The Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) for accounting advice. This was agreed by Council and to go on the next meetings’ agenda.

The Calor Fund was not applied for due to time and the Clerk being new in the role. Suggestion was made by the Clerk that Council make plans in preparation for next years fund. Cllr Strachan agreed to look at this.

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The Clerk made Council aware that it did not operate a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. It was agreed that this would be addressed after the summer once work had been completed in the hall.

The Clerk confirmed all invoices had been paid as follows:

For The Good Councillor Guide x 5 copies = £22.50

Scottish Power = £312.06

WaterPlus = £63.70

Steve Redmond = £160.00

Insurance = £443.93

Invoices had been received from CW&C following the hall being used for recent elections. Payments had not been show for Mrs A Hignett. Clerk to liaise with Angela Hancock & CW&C.

The Sailing Club had confirmed availability of Council using the venue for the July meeting whilst the village hall was closed for repair. The cost will be £25.00 payable on the night.

The Clerk requested her Contract of Employment to be made available. Cllr Strachan to look at this.

1. **Planning, Neighbourhood Plan (NP)**

Cllr Strachan updated Council and informed them that The Neighbourhood Plan was very close to Stakeholder Consultation. Cllr Strachan then went onto show pictures that had been taken of the Parish, places of interest & housing features.

1. **Finances**
   1. To receive the Natwest bank statement and agree the figures with the bank reconciliation. The bank balance from the May statement was £14,447.43
   2. To receive the Barclays bank statement for the Village Hall and agree the figures with the bank reconciliation. The bank balance from the May statement was £6,422.68.

The Business Premium Account balance from the May statement was £8,797.01

* 1. To receive the Barclays bank statement for the 200 club and agree the figures with the bank reconciliation. The bank balance taken from the May statement was £980.00.

1. **Update on the Darnhall Village Hall Project.**

To be delivered at The Parish Assembly on Tuesday 28.05.2019

1. **Update on Village Hall Fundraising**

Events scheduled to take place are as follows:

Dog walk followed by refreshments at the village hall – 02.06.2019

Afternoon Tea in the village hall – 09.06.2019

Tea dance in the village hall – 30.06.2019

Show – 07.07.2019

A film night is scheduled to take place in September (date tba) and a quiz night yet to be finalised. Darnhall Show is coming along, the insurance is paid, show tickets printed, raffle, tombola and WI competitions are underway. Stalls are still available to hire (inside and outside) and also on the farmers market. Volunteers are required to assist with car parking on the day.

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1. **Update on the Darnhall Village Hall Working Group**

Angela Hancock has informed the Clerk regards the disposal of waste at the village hall.

This is to be addressed at the first group meeting on Thursday 27th June 2019.

Key holders have been confirmed as Angela Hancock, Ann Hignett & Cllr Strachan. Cllr Langley & Sue Langley have requested to be removed from the list of key holders.

Cllr Langley is to pass all keys and alarm code to Cllr Strachan as soon as possible.

1. **Annual Parish Assembly**

The Parish Assembly will on Tuesday 28.05.2019. There will be talks by Cllr Strachan on The Neighbourhood Plan, Robin Wood will update on the village hall project and Verdin Estates proposal to build 184 houses in the Parish with the finale of a talk on Chester Zoo delivered by Julie Platt, Fundraising Manager at Chester Zoo.

1. **Update on the 200 Club**

200 Club forms were distributed with the Parish newsletter. There has been an uptake of 24 applicants. Further promotion will take place at the Parish Assembly.

The May draw took place using last years numbers so from last years budget. The next draw to be determined.

1. **Items for Information and Discussion Only**

The Chairman informed Council that he wanted to recognise the good work to the Parish from former Clerk Sue Langley & Councillor, Tony Bostock. It was agreed that Sue would receive a £25 Hobbycraft voucher & Cllr Strachan would report back to Council having spoken to Tony.

Cllr Sherry reported that she had accepted some catering equipment, at no cost, to be used for village hall events.

Cllr Davenport reported that she had raised concerns to Cheshire West & Chester Council about a footpath between Redshank and Swanlow Lane. Cllr Davenport to liaise with the Clerk. The footpath has become narrow in places due to overgrown vegetation.

It was agreed that Cllr Gaskell would be invited to the Parish Assembly.

Meeting Closed at 9:15pm

Signed by the Chairman …………………………………………………………………………………………………

Dated ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

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