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

**Held in Darnhall Village Hall on Tuesday 31st January 2017 at 7.30pm**

Members of the public present: None

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

1. **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Bownes – working. Sue Langley (clerk) not well.

1. **Disclosure of declaration of interest**

None

1. **Chairman’s opening remarks**

The Chairman announced that the clerk was not well enough to attend and wished her a speedy recovery. He thanked Cllr Marjorie Sherry for standing in at short notice to take the minutes.

It all seemed to be happening in Darnhall around Christmas time. On Christmas Day a suicide attempt was averted when a Darnhall family, travelling home for their Christmas dinner, came across a van parked up with a man standing on top with a rope around his neck and the branch of a tree. The police were called and the man was successfully talked down. The place where this occurred in New Lane, is near to a style, locally known as hangman’s style.

Two days later around midday, a police car, ambulance, fire engine and a helicopter overhead, all rushed down New Lane when a small air craft got into difficulties and had to make an emergency landing. No one was hurt and next day the wings were removed and the plane returned home on a trailer.

Two accidents occurred near to Weaver Chapel. Late in December an accident involving two cars caused the road to be closed for a short while. Then early in January a car crashed into the wall of Field View. The police were called to both incidents. These two incidents may help to get the speed limit lowered.

An article in the national newspaper The Guardian about camra, campaign for real ale, who want the government to put public houses into a special category, so the owners would have to get planning permission before they were closed or demolished. To illustrate this article was a pub that had closed and was boarded up, it was a photograph of the Raven, Darnhall.

The dead and dying horse chestnut trees in Hall Lane have now been cut down. As they had a preservation order on them I do hope they will be replanted.

It is with great sadness to report the death of Reg (Reginald) Astbury. In his late eighties, he lived in Darnhall with his wife Peggy all the 60 years of their married life. He will be sadly missed.

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1. **Minutes**

**To approve the minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting held on Tuesday 29th November 2016. 45/17 resolved that the council approved the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Tuesday 29th November 2016.**

1. **Matters arising from the minutes of the ordinary meeting on Tuesday 29th November 2016.**

To note the name Hignett had been spelt wrong.

To amend item 2 and remove some of the wording.

1. **Clerks report and correspondence received**
   1. Ideas for speakers for the Annual Parish Assembly
   2. Email from Tarporley PC inviting us to their meeting about Community Lands Trust on 2nd Feb. no one available to attend.
   3. TPO’s re the trees on hall lane – still have not got an answer about who put the order on them and who replaces them now they have been taken down. Clerk to chaise again.
   4. Defibrillator – one has successfully been applied for and will be put in the phone box. We will need to see to the training and someone to be responsible for the equipment and keep a check on it. Maybe something to be discussed at the parish assembly and mention in the next newsletter.
   5. Invite to Buckingham Palace Garden Party for outgoing Chairman or Town Mayor. As we have no outgoing Chairman this does not apply to us.
   6. Air Ambulance request for funding. This is something we feel we are not able to donate to out of Parish Council funds as our budget is small with now spare funds. Plus, if we were to support one charity what would we then do with subsequent requests. This is something that needs adding to our Financial Standing Orders.
   7. Water in road by village hall. Still waiting for an answer.
2. **Planning, Neighbourhood Plan (NP)**

7.1Cllr Strachan to apply for the £2,000 grant towards the costs of the Neighbourhood Plan

7.2 Any follow up regarding the planning issues near Weaver Hall – no update

7.3 Planning application 16/005433/out. Comments sent in by 10th January 2017 – we had no objections to this planning application

1. **Finances**
   1. The bank balance at the end of December was £10,626.58. Two cheques have been made out totalling £72.52, as listed below. This leaves a new balance in the account of £10,554.06.
   2. Pay ICO, Date protection registration fee of £35.00
   3. Pay the clerk for ink for the printer £37.52
   4. Look at the budget figures and agree a figure for the precept.

The budget figures were presented to the councillors. At the moment we have £10,554.06 in the Parish Council bank account but, £2120 of this is from the housing bonus and is to be used for the Neighbourhood Plan costs. £1530 will be spent next month on items budgeted for. There was £224 left from the transparency grant and is to be spent on website cost. There is another £500 allocated for website update in relation to Neighbourhood plan information, events, other groups info etc.

Still left in the account is £1500 to go towards speed limit on Swanlow Lane. This has still not been sorted.

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When all this money is spent, it would leave £4,680.06 in the bank.

The yearly running cost of the council add up to £3,830.00.

All the above considered it was **46/17 agreed that the precept request for Darnhall Parish Council for 2017/2018 would be £4,000.00** plus **the additional £101.00 grant from Cheshire West. Proposed by Cllr Bostock and seconded by Cllr Davenport.**

1. **Update on speeding traffic on the roads within our parish**

As Cheshire West and Chester Council are currently doing their own speed reductions in and around the area it was **47/17 suggested that the council wait to see if any further reductions of speed are done on Swanlow Lane before we put in our application.**

1. **Update on any other meetings attended by Councillors.**

No other meetings attended.

1. **Cllr Langley to update on Village Hall Fundraising**

The final figure for the Christmas market was £389.00.

The Turkey and Tinsel made £307.00.

There have been some repairs done to the hall floor which have cost £1682.00. The repairs were very good in the first instance but unfortunately one part seems to have failed and will need to be seen to again. Further investigations into what’s going on under the floor may need to be addressed and we may still need to look at a new floor.

A Management meeting is due in the next few weeks to discuss thinks further.

1. **Items for information and discussion only**

Cllr Jinks mentioned about having a flag pole at the Village Hall. It would need planning permission.

He also mentioned the phone box should have the crown painted gold. We need to look into the cost of this.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

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

Dated ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

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